

Improving security sector coordination

During the first quarter of 2017, county level security coordination has improved, notably due to the work undertaken with the County Security Intelligence Committees (CSICs), which have been constituted in seven of the eight Jamii Thabiti counties. Baringo, in part due to the emerging conflicts, is the only county to not yet have a fully constituted CSIC. Stakeholders have however been identified in readiness for constitution to take place in June 2017.



Key achievements in security sector coordination include:

Community engagement

In **Bungoma**, the CSIC is mobilising community fora in all the nine sub-counties. The engagement at the sub-county level is utilising the already established Community Policing Committees (CPCs) and Community Policing Forums to mobilise stakeholders and communities to address security challenges in the county. This increased linkage between structures has ensured that security priorities discussed at lower levels are reported at the CSIC meetings for further action, which reinforces the role of the CSIC as a virtual County Policing Authority.

Improving election security

In **Nakuru**, the CSIC has adopted election security as a priority issue. It is using data from the mobile platform Mulika Uhalifu to share up to date information of any emerging conflicts and rising tensions amongst stakeholders. The forum is also coordinating meetings with county and sub-county leads (including County Commissioner, Deputy County Commissioners, Administrative Police and Kenya Police Commanders) and political aspirants at the county and sub county level to promote peace and highlight the consequences of electoral violence.

Faster police response times

In **Kilifi** County, one of the key issues raised in the CSIC was police response time. Through this forum a commitment was made to reduce this, and there has been greater oversight on police stations on this. According to the Kilifi County Commissioner, the average response time by the Malindi Sub-county police has subsequently improved from about 50 minutes to 22.5 minutes.

Addressing gender-based crime reporting issues

In **Nakuru**, the CSIC convened security sector actors, the Gender Response Unit of the hospital and the County Peace Forum, to discuss the difficulties in ensuring VAWG crimes are dealt with within the criminal system. The stakeholders recommended organising community sensitisation meetings to explain what constitutes a crime and the process of reporting to security agents and hospitals. It was agreed that the Community Policing Committees and Community Policing Forums will facilitate these meetings.

Developing mediation options

The **Wajir** CSIC was launched in May, making significant headway on coordination. The launch came after a delay, caused by the change in County Commissioner. The CSIC brought together County Government representatives, security agencies and community representatives, including from the Council of Elders and religious leaders. During the launch, the CSIC committed to forming and strengthening mediation teams at sub-county level to respond to resource-based and clan conflicts. Subsequently, the CSIC reconstituted the collaboration and coordination platform under the Wajir Peace Actors Forum to champion peace initiatives and form local mediation teams. When the conflict broke out recently in Eldas –Wajir North border, the CSIC through the County Commissioner's office together with the forum members were responded and deployed the Al-Fatar Council of Elders to the area facilitate community dialogue.

Working with civil society

In **Wajir** and **Mandera**, CSIC members have reported a change in the perception of security agencies by civil society organisations (CSOs), breaking down barriers at the community level in enhancing community security. In recent months, since the formation of the reconstituted CSICs, security agencies are being invited to take part in CSO activities, given them more opportunities to engage with the public.