1. **Objective and relevance (the world around us)**

* What do you want to achieve through the intervention?
* Why is the intervention important?

The main objective of the project is to use sports as development tool to overcome social obstacles girls and young women face in Kenya:

* To expand girls football activities for more age groups, schools, and areas
* To improve and expand the training of girl’s football coaches, referees, and instructors
* Involve girls more directly in governance and decision-making(d) to increase girl’s participation in community and environmental improvement activities.
* To accelerate training for girls on reproductive health and HIV/AIDS prevention(f) to help the best volunteer girl’s leaders to stay in school(g)
* To strengthen organizational governance, management, research, monitoring and reporting
* To create a safe space for girls and young women to understand their rights and claim them and to take up leadership roles and have a voice in the society.

The following values will be upheld by AWE and Tujipange.

* Sport for girls is central to Awe’s approach, strategies, and interventions, as a tool for transformation.
* Our approach is grounded in the belief that girls are at the core of all AWE does as active and able agents of change.
* We believe that the essentials for sport success (teamwork, fair play, acceptance of winning and losing) foster attitudes that promote integrity, honesty, responsibility, and transparency.
* We believe that girls should enjoy equal rights and opportunities to reach their full potential.
* Child protection is a critical component of our work as we believe in safeguarding all children in AWE.
* Our strategies ensure that girls can take up space and use their voices to demonstrate their leadership.
* We believe that collaborations and active engagement with community members accelerates transformative change.
* **Describe the context of the intervention:** 
  + **Describe the conditions that apply in the area where the intervention will take place, and which are expected to influence the intervention (e.g. social, economic or political conditions, or other projects or activities in the area that can supplement the intervention).**

Kenya is a lower middle-income country with a growth rate of 5.7% per annum. However, major disparities in economic and social mobility exist within the gender divide. The country’s gender inequality index is at 0.549 ranking Kenya at 137 out of 160 countries globally as of 2018 showing that women are underrepresented in both political and economic spheres despite being the majority at 51% of the population. The target population for this group is adolescent girls aged below the age of 17 years, living in Baba Ndogo, Nairobi County and Kakamega county.

About one in three ever-partnered AGYW aged below 17 years in Baba Ndogo have experienced physical and/or sexual violence by an intimate partner while more than a quarter (29%) of girls aged 14-17 years in Nairobi County have begun childbearing. This figure is notably higher than the average national rate of 18%. During the Covid-19 pandemic, the number of teenage pregnancies rose to 14.4% as cases of sexual and gender-based violence, including rape by an intimate partner, also increased. This positioned pregnant adolescent girls and teenage mothers in a worse position of enduring increased gender-based violence at the same time as carrying the pregnancy or caring for the baby under economic hardships occasioned by the Covid-19 pandemic. Baba Ndogo is an informal settlement in Nairobi’s Eastland area that has an approximate population of 30,000 people. There are high levels of poverty, unemployment, and insecurity among its younger population. The main economic activities are small businesses, tailoring and working as laborers in the light industries that surround the area. The school is a beacon of hope in this community since it serves very needy families.

Kakamega County is a [county](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Counties_of_Kenya) in the former [Western Province](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Western_Province,_Kenya) of Kenya. Adolescents in Kakamega comprise 23.5% of total population. This segment of the population is at high risk of sexually transmitted infections (STIs), including HIV/AIDS while female adolescents face the additional risk of early pregnancy, unsafe abortion. Consequently, pregnancy among adolescents aged 15–19 years continues to be a significant problem in Maruti Kakamega county, with a teenage pregnancy rate of 18% and an adolescent birth rate of 96 per 1,000 women. Studies have documented that adolescent pregnancy, whether intended or unintended, increases the risk of maternal mortality and morbidity, including complications of unsafe abortion, prolonged labor and delivery, and sepsis during the postnatal period. Furthermore, more than half (51%) of all new HIV infections in Kakamega in 2019 occurred among adolescents and young people (aged 15–24 years), with young women accounting for 33% of the total number of new infections. Studies have shown that women who become mothers in their teens are more likely to drop out of school and have reduced career progression and economic empowerment, perpetuating the cycle of poverty. Adolescents also experience a high rate of violence, with the 2019 report of violence against children indicating that sexual violence was experienced by 15.6% of females and 6.4% of males before age 18 years in Kakamega.

