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Final Report (Narrative)

Name of organization	Coexist Initiative
Name of project	Girls Education Equity Program
Name of report's author	Wanjala Wafula (Founder/CEO)
Overall assessment Generally speaking, did your project go as planned in terms of the impact indicators: financial and structural sustainability, organizations development, expansion/replication, network building, media impact, etc?	<p>We are happy to report that the project went on as planned and even exceeded our expectations. All programmatic parameters including financial and structural sustainability were realized. The project surpassed expectations and is currently due for extensive replication by a myriad other partners across the region. It's also due for extensive expansion from our end, subject to the availability of resources.</p> <p>We were able to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -stimulate girl's education dialogue between diverse entities within the target populations. - Innovatively engaged men, boys and communities for purposes of reducing the perennial deterrents to girls education. - Provided basic amenities to the girls to foster increased school enrolment and retention. - We comprehensively utilized the existing media channels. Media played a pivotal role in advancing the rights to education for girls and women. Information channels (audio, visual and print) were our key working group. - Establishment Inter community synergies and networks that included community administrative institutions, schools' management, health institutions for purposes of promoting girls education in the refugee camps.
Specific activities Please provide the name of each of the activities you conducted through all the support period. In addition, for each activity, provide a short description, the date and location, the main outputs (results) as well as the lessons your organization learned thanks to this activity.	<p>Most of our activities were carried out in six out of the seven camps in Daadab refugee camp. The camps include</p> <p>Daadab Fafi Dagahaley lfo, Wajir South Hagadera</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Activities</u></p> <p>1. Community mobilization</p> <p>This was for purposes of addressing harmful traditional practices and behavior change communication.</p> <p>It involved</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conducting 5 Focus group discussions-carried out between May 25th -June 30th 2016 at Daadab, Fafi, ,Dagahaley ,lfo and Hagadera camps. - Identification and training of 500 girls' education champions within communities -carried out on 17th-19th July 2016 at Damajale Primary school in Daadab camp. -Edutainment activities including 1 sports tournament- carried

	<p>out between 31st May 2016 - Feb 2017 at Hagadera camp. - One music, dance and art concert -carried out on 15th Dec 2016 at Yumbis Primary school in Fafi camp.</p> <p>2. Establishment of Inter community synergies and networks The following tasks were carried out</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community mobilization to identify the administrative, political and community structures available to the community - carried out between May 15th 2016-30th June 2016 in Daadab, Fafi,Wajir South ,Dagahaley ,Ifo and Hagadera camps. - Held 2 meetings with the political class to encourage/influence political and social goodwill - carried out on 10th May 2016 and 15th July 2016 in Nairobi. - A workshop on 20th May 2016 was held at project offices in Daadab to put together a team with the appropriate skills/competency to enable implementation of the project. <p>3. Information, communication and education material production and distribution - We produced 1500 posters,2000 handbills,2000 factsheets,2000 fliers,2 banners. This was done between 1st June-30th July 2016 at project offices in Daadab refugee camp.</p> <p>4. Advocacy around the implementation of existing legislation around harmful traditional practices in view of girls human rights -We lobbied 40 legislators both at county governments and the national assembly by building their capacities and competencies through a training on 5th Aug 2016 at Nairobi Popularized existing legislation in communities through 1 social gathering - held on 31st Jan 2017 at Hagadera camp 1 religious festival - held between 20th - 25th Dec 2016 at Ifo camp.</p>
<p>Reach (direct and indirect) <u>As of May 2017:</u> How many people (beneficiaries) are directly impacted by your project? How many people (beneficiaries) are indirectly impacted by your project?</p>	<p>Direct impact: Girls: 60,000 Women: 30,000 Men and boys 30,000</p> <p>Total: 120,000</p> <p>Indirect impact: Girls: 70,000 Women: 50,000 Men and boys 70,000</p> <p>Total: 160,000</p>

