

## **Challenges Faced By the Youth in Promoting Peace through Sport in Kibera and Mathare Slums, Kenya**

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**Abstract:** *Sport can make a considerable contribution to peace building and conflict prevention especially in the areas of acceptance, social cohesion and building inter-group relations and understanding. It can transcend cultural, religious and ethnic divides. With its ability to bring people together, sport is a significance delivery mechanism for reconciliation and peace building programming. Though its benefits are significant in the community, development of sport experiences is hampered by challenges. This paper analyzes the challenges faced by the youth in promoting peace through sport in Kibera and Mathare informal settlements.*

**Keywords:** *Peace, Reconciliation, Sport.*

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### **I. Introduction**

Sport is a cultural instrument of international character because of its worldwide presence which ensures that its rules are known to members of different cultures and walks of life. Different sports have different principles but there are those that are common to all the sporting activities such as quality, quantity and universality. Sport unites the world during the tournaments as seen during the football and rugby world cup. This makes soccer a legitimate social force capable of initiating reconciliation which can result to peace building or violence that would lead to conflict.

Sports are a source of peace as they bring people together irrespective of one's background, race or age. This was demonstrated by the late Nelson Mandela former president of Republic of South Africa when he led the South African rugby team against All Blacks, the New Zealand team in 1995 Rugby World Cup with blacks and whites sitting side by side with each other; a thing that had never happened in the past during apartheid. Sport and development or sport and peace programs face many of the challenges that other development or peace programs face including establishing a credible monitoring and evaluation system, measuring project or program success and impact, and creating sustainable projects.

### **II. Literature Review**

According to International Peace Academy (2004) challenges range from lack of committed long term funding that inhibit the effectiveness of organizations involved in conflict prevention: harassment and intimidation of civil society groups by the Kenyan Government, inexperienced peace builders and ineffective peace initiative strategies; unrealistic bargaining agendas, financial sustainability of armed groups and the role of spoilers. In addition, lack of common vision of the problem as well as the inability to agree on the appropriate language to describe it or develop a discuss that support this resolution contributes to ineffectiveness (Bouvier, 2006). Nonetheless severe political, financial and institutional constraints remain obstacles to organizations. Government views the work of organizations on peace initiatives with suspicion and sometimes subject leaders to severe harassment and intimidation. In addition the state can create barriers by constructing laws to insulate their actions from scrutiny or to curtail organizations activity.

#### **Lack of cultures of achievement through sport**

Creating youth sport cultures involves using sport as a vehicle to strengthen youth learning. Youth sport culture is defined as a way of living that evolves from the process of thinking, perceiving, believing and evaluating within a particular group of people associated with sports (Saville-Troike, 1989). Youth sport culture includes all of the shared rules for appropriate behaviors that are learned by an individual as a result of being a member of a sport group or sport community. Sport cultures are the rules of engagement, group interactions within and external to members of the targeted community, and solidarity among youth of culturally different backgrounds. A major goal of cultures of achievement is to advance oneself by obtaining the resources for success, i.e., financial, political, professional and intellectual, and to serve others through leadership and

purpose. The ability to see new possibilities and to create new opportunities enables leaders to discover alternatives when options seem severely constrained, and to find hope in the midst of despair (Bolman & Deal, 1997). Youth sport activities offer a strategy for creating communities of achievement in which young people are active and valued contributors. All this have been lacking due to lack of good will and commitment to enforcement. This issue can be mitigated through the adoption of youth sports development approach as indicated here below:

There are three key philosophical components of a youth sports development approach: Viewing young people and families as partners rather than as spectators, and involving them in designing and delivering programs, activities and services; Giving all youth access to training and skill development services, programs and activities that meet their needs; Offering youth opportunities to develop relationships with caring, supportive adults. Recreation and sport offer young people the skills and knowledge they need to function effectively as adults in an increasingly competitive world. Youth sport focuses on positive attributes, such as competence, usefulness, belongingness and power, which result in positive outcomes, such as being able to do something well; having something to contribute, to give; being part of a community, having roots; and having control over one's future and actions, (Bolman & Deal, 1997).

### **Creation of the Sports Infrastructure**

Creating cultures of achievement through recreation and sport does not always require novelty. Sometimes simply improving upon existing activities, service programs, community activities, and family activities in an effort to advance feelings of belongingness and self-pride through sport is the answer. A solid infrastructure embodies recreation and leisure activities. In other words, recreation and sport are the core and its nutrients are a healthy psychological, spiritual, social, emotional and physical self or structure. In order to nurture and seed the self or structure, youth sport agencies through controlled competitions provide services and activities that strengthen the self or structure of focus. These services and activities are cultures of achievement that exist within societies, nations and countries. The result or outcome of this molding is an empowered self or structure. Youth sport can be a major factor in uniting cultures and countries around the world. Unification can be accomplished with uniform goals throughout local, national and international youth sport agencies and by envisioning these agencies as agents of change. Youth sport serves many functions. It can develop character among its participants; it can build stronger, healthier nations and it can be a solace in times of war and peace, (Bolman & Deal, 1997).

### **III. Research Methodology**

The research design for this study was a descriptive survey design that was undertaken within the study period. This design was selected essentially as it provided description and account of social events and objects of research in their natural setting thus a constructionist philosophy that creates individual interpretation to things and that portrays the actual picture as is on the ground.