The youth and children in Baba Ndogo and Kakamega are lacking in both recreational facilities and equipment to play sports. Young people especially girls are the most vulnerable to social problems caused by idleness and sport is a sure way to meaningfully engaged and support youth in today’s rapidly changing world. Because of idleness, it has become an increasing concern that much of the youth are being forced into life of crime. It is important to keep youth sports development program running. We want to encourage these children through sports and foster their social skills so they can develop a sense of achievement and shun early pregnancy and marriage, drugs, alcohol, and crime.

AWE Kenya has noticed lack of activities for children and youth that promote integral development of citizen, social inclusion and quality sports. Girls are limited to two sports they can choose to participate in, and out-of-school youth have no sporting opportunities and exposes them to risky ventures. We want to provide opportunities to play for disadvantaged children and youth and help them achieve positive change in their lives. This project will allow them to take part after school program and community sports program.

* **Describe how this intervention can contribute to supporting collaboration, public engagement and civil organizing and how this in time will contribute to social justice (realization of people’s rights, reducing inequality and fighting poverty, participation in decision-making processes, equal access to resources, and just institutions).**

Promote networking, collective strength and greater visibility of women in public spheres including representation in mainstream institutions and decision-making bodies: The cluster level groups in the project areas will be consolidated at the community level and taken through a visioning exercise to identify their purpose, role, and specific activities that they can take up to provide additional support to the targeted communities.

Sensitize the communities including men to involve the girls in sports: To create a broad social consensus among the community, men and women on issues of girls’ sports, mobilize resources and institutions controlled by men, resulting in a net gain in resources available to meet the needs of girls in sports; contribute to raising the next generation children in a framework of gender equity.

Enhance local organizational capacity through social mobilization and evolution of representative leadership within their ranks: To facilitate the formation and strengthening of alternative institutional frameworks to provide the space and opportunity for marginalized widows to collectively gain strength to address the key areas of their subordination.

* **What climate- and environmental conditions do the partnership and/or the intervention need to respond to? And how have the partners responded to it? This could be in relation to the conditions of the target groups, the number of flights or the activities of the intervention, and how these affect the environment or climate in the area.**

The initiative is involved in environment cleaning activities every month around the community and due to these activities, the community council has provided a place around the dump site to for vegetable planting for food production through recycling technics. Our mission is to create sustainable activities that protect our environment.

1. **The partnership/collaborators (our starting point)**

* Describe any previous acquaintance or cooperation between the partners, and how these experiences have fed into the development of the proposed intervention.
* Describe the partners and other actors’ contributions, roles, and responsibilities. Justify substantial payroll costs, and if payroll costs are included for the Danish organization, describe the tasks and why Danish personnel are best positioned to undertake these tasks.

AWE Centre Nairobi (Association for World Education and Humanity) was registered in 2003 and has over 15 years of work experience focusing on rescue, re-socialization rehabilitates and reintegration of street/poor children to the community, schools, and Economic Empowerment for widows especially those affected by HIV/AIDS through micro loans. AWE has been enriching the lives of many children. We are deeply rooted in the belief that education and humanity are the most useful tools for enhancing individual’s capacity and the possibility to overcome poverty through self-reliance. AWE has 7 active dedicated members who are committed to its visions and goals. AWE take advantage of its donor’s knowledge sharing, learning tools and the strength of Danish transparency and accountability policies. We pride in our values of equality, accountability and zero corruption work ethics.

Tujipange Community Empowerment is women led organization is dedicated to building and supporting the development of self-sustaining care and support systems for children, women, and youth. It supports in resource mobilization of starting a small business and supports groups to access commercial finance to sustain and expand their businesses. Tujipange project has been organizing sporting events for girls in primary schools in Siaya and Kisumu counties as this is an excellent opportunity to engage with the local community whilst assessing students from various courses. The girls are at a critical stage in their development and TCEP uses sporting events to enlighten youth about the options they can take part off, heath issues and mentorship.

