



HUMAN RIGHTS & SOCIAL JUSTICE RESOURCE AND TRAINING HUB

by



ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PAN AFRICAN HUMAN RIGHTS AND SOCIAL JUSTICE RESOURCE AND TRAINING HUB.

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PART 1: ABOUT THE ORGANISATION

1.1: INTRODUCTION TO VOCAL AFRICA



Human Rights and Social Justice

Voices of Community Activists and Leaders of Africa (VOCAL Africa) is a Pan African organization initiated in 2023 to amplify local actors' and leaders' efforts to promote and defend human rights and social justice within their communities, as enshrined in the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights. The organisation works to unite and empower African individuals, groups and communities to understand and claim their rights and be ready to agitate for social justice. VOCAL Africa advocates for the application of human rights based approaches in all matters social, economic and political, in order to improve livelihoods and spur development among African people. The organisation supports community activists and leaders to organise and mobilise while at the same time leveraging on partnership with state, regional and continental bodies to ensure rights and justice for all Africans. VOCAL Africa operates, has presence and members in various countries across the African continent.

1.2: VISION, GOAL AND MISSION



OUR VISION

Africa devoid of human rights violations and injustices, where individuals, groups and communities are free to exercise their rights to the betterment of all African people.



OUR GOAL

To empower African activists and leaders to champion for the rights and social justice of their communities as enshrined in the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights.



OUR MISSION STATEMENT

To support movement building that will improve livelihoods of African people by inculcating human rights and social justice in communities' and states' practices.



VOCAL Africa is presently implementing its five year strategic plan for the period 2024 – 2028. This strategy is informed by past governance experiences that the African continent has undergone from colonialism to dictatorships to political parties states. The strategy intends to inculcate a human rights and social justice culture in communities and states' practices, through activists and leaders, with the intention of unifying the African people and enhancing their livelihoods. Critically, the strategy seeks to encourage partnership between community activists and

leaders and their states as a shift from the past where mistrust between them has contributed to suspicion thus affecting their cooperation for development in the continent. VOCAL Africa supports movements that bring together people at the community level for enhanced rights and justice. Further, the strategy targets to work with regional and continental bodies, including the African Union and the African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights, to be more responsive to African communities and to prioritise the needs and aspirations of the African people.

PART 2: ABOUT THE PROJECT

2.1: INTRODUCTION TO THE PAN AFRICAN HUMAN RIGHTS AND SOCIAL JUSTICE RESOURCE AND TRAINING HUB

VOCAL Africa is dedicated to promoting human rights and social justice across the African continent. It is with the growing need for robust human rights advocacy and education, that the organization is establishing a Pan African hub for human rights and social justice training. This hub will serve as a centre for empowering individuals, communities, and organizations with the knowledge and skills necessary to defend and uphold human rights and social justice principles. The hub will work with

renowned local and international institutions and leaders as well as state and non state actors, to inculcate human rights and social justice in the social, economic and political processes of African communities and their governments. Located at the heart of Africa in Nairobi, Kenya, the hub will be a reference centre, mobilizing activists and leaders across the continent, to work together to promote good governance, enhance democracy, expand civic space and improve livelihoods of their people.

2.2: PROBLEM STATEMENT

Despite significant progress in recent years, Africa continues to face numerous human rights and social justice challenges, including widespread discrimination, political repression, gender-based violence, economic marginalization, shrinking civic space and dictatorships. Weak governance structures, limited access to justice, and cultural barriers further exacerbate these issues, leaving millions of individuals and communities vulnerable to exploitation and abuse. The lack of adequate human rights and social justice education and advocacy infrastructure hampers efforts to address these systemic flaws effectively. There is therefore a clear and urgent need to strengthen human rights and social justice protections and empower African communities to advocate for their rights. Across the continent, there are various ongoing struggles by community activists and leaders to alleviate the sufferings being experienced. However, these struggles lack a unified strategy, approach and source of information to constantly fuel their efforts.

2.3: GOAL & PURPOSE

The primary goal and purpose of the Pan African Human Rights and Social Justice Resource and Training Hub is to address pressing human rights issues in Africa through research, education, advocacy, and capacity-building initiatives. By continuously providing comprehensive training programs and resources, the Hub aims to foster a culture of respect for human rights and empower individuals and groups to become effective agents of change in their communities across the African continent.

2.4: OBJECTIVES

- 1 To provide training and capacity-building programs on human rights and social justice principles, laws, and mechanisms.
- 2 To conduct research and analysis on human rights and social justice issues affecting African communities and train activists and leaders.
- 3 To advocate for the protection and promotion of human rights and social justice through strategic campaigns and initiatives.

- 4 To facilitate networking and collaboration among human rights and social justice activists and leaders, organizations and stakeholders.
- 5 To establish partnerships with governmental and non-governmental entities to strengthen human rights protections and mechanisms.

2.5: PROPOSED ACTIVITIES

- Development of curriculum and training on various human rights and social justice topics in partnership with Universities and human rights organisations.
- Undertaking and publishing research reports, policy briefs and educational resources on human rights and social justice.
- Establishment of an online platform for knowledge-sharing and networking among human rights and social justice practitioners.
- Provision of legal assistance and support to victims of human rights and social justice violations across Africa.
- Implementation of advocacy campaigns to raise awareness and mobilize support for human rights and social justice causes.

2.6: CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the establishment of The Pan African Human Rights and Social Justice Resource and Training Hub by VOCAL Africa represents a significant step towards advancing human rights and social justice in Africa. Through collaborative efforts and sustained investment in activists and leaders across the continent, VOCAL Africa will create a more just and equitable African society where every individual's and communities' rights are respected, protected and upheld. We invite potential donors and partners to join us in this crucial endeavor to build a brighter future for Africa, where violations, injustices, bad governance and poverty become a thing of the past across the continent.