Kibera and Mathare divisions are purposely chosen as the sites for this comparative study. The two divisions features extremely high population densities and yet occupy less than one tenth of Nairobi's geographic area are of great significance to the city's politics and as seen in various literature reviewed. , These areas were preferred for this study as it has representation of most of the ethnic groups in Kenya and also because of high prevalence of violence. The study population comprised the youth of the two informal settlements.

This research drew a sample following the recommendation of Kombo and Tromp (2006) of 10% to 30% to be a representative for a study population. A total of 800 youths, 200 community leaders, 1 Government official, and 64 youths in 8 focused group discussions were sampled. Triangulation method and different sets of instruments were used for collecting primary data namely questionnaires and interview schedules. A combination of data collection tools was selected to enable the investigator have an in-depth understanding of the nature and extent of the problem. Content validity was done through cross checking with the supervisors and, a valid measure of 0.5 was acceptable as in spearman correlation coefficient. Test and retest techniques were used to assess reliability.

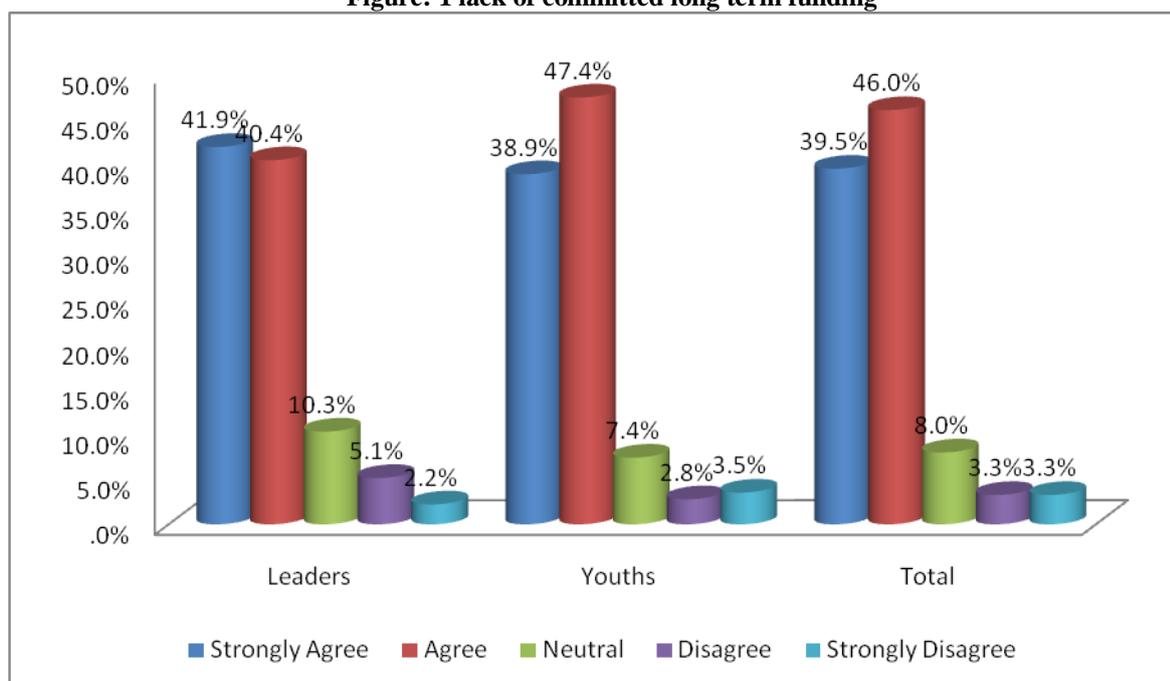
Data collected was analyzed by assigning numerical values to each response and entered into a code book or coding table so as to obtain quantitative results from the closed-ended questionnaires. Simple statistics was used to analyze the data from the questionnaires and interview schedules using percentages, frequency tables, and narrative description of the tables. Ethical consideration was maintained through proper conduct of the researcher during the research process, avoidance of plagiarism and fraud, confidentiality and privacy of the information obtained from the respondents, avoidance of physical and psychological harm to the respondents, obtaining voluntary and informed consent from the respondents and dissemination of the findings was ensured.

#### IV. Results and discussions

There are many challenges faced by youths participating in peace initiative programmes through sporting activities as per results below.

Among the leaders, 165 of the respondents, representing 82.3% strongly agreed to the assertion that lack of committed long term funding inhibits the effectiveness of the teams in promoting peace, while amongst the youth, 345 of the respondents representing 86.3% agreed to the same assertion. The lack of committed funds was also echoed in FGDs as the team members are never paid allowances which makes the teams disintegrate after tournaments. In FGD 2 a participant asked “how can we be committed team members if no one cares what we eat or do after here and nobody pays us anything?”

**Figure: 1 lack of committed long term funding**



Source: Field data (Mathare)

Among the leaders from Kibera, 81 respondents representing 81% agreed that there was lack of committed long term funding which inhibited the effectiveness of the team in promoting peace as opposed to 19% of the respondents who disagreed. Among the youth, 296 respondents, representing 74.1% strongly agreed to the assertion that lack of committed long term funding inhibits the effectiveness of the teams in promoting peace, as opposed to 35 respondents, representing 8.8% disagreed to the assertion, while 69 respondents, representing 17.3% remained neutral.