AWE and Tujipange have not partnership in a project before, however the youth have met in football tournament in Kakamega and together we found out that our vision is in the same line. We want to try on this small project of capacity building of 6 month, create partnership and strengthen our work of using sports as a tool of development.

Tujipange Community Empowerment project will lead on project implementation, supervision of staff, coordination of local partners/associates and progress reporting. AWE will be responsible for funds administration and virtual project monitoring. Together we will see the running of the project making sure that the targeted groups benefit from this project. AWE will monitor virtually which is possible from last experience and have one member visiting for face-to-face meeting halfway through the project. This is planned to visit when the activity of mentorship and reproductive session is carried out. This very crucial because most girls will be encouraged to engage in knowledge sharing and a chance to learn about CISU and Danish policy on the importance of gender equality.

1. **Target groups, objectives, and expected results (our intervention)**

* **Who will benefit from the intervention? How many people will benefit in total? How will they participate in the intervention?**

The 6 months’ project will target a total of 108 girls who are below 17 years. 68 living in one of Nairobi- Kenya’s slum called Baba Ndogo and 40 girls at Maruti in Kakamega county. This intervention urgent objective is to create a safe space for girls that provides an opportunity to showcase talents through organized safe environment for football playing. This then leads to opportunities for socialization, enhancing self-image and leadership training. Many of these girls comes from very poor background and 96 of Acakas academy in Baba Ndogo comes from a single parent home. There are many girls in these areas who idle around, intelligent girls who drop out of schools at early age to become domestic works to support their families. This intervention seeks to reduce the number of dropouts, encourage girls to play football by create a safe and sustainable environment for the players.

At Maruti there are 120 girls who have register with the academy and only 40 girls attend the game once or twice a month. The project plan is to encourage weekly plays and increase the number of attendees. Therefore 40 girls will cascade to 120 girls benefiting from this project. Acaakas has 68 girls who attend training every week and 66 girls who do not attend. This project will cascade to these girls and overall benefiting 134 girls with 10 leaders and 30 mentors each club. The intervention will also take advantage of the available capacity of the community around the academies to encourage volunteering engagement and mentorship support.

* **Describe how the intervention will be implemented: what activities will be carried out? With whom? And when?**

Sport is one of the most popular activities of mankind across the modern world. It is appreciated and embraced among people of all ages, gender, abilities, and races. The popularity of sport stems from its benefits, not only at an individual’s level but also at national or societal level. Numerous scientific findings have shown that sport enhances physical fitness and health of participants. It is an important tool of bringing people together, providing opportunities for socialization, enhancing self-image and leadership training. It is appreciated as a "crowd-puller", and hence, helps to enhance national social integration and unity. The fact that sport is also one of the biggest economic industries in many countries of the world is without doubt.

AWE sees sports (and in our case, specifically football) as a way of developing the talents and self-esteems of young girls. Through sports organized in a safe environment, young girls are given the chance to showcase talents that are not usually recognized. When these girls are in the field, they get out of the ‘social construction’ that would ordinarily bar them from active participation in football. They have the unique opportunity of showing men and women; girls and boys that football can be for everyone, and many spectators are often surprised at the talent exhibited. And these talents exhibited normally land scholarship opportunities for high school and college education and future careers.

AWE also believe that if vulnerable and disadvantaged girls can connect with non-parental peers, motivational speakers and role models who provide them with inspiration, guidance, and information on life skills, they will be more likely able to handle challenges affecting them, perform well in school, avoid high-risk activities and make more successful transitions to adulthood.

*“****The power of sports is far more than symbolic. You are engines of economic growth. You are a force for gender equality. You can bring youth and others in from the margins, strengthening the social fabric. You can promote communication and help heal the divisions between peoples, communities and entire nations. You can set an example of fair play.****”* Louise Fréchette, the UN Deputy Secretary General during the World Sport’s Forum in March 2000.