<p>Results achieved What are the main results of the project since April 2016? Please comment on the path you took to reach these results. If you achieved more than planned, please provide details on these additional successes. If you did not reach your expected results, please provide details on the extenuating circumstances.</p>	<p>Response should include a total of 300 to 400 words School retention up by 65% as a result of creation of awareness against harmful traditional practices mostly child marriages and enforcement of legislation against the vice. Critical mass of men and boys were mobilized to support girls' holistic empowerment and others trained to be champions of the same. 40% reduction in cases of violence against women and girls. Open, candid and objective dialogue around the value of the girl emerged with men and communities publicly appreciating the value of the girl child. ICE materials were produced and distributed which enhanced creation of awareness on harmful traditional practices that impede girls education and also sensitizing communities on importance of girls education. 35% improved school attendance by girls as a result of the provision of sanitary towels. Current statistics show that on average, girls stay away from school for three days as a result of their menstrual circles. <u>Extra successes</u> International development studies The Global-UK based research institute has selected the project as one of the most innovative undertakings globally and committed a team of ten researchers to understudy it. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nS-aKtn8xgl&t=719s. Arms Control and Safer World The two global organizations have entered into a partnership with Coexist for purposes of addressing the linkages between Arms proliferation, gender based violence and girls education. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4fpsJbd2FJk&t=624s. Extensive media coverage The project has received coverage in over 25 local and international media houses. Excerpts are availed in the attachments to this report.</p>
<p>Perceived impact What do you perceive as the main impact of your project? For example, do you see more trust among various groups who took part in your project, increased knowledge and understanding about other cultures or religions, new cross-cultural communication skills, new partnerships</p>	<p>Response should include a total of 300 to 400 words The main impact of the program was being able to roll out a program that brought together people from five diverse religions, seven nationalities, sixteen cultures and varying age sets. The program was able to overcome numerous stereotypes, suspicions, and biases. It brought conversations around girls' education and women empowerment into the public domain. Our main achievement is to be recognized by UNHCR and other international agencies working in the camps as being the most innovative undertaking of all time. Our greatest joy was to witness 55,000 girls return to school from forced marriages and that the program transformed programming around girls education not just in Daadab refugee camp but in the entire</p>

<p>with previously unknown groups, new initiatives?</p>	<p>East African region. We share a quote from elder Mohamed Hussein from Ifo camp in Daadab.</p> <p><i>"They can share the burden of men in the different walk of life. When girls are well-educated, not forced to marry during childhood, they will be able serve the society as writers, educators, teachers, lawyers, doctors, administrators, politicians, scientists, and much more. They can work at banks, hospitals, government offices and large businesses. They can play an important role during war"</i></p> <p>Sheikh Ali Josna of Mecca Mosque in Daadab Said <i>" This program has taught us that education empowers grown up girls to become economically independent. They will be able to stand up for their rights. Girls have all the rights to get educated and I regret that we did not know this earlier"</i>.</p>
<p>Success story What is the most impressive aspect of your project? Why do you consider this aspect the success story of your entire project?</p>	<p>Response should include a total of 200 to 300 words</p> <p>The most impressive part of the project was that we were able to transform former perpetrators of gender inequality and depravity against woman and girls into partners. We innovatively tapped into the cornerstones of diverse religions, cultures, masculine constructions and art to find the medium of communicating the importance of girls' education thus causing a massive paradigm shift in programming around girls' education and women's empowerment in general.</p> <p>The Coexist Initiative continues to believe that education is one of the most critical areas of empowerment for women and girl. It is also an area that offers some of the clearest examples of discrimination women suffer. Among children not attending school in Daadab refugee camp, there are twice as many girls as boys, and among illiterate adults there are twice as many women as men. Offering girls basic education is one sure way of giving them much greater power of enabling them to make genuine choices over the kinds of lives they wish to lead.</p>
<p>Documenting project Should you need to comment on the pictures, audio-visual material or testimonials you are sending, please do so here</p>	<p>All the materials sent are pre-captioned</p>
<p>Media coverage Did you receive any media coverage regarding your project? If so, please attach soft or hard copies of the media coverage to this report. Should you need to comment on this media coverage, please do so here.</p>	<p>All the materials sent are pre captioned</p>

<p>Other comments Are there other comments you would like to share with the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations and the BMW Group with regard to the narrative portion of this final report?</p>	<p>Dear UNAOC and The BMW Group,</p> <p>We are writing to express our deepest appreciation for awarding us for the work we do and for the subsequent grant you provided. We consider the Intercultural Innovation Award as our life achievement. It has transformed us individually and the organization specifically. It enabled us to network with fellow Awardees from numerous countries around the world. Our skills in the trade have been extensively enhanced through training. The Award has enabled to visit places around the world that we could hardly locate on the map before.</p> <p>With your contributions, you've demonstrated your deep commitment to our work of eliminating all forms of violence, fostering gender justice and promoting inter-cultural dialogues. You have stood in the gap and confirmed that thinking out of the box works. We value that you appreciate innovation and that we shall always be a small part of the immense UNAOC and the potent BMW group.</p> <p>As always, it's sad to write this.</p>
<p>Date</p>	<p>17/05/2017</p>
<p>Signature</p>	