In FGD 1 the participants indicated that the lack of payment for training when they participate in the tournaments is killing the teams as one cannot take football as a career as shown below;

“We mostly attend the training sessions with my friends but when we participate we receive very small amounts and in other cases we always have to stay without getting payments. The payments would accumulate for three to six months and this kills the morale of the youth who engage themselves in the sport”.

The FGD’s indicated that funding was a great and common challenge to promoting peace in clubs. For instance, youths in the peace club at Kibera were looking at the possibility of approaching the government to source for funding to start an income generating unit by opening a tack ship at one of the playgrounds. At Mathare, youths successfully secured funding from an independent sponsor and had erected flood lights at strategic points and sign posts with messages of peace. Interviews with youth welfare staff in one of the football club revealed a similar finding that funding was insufficient. The coach of Mathare sports club had this to say:

Finances for training are not adequate to enable the office sponsor regular workshops to retool youth and staff on new conflict management techniques (FGD, coach Mathare).

The document analysis of peace initiative programmes annual financial reports indicated there was significant reliance by the clubs on considerable support from non- governmental organizations to finance their activities. Haft and Weiss, (1998) cited barriers such as budgetary constraints that limit programme implementation and evaluation which is congruent to the finding established in the study. In the absence of

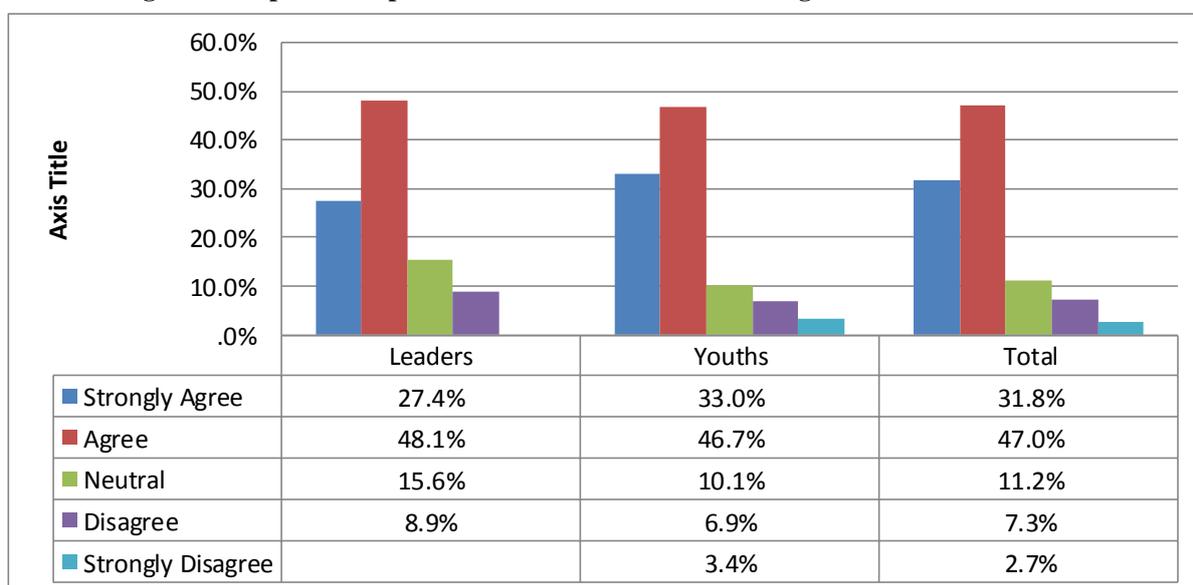
sufficient funding, youths' will not be attracted to participate in clubs that are not vibrant. Most youths would like to engage in rewarding and gainful activities.

**Lack of proper leadership and management of the sporting activities**

Amongst the leaders, 151 of the respondents representing 75.5% agreed with the assertion that inexperienced peace builders and ineffective peace initiative strategies was a cause of ineffectiveness, as 34 of the respondents representing 16.9% of the respondents remained neutral, while amongst the youth, 319 of the respondents representing 79.7% agreed with the same assertion while 30 of the respondents representing 10% remained neutral. This was strongly echoed by the Government official during the interview when he indicated that most of the people who volunteer their services to the tams do not have the required skills like team building and presentation during workshops. They also do not seem to understand the strategies set by the ministry. An official said "Our priority is to alleviate poverty first and to address the low standards of living and so we have no special peace programme in place for now." This depicts a difference in strategy from that of the ministry. During the discussion with FGD 1, they indicated that the level of literacy amongst the youth and leaders is a challenge when it comes to cascading information and implementing strategies. Poor management skills were cited by FGD 2 and lack of inter personal skills by the leaders was raised in FGD 4.

The management team does not have management skills in handling matters relating to sport and this in influences the performances of the sport.

**Figure 2 inexperienced peace builders and ineffective strategies cause ineffectiveness**



Source: Field data (Kibera)

Among the leaders, 71 respondents, representing 71% agreed to the assertion that inexperienced peace builders and ineffective peace initiative strategies is a cause of ineffectiveness, as opposed to 13 respondents representing 13% who disagreed to the assertion, while 16 respondents, representing 16% could neither agree nor disagree with the same assertion.