AWE/ Tujipange Community Development Project will also integrate HIV/AIDS education, Substance abuse and Life Skills trainings into the sports activities addressing the key social challenges that are facing the young girls in Baba Ndogo and Kakamega. AWE, TCEP, Acakas and Maruti will use sport as a way of bringing young girls together to participate in fun and educational games and activities while delivering knowledge and practical skills about how to live a positive and healthy life. Sport and physical activity will be used to build awareness about HIV and AIDS, reproductive/early pregnancy prevention and dangers of drug abuse, while encouraging peers to discuss issues affecting their lives and their communities. The project will also provide capacity trainings to girls which at the same time preparing them for the outside world. We will conduct the following trainings for the girls: Football coaching and refereeing, Event management skills (tournament and league management trainings), Sport administration and development and Leadership and mentorship.

This empowerment will help the adolescent and teenage girls gain access to female driven development activities in life skills and HIV/Aids, culture, leadership, and peer education. The impact of these activities are to build self-esteem and leadership skills for the girls: Increase gender consciousness, raise awareness and exchange information concerning the various issues affecting young females in the marginalized communities, – talking with girls about making right choices in life and assertiveness – saying “No” to what you do not want and “Yes” to what you want. AWE and TCEP plan to increases girls’ opportunities and perspective through a mentoring and role modeling program connecting younger and older professional females to one another. The impact on the community is to change the perspective of how women are seen as capable human beings who can bring change in the world and not as confined to roles of domestic chores and serving others. This will also encourage and facilitates girls’ formal education.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Activities** | **expected results** |
| * Identification and selection of 10 girls’ leaders among the community to work with the project staff Community change agents. * One-day Workshop for 10 girls’ leaders to train them in running organized sports programs for the two academies. * Conduct a one-day launch to publicize the project in Nairobi and Kakamega * Create a safe space (one in Nairobi and another one in Kakamega) for 108 girls and young women to understand their rights and claim them and to take up leadership roles and have a voice in the society * Provide HIV/AIDS education, Substance abuse and Life Skills trainings to 108 girls in the two academies. * Providing sports equipment as matching kits, football boots, balls and training materials to 68 girls in the two academies. * Football coaching and refereeing, Event management skills (tournament and league management trainings), Sport administration and development and Leadership and mentorship. * Organize 2 sport tournaments (sports competitions) for girls’ in both academies. * Have virtual workshop of the sports to share experiences * Monitoring and Evaluation. * Partner Institution Support * Writing the project report | * 10 girls’ leaders among the community to work with the project Community change agents identified * 10 Girls are trained as leaders such as representatives who directly manage the playing fields. * A one-day launch to publicize the project in Nairobi and Kakamega conducted. * 2 Safe spaces for girls and young women created in Nairobi and Kakamega and * Improved HIV/Aids and life skills awareness among the youth (empowered girls and young women, reduced risk of HIV and gender-based Violence) * sports equipment as matching kits, football boots, balls and training materials for 68 girls procured and girls are using. * 108 Girls are trained on football coaching and refereeing, Event management skills, Sport administration and development and Leadership and mentorship. * Tournaments organize girls to showcasing and nurturing their football talents at all levels. * Community change agents identified * The organizational governance, management, research, monitoring and reporting is strengthened. |

A major impact of this project will include improved self-confidence, self-discipline, and self-motivation in the girls who participated. The project will empower the group to gain valuable information about relationships, violence /abuse, and to develop self-awareness and a sense of personal ownership over their bodies. 108 girls will be trained as gender and sports leaders and role models to impact other girls in the communities where they live.

Through the project, we will learn more on how to incorporate sports into our broader programs.  
Through sports forums, the project aims to increase girls’ knowledge on HIV prevention and management as well as reproductive health rights. With integrated approach, sports will have not only been taken as an activity for competition and leisure but as a discipline that requires effort and skills to enhance human rights and national development.

1. **Intervention-related information work in Denmark**

AWE uses social media as communication platform for information sharing. This project activities will be used to showcase how sports can be used as development tool, encourage more engagement financial support in Denmark. We hope to get more volunteers and sports clubs like AGf Aarhus to donate some football kits to our target group. The social media activities will be a good place to encourage Danish youth to support by saving their used and unwanted football clothes that are in good condition to our target groups. It is through social media that AGF Aarhus has donated all season sports kits to our children. Updating our social media showing CISU support automatically helps AWE attract more donor to our cause.