Among the youth, 353 respondents, representing 88.3%, agreed to the assertion that inexperienced peace builders and ineffective peace initiative strategies is a cause of ineffectiveness, as opposed to 27 respondents, representing 9.3% who disagreed to the same, as 10 respondents representing 2.5% could neither agree nor disagree with the same assertion.

**Table 1 Inexperienced peace builders and ineffective peace initiative strategies was a cause of ineffectiveness**

Inexperienced peace builders and ineffective peace initiative strategies is a cause of ineffectiveness	Leaders	Youths	Total
Strongly Agree	20%	40.3%	30.1%
Agree	51%	48.0%	49.5%
Neutral	16%	2.5%	9.3%
Disagree	6%	7.3%	6.6%
Strongly Disagree	7%	2.0%	4.5%
Total	100%	100%	100%

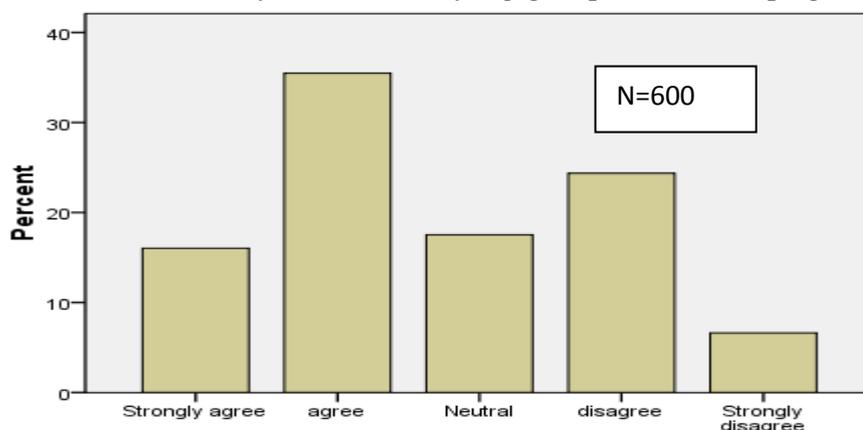
**Source: Field data (Kibera)**

Poor communication and leadership skills were cited by FGD 1 as a major cause of ineffectiveness of the teams as the strategies are not cascaded well. FGD 2 indicated that lack of proper systems to nature and follow through talent has contributed to the ineffectiveness of the teams. The same group also brought out that the Government takes 10% of all sponsorship funds which leaves deficit in the already strained budget. This in turn affects the performance of the teams adversely. FGD 4 raised the issue of lack of incentives for the teams to keep training or participating in activities laid down by the leaders and Government has also play a key role in the ineffectiveness of the teams.

**Low Participation of Youths**

Low participation of youths in peace initiative programmes is another challenge facing peace initiative programmes in peace building. From the responses, Figure 3 shows that 94(15.7%) of the students strongly agreed that the youth community is not actively engaged in peace initiative programmes whereas 39(6.5%) responded strongly disagree. Pearson Chi-Square value ( $\chi^2_{16,0.01} = 65.066$ ) showed that there was highly significant ( $P < 0.01$ ) association in low participation of students in peace initiative programs and managing students' conflicts.

**Figure 3: Youth community does not actively engage in peace initiative programmes**



**Source: Field Data (2012)**

The FGD's revealed that youths tended to engage more in peace initiative programmes where "goodies" such as refreshments, T-shirts, stipends and certificates of participation were given out. The reward element was a motivating factor. During the discussion, the researcher observed that the attire of the youths present at the FGD, who adorned T-shirts, had peace and non-violence related messages such as "Embrace Dialogue, Avoid Violence". Infantino and Little, (2005) study highlight a similar concern and state that, the prevalence of low level behavior is a continuing theme in research and was found in England and Wales by the Elton Committee in 1988 and more recently in Australia. In line with this observation and in the context of low participation of students, peace initiative programmes require support from youth management by availing adequate funds to train more youth from other associations and professional bodies as opposed to training only the youth council in order to encourage more active youths' participation at a wider scale.

Simiyu et al, (2012) have a similar view that young people do not attend peace meetings, which are mostly attended by elderly and middle aged men. They propose that there should be frequent youth forums in which youth are taught about respect for other peoples' culture and tradition and not look at them as primitive or heinous for peaceful co-existence. In such meetings they can learn about the effects of hooliganism on themselves and the entire community. It is due to the youths relative involvement and participation that the level of activity of some peace initiative programmes are quite high as noted for guidance and counseling, peer counseling and mentorship programmes. From the responses, the youths generally felt that the peace initiative programmes are greatly underutilized. This means that when youths are not actively involved, the peace initiative programmes will not effectively achieve the goals of managing youths' conflicts as few youth are reached and subsequently the challenge of managing youths' conflicts and enhancing peace building.

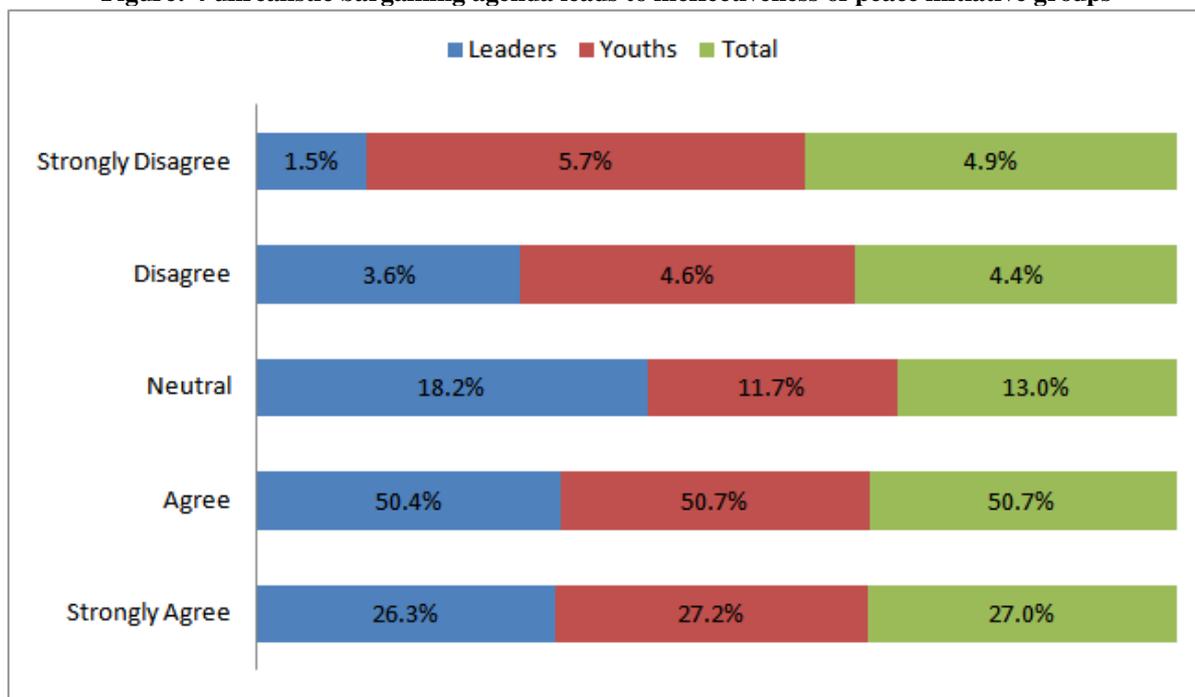
**4.1.4 Unrealistic bargaining agendas**

Among the leaders, 153 of the respondents representing 76.7% agreed to the assertion that an unrealistic bargaining agenda leads to ineffectiveness of peace initiative groups, as 36 of the respondents

representing 18.2% remained neutral, while amongst the youth, 312 of the respondents representing 77.9% agreed to the same assertion, as 44 of the respondents representing 11% remained neutral.

The officials indicated that they have not seen any youth matter on the main agenda in the recent past, but it is sometimes on the any other business section which show lack of seriousness of the same. No FGD mentioned the youth item on the agenda.

**Figure: 4 unrealistic bargaining agenda leads to ineffectiveness of peace initiative groups**



**Source: Field data (Kibera)**

Among the leaders, 87 respondents, representing 87% agreed with the assertion that unrealistic bargaining agenda leads to ineffectiveness of peace initiative groups, as opposed to 7 respondents, representing 7% who thought otherwise, while 6 respondents, and representing 6% could neither, agree nor disagree to the assertion.

Among the youth, 308 respondents, representing 77%, agreed to the assertion that unrealistic bargaining agenda leads to ineffectiveness of peace initiative groups, as opposed to 20 respondents, representing 5% who disagreed to the same assertion, while 72 respondents, representing 18% could neither agree nor disagree to the same assertion.

**Table: 2 unrealistic bargaining agenda leads to ineffectiveness of peace initiative groups**

An unrealistic bargaining agenda leads to ineffectiveness of peace initiative groups	Leaders	Youths	Total
Strongly Agree	38%	32%	35%
Agree	49%	45%	47%
Neutral	6%	18%	12%
Disagree	-	-	-
Strongly Disagree	7%	5%	6%
Total	100%	100%	100%

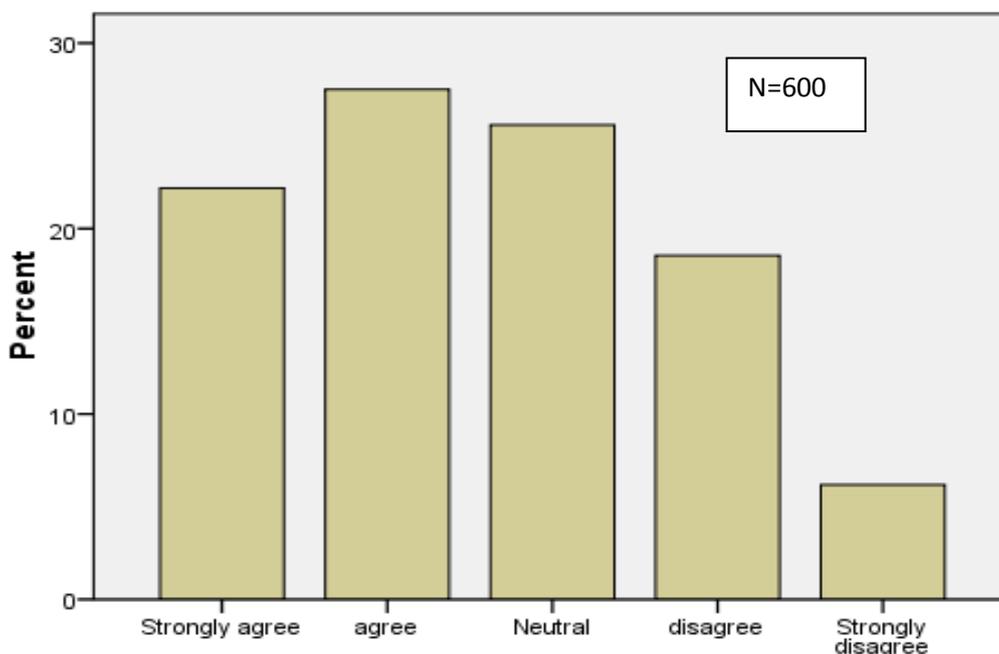
**Source: Field data (Kibera)**

In FGD 2 the youth raised the issue of not being involved in the discussion about youth matters which they attribute to the unrealistic agendas being put forward. FGD 4 indicated that failure of the projects started for the youth fail due to non-involvement of the youth who are expected to run with them.

**Lack of Conflict Management Skills**

Pearson Chi-Square value ( $\chi^2_{16,0.01} = 66.896$ ) showed that there was highly significant ( $P < 0.01$ ) association in lack of conflict management skills and youths participation in peace initiative programmes. Lack of conflict management skills by Youths welfare staff was also noted in the findings as a hindering factor. The findings in Figure 7.5 showed that 131(21.8%) students strongly agreed, and 27.6% agreed that youths leaders do not practice conflict management skills in resolving youths’ conflicts while 37(6.1%) strongly disagreed.

**Figure 5: Response on lack of conflict management skills**



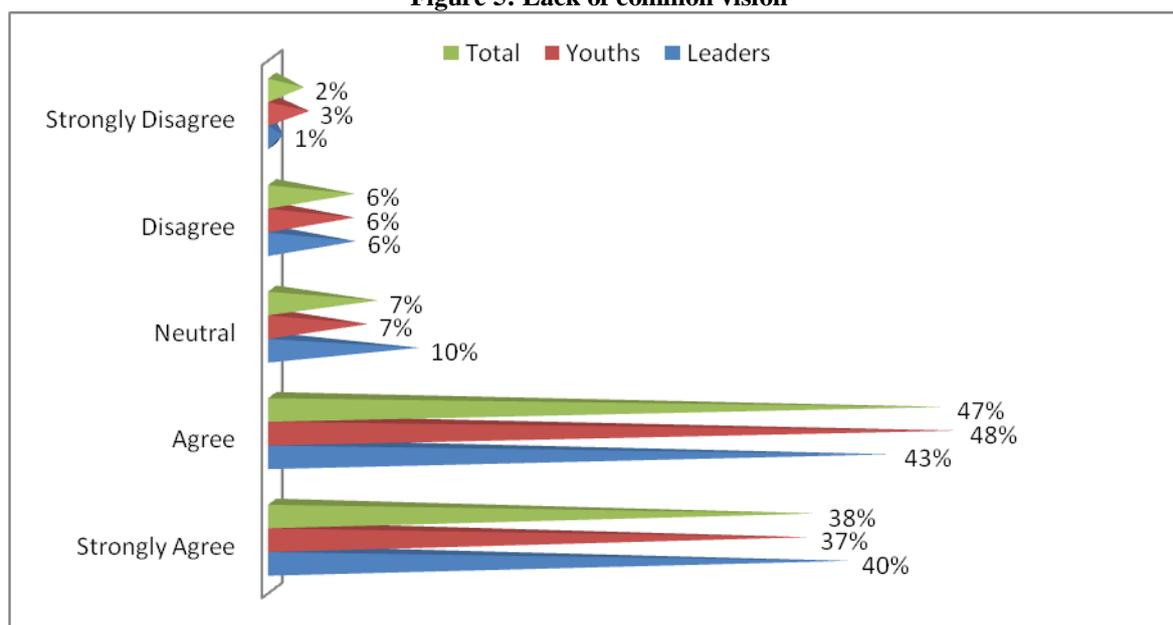
Source: Field Data

From interviews, most of the youths’ leaders indicated that they did not have proficiency in conflict management skills and were employed on the basis of their professional qualifications. Proficiency in conflict management is key to effectively engaging youths to participate in peace initiative programmes. This is critical for youth leaders as they provide leadership and guidance to ensure youth issues are addressed and early warning signs are noted in good time. The lack of adequate conflict management skills amongst youth welfare staff and youth leaders pose to the youth body, queries on their efficacy. The findings are similar to that made by Mais, (2003), where he noted that the club administrators had poor conflict management and resolution styles.

**Lack of common vision**

Among the leaders, 166 of the respondents representing 83%, agreed to the assertion that Lack of common vision of the problem contributed to ineffectiveness of teams, as 20 of the respondents representing 10% remained neutral, while among the youth, 340 of the respondents representing 85% agreed to the same assertion as 28 of the respondents representing 7% remained neutral.

**Figure 5: Lack of common vision**



Source: Field data (Kibera)

FGDs 1 and 3 indicated that in fighting of the leaders has contributed to the poor performance of the teams. In FGD 3 it was indicated that poor management of the teams lead to non-achievement of their goals.

Among the leaders, 73 respondents, representing 73% strongly agreed that lack of common vision of the problem contributes to ineffectiveness of teams, as opposed to 19 respondents; representing 19% disagreed to the assertion. While 8 respondents, representing 8% could neither agree nor disagree to the same.

Among the youth, 360 respondents, representing 90%, strongly agreed that lack of common vision of the problem contributes to ineffectiveness of teams, as opposed to 40 respondents, representing 10% disagreed to the assertion. During the FGD interactions it was established that none of the sponsors had a vision that favoured the youth as they all had personal interests vested in the activities they sponsored.

**Table 4 Lack of common vision of the problem led contributed to the ineffectiveness of the teams**

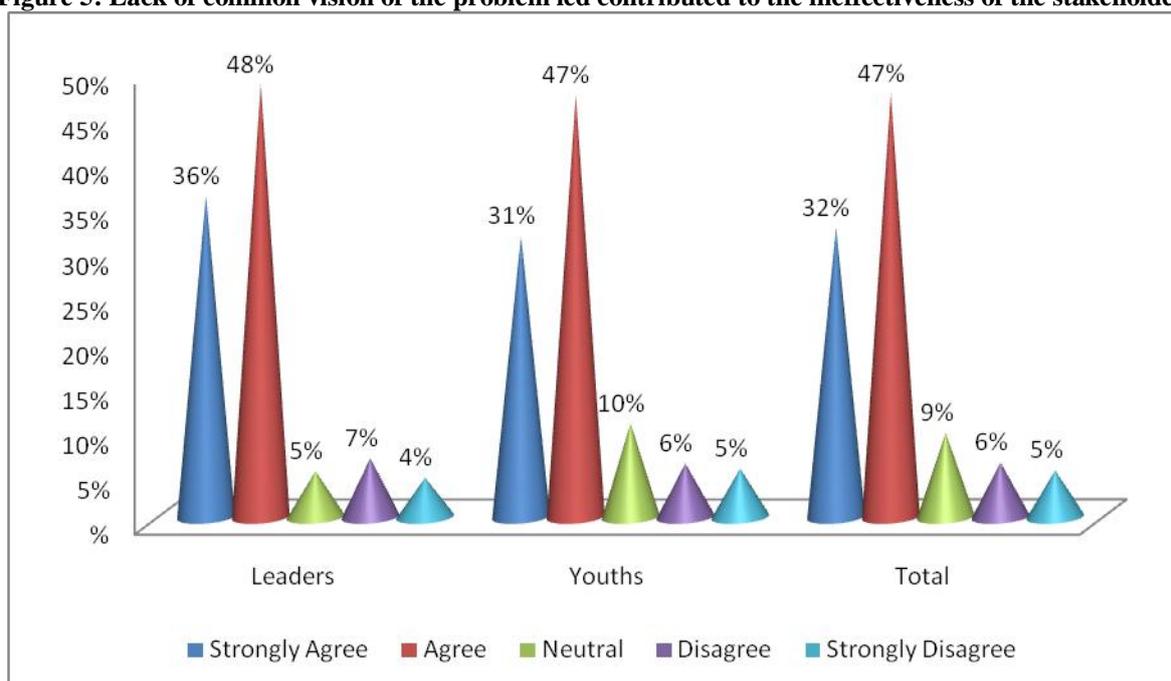
Lack of common vision of the problem contributes to ineffectiveness of teams.	Leaders	Youths	Total
Strongly Agree	40%	47.5%	43.8%
Agree	33%	42.5%	37.7
Neutral	8%	-	8%
Disagree	-	7.5%	7.5%
Strongly Disagree	19%	2.5%	10.8%
Total	100%	100%	100%

Source: Field data (Mathare)

**Lack of common vision among the leaders**

Among the leaders, 168 of the respondents representing 84% agreed to the assertion that lack of common vision of the problem contributed to ineffectiveness of the stakeholders, as 22 of the respondents representing 11% disagreed, while amongst the youth, 312 of the respondents representing 78% agreed to the same assertion, as 40 of the respondents representing 10% remained neutral, while 44 of the respondents representing 11% disagreed.

**Figure 5: Lack of common vision of the problem led contributed to the ineffectiveness of the stakeholders**



Source: Field data (Mathare)

Among the leaders, 85 of the respondents, representing 85%, strongly agreed that Lack of common vision of the problem contributed to ineffectiveness of the stakeholders, as opposed to 15 respondents, representing 15% who disagreed to the assertion. Among the youth, 323 respondents, representing 80.8% agreed that lack of common vision of the problem contributed to ineffectiveness of the stakeholders, as opposed to 50 respondents, representing 12.5% who disagreed to the assertion, while 27 respondents, representing 6.8% could neither agree nor disagree to the same.

**Table 5 Lack of common vision by the leaders**

Lack of common vision of the problem contributes to ineffectiveness of the stakeholders	Leaders	Youths	Total
Strongly Agree	49%	38.5%	43.8%
Agree	36%	42.3%	39.2%
Neutral	-	6.8%	6.8%
Disagree	8%	10%	9%
Strongly Disagree	7%	2.5%	4.7%
Total	100%	100%	100%

Source: Field data (Mathare)

**Other challenges**

**Case of Mathare**

The other challenges cited by the respondents included; Lack of playing kits e.g. balls, uniform, first aid kits and medicines, Lack of adequate funds/ government funding, Lack of involving community elders to participate in peace building leads to conflict, Nepotism in the group/ tribalism, Lack of training ground/playing, Poor management, Lack of well-trained coaches, Drug abuse, Loss of empowerment for the youth/job opportunity, Corruption, Indiscipline among participants, Sexual harassment from coaches, Early pregnancy, Gender inequality, Healthy relationships between organizations, Sustainability of programmes initiated, and Harassment and intimidation of football clubs by the stakeholders. In FGDs it was established that drug abuse, low literacy levels, untapped and undiscovered talent, favoritism, corruption, unemployment, tribalism, poor management skills, discrimination, lack of trust in the sponsors by parents and personal indiscipline were some of the challenges faced by the youth in promoting peace.

The interviews with the officials established that lack of funds, dedicated peace programme, girls' football clubs, mentors, staff equipped with appropriate skills to deal with difficult youth; in addition to negative influence, poverty and a mindset of receiving are the challenges they face. The Government official cited mobilization of the youth from poverty stricken areas, dishonest volunteers, lack of commitment, interest and appropriate skills and succession planning as the challenges he sees facing peace promoters.

**Table 6 Other challenges (Mathare)**

Other challenges not mentioned	Frequency	Percent
Lack of playing kits e.g. balls, uniform, first aid kits and medicines	65	19.0%
Lack of adequate funds/ government funding	58	16.9%
Lack of involving community elders to participate in peace building leads to conflict	39	11.4%
Nepotism in the group/ tribalism	36	10.5%
Lack of training ground/playing	29	8.5%
Poor management	20	5.8%
Lack of well-trained coaches	17	5.0%
Drug abuse	12	3.5%
Loss of empowerment for the youth/job opportunity	11	3.2%
Corruption	9	2.6%
Indiscipline among participants	8	2.3%
Sexual harassment/ Early pregnancy	5	1.5%
Gender inequality	5	1.5%
Healthy relationships between organizations	4	1.2%
Sustainability of programmes initiated	4	1.2%
Harassment and intimidation of football clubs by the stakeholders	4	1.2%

**Source: Field data (Mathare)**

### Case of Kibera

Among the 100 leaders' respondents, 23% cited lack of fund, equipments and resources as challenges and 12% indicated poor communication also. Those interviewed indicated other challenges include: poor leadership, poor communication, lack of resources or sponsors to fund the teams, lack of equipment, playing kits and balls, misunderstanding among team members due to tribalism and corruption, early marriages, lack of allowances for players, negative influence from politicians, and lastly corruption on the part of sports officials .

Among the youth respondents in Kibera, other challenges motioned included; poor leadership, poor communication, lack of sponsors to fund the teams, lack of equipment like playing balls and kits, lack of qualified sports managers, drug abuse, lack of government support,, lack of serious stakeholders, lack of trained coaches, misunderstanding among team players, due to tribalism and corruption, lack of allowances for players, parents not allowing their children to participate in sporting activities, early marriages, negative influence from politicians, language barrier and lastly corruption on the part of sports officials.

Lack of balls, uniforms and nonpayment of allowances were indicted in all the FGDs as challenges faced by the youth. In FGD 1 it was indicted that low self esteem due to lack of appreciation was a challenge in addition to poor communication. FGD 2 team indicted that lack of good will by leaders, peer pressure, early marriages, teenage pregnancies and drug abuse as some of the challenges. FGD 3cited lack of medical care and training grounds as challenges they faced. FGD 4 cited corruption, hostility and ignorance as additional challenges.

**Table 7. Other challenges (Kibera)**

Other challenges not mentioned (Youth)	Frequency	Percent
Poor Leadership	36	4.5%
Poor communication	58	7.3%
Lack of Resources/lack of sponsors to fund teams/Lack of equipment playing kits/balls	18	2.3%
Lack of qualified sports managers	44	5.5%
Drug abuse	60	7.5%
Negative peer pressure	40	5%
Lack of government support	50	6.3%
Lack of serious stakeholders	68	8.5%
Lack of trained coaches	40	5.0
Misunderstanding among team players, due to tribalism and corruption	62	7.8%
Players not being given allowance/pay	62	7.8%
Parents not allowing their children to participate in sporting activities	40	5.0%
Early Marriages	20	2.5%
Negative influence from politicians	40	5.0%
Language barrier	20	2.5%
Corruption among leaders/official of sports	40	5.0%
Absconded	102	12.8%
Total	500	100%

**Source: Field data youth (Kibera)**

## V. Conclusions

Lack of funds and appropriately skilled team leaders were common challenges facing the players as indicated by majority of the respondents. These contributed to most of the challenges from the teams or had a

direct effect on most of the other challenges. Poverty, unemployment lack of commitment and vision, harassment and intimidation are other challenges that were an impediment to the use of sports as an effective promoter of peace building. The research showed that sports can be effective in promoting peace if the salient challenges are addressed collectively by all stakeholders.

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