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Acronyms and Abbreviations

AGM	Annual General Meeting
AOR	Agreement Officer's Representative
CBF	County <i>Bunge</i> Forum
CBs	County Boards
CBO	Community Based Organization
CMC	Central Management Committee
COP	Chief of Party
DC	District Commissioner
DCO	District Cooperative Officer
DO	District Officer
DYO	District Youth Officer
FOG	Fixed Obligation Grant.
IGA	Income generating activity
KSh	Kenyan Shilling
MCBS	Murang'a County <i>Bunge</i> SACCO
MOIED	Ministry of Industrialization and Enterprise Development
MOLAD	Ministry of Livestock and Agriculture development
NACADA	National Authority for the Campaign against Alcohol and Drug Abuse
NCBF	Nyeri County <i>Bunge</i> Forum
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NYBA	National Youth <i>Bunge</i> Association
SACCO	Savings and Credit Cooperative Society
SC	Supervisory Committee
TOT	Trainer of Trainers
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VSL	Village Savings and Loans
VSLA	Village Savings and Loans Association
YYC-C	Yes Youth Can-Central

I. YYC-Central Province Executive Summary

Background

The Yes Youth Can-Central (YYC-C) program implementation focused on scaling up the activities initiated over the last 11 quarters to meet the overall objective of strengthening **the capabilities of youth and youth organizations in the Central Province to be agents of positive changes in their communities**. To achieve this goal, Mercy Corps and county boards developed a series of integrated activities that will work toward four objectives using a youth led, owned and managed approach. 0) Mobilize and form youth representative structures at the village and county level; 1) Support youth to exercise a greater voice in local and national affairs; 2) Increase youth productivity, employment opportunities, and income; and 3) Increase young women's access to social, political, and economic opportunities.

With the devolved system of government taking shape in the counties, the County Bunge Forums (CBFs) have aligned themselves to address some county government priorities as well as meeting the expectations of bunge members. Through a network of 3,482 Village *bunges*, the County Bunge Forums' impact on community development and influence on local and national issues can gradually be felt. With about 73,211 young people mobilized to join *bunges* and engage in activities that directly influence their lives; the program has positively influenced the thinking of youth development projects' duty bearers and of key project implementers about sustainable youth programming.

Mercy Corps and the County Boards (CBs) continued to make use of the lessons learnt from the previous quarters on how to modify and scale-up strategies to suit the local environment while banking on local community structures. Mercy Corps and partners continued to work closely with the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Development, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Provincial Administration, National Registration Bureau, Ministry of Industrialization and Enterprise Development, plus other non-governmental organizations working in the region.

Qualitative Impact

This quarter was marked by the signing of the sub-grant agreements between the County Bunge SACCOs and County Bunge Forums (CBFs) in the central region and Mercy Corps for the period of January 24th, 2014 to June 2014. The SACCOs signed a Fixed Obligation Grant with well set out milestones which are disbursed as per their loan policies and regulations set out in the Cooperative Act and their by-laws. The County Bunge Forums signed a sub-award agreement as local implementing partners for the program in each of their counties. This was very crucial in the new dispensation of the CBFs as the YYC Can! Program Implementing Partners. The sub-award for each CBF and FOG for each SACCO was to the tune KSh 5.12million (\$60,000) which was obligated to them but disbursed monthly.

YYC Central Sub-grant information sheet

Sub Recipient Name	Total budget KSh	Start Date	End Date	Transfer 1 (March, 2014)	Transfer 2 (April, 2014)
Kiambu County Bunge Forum (KCBF)	5,130,000	1/24/2014	6/30/2014	975,965.00	
Murang'a Youth Bunge County Forum	5,130,000	1/24/2014	6/30/2014	955,154.00	
Kirinyaga Youth Bunge County Forum	5,130,000	1/24/2014	6/30/2014	765,200.00	
Nyeri Youth Board Forum (YYC)	5,130,000	1/24/2014	6/30/2014	667,600.00	
Kiambu County Youth Bunge SACCO	5,130,000	1/24/2014	6/30/2014	520,000.00	
Muranga County youth Bunge SACCO	5,130,000	1/24/2014	6/30/2014	520,000.00	365,000
Kirinyaga County Youth Bunge SACCO	5,130,000	1/24/2014	6/30/2014	520,000.00	
Nyeri County Youth Bunge SACCO	5,130,000	1/24/2014	6/30/2014	520,000.00	
Totals	41,040,000			5,443,919.00	365,000

This was a culmination of a process started in the last quarter where the CBFs and County SACCOs reviewed and enhanced their systems and structures to ensure sound financial management, procurement and general office administration. This was done through development of simple manuals and policies, on the job training and mentoring on the use of various finance and procurement templates and reporting.

The various CBFs organized constituency feedback forums in their respective counties. From the events, bunge presidents were able to air their views on the proposed NYBA and county board constitution amendments which they watered down and on activities they wanted included in the county work plan. Further, the board continued to set up proper formal structures of operation. It is in this quarter that the board initialized the setting up of a committee which began with the creation of the position for an office administrator. The four CBFs have office administrators working on a contract basis in the office who are charged with the mandate of managing the office, act as bank agents and are also responsible for both financial and program reporting in consultation with the executive. The office administrators are also the custodians of both the financials and program documents and filing of the same.

The CBFs were able to engage the village youth *bunges* extensively in the execution of field events at their various villages which covered all the three objectives of the YYC! Program. In these events, approximately 7,739 youth were directly/indirectly reached in program activities ranging from advocacies, mentorships, trainings and mobilization activities.

The exposure to value chain analysis carried out by the youth in the previous quarter sparked a lot of interest in Kiambu CBF and this was evident in the various trainings in agri-business and value addition for produce like bananas, strawberry, potatoes and milk. The youth were trained on how to start agricultural enterprises and how to turn the products into value added finished items that would earn them more money. Youth are seeking opportunities to gain more value from their income generating activities. The CBF also focused on bunge visitation in order to verify the existing *bunges* and embark on bunge member's roster collection and bunge subscription. The Nyeri CBF being relatively new saw the need to conduct constituency feedback forums where they got a chance to present their work plan and budgets to the bunge members which ensured that the work plans

actually reflect the real needs of the youth *bunges* in the county. Murang'a also embarked on a series of trainings that were largely inclined towards the development of sector specific IGAs at the constituency levels.

During this reporting quarter, Nyeri CBF sent three members of the executive committee to a meeting with the Nyeri County Executive office as an entry point to the county government collaboration with youth leadership in the region. The county governments have developed a strategy to work with the boards and provide trainings to the youth under the *bunge* forum on public procurement, youth unemployment and insecurity with an aim to enhancing better handling of youth challenges in the counties.

During this reporting period, the last county *bunge* SACCO in Central Province was launched at the Baden Powell grounds in Nyeri. The ceremony, attended by high ranking national government officials, Nyeri county government officials, USAID, Mercy Corps and other stakeholders, brought together 400 youth who witnessed the occasion. The youth of Nyeri County displayed their organization and management skills in bringing together such a wonderful group of stakeholders. Nyeri County government promised their support for the Nyeri County Youth Bunge SACCO saying that it was so far the only youth led investment organization in the county. Nyeri County bunge SACCO now boasts of a membership of 96 youth bunge members (59 female and the rest male), this number is expected to grow tenfold next quarter as there has been a lot of interest in the SACCO from bunge members.

Quantitative Impact

During the reporting quarter, the program reached 7,739 at risk youth through mobilization and sensitization meetings. We also had thirty four (34) new *bunges* formed in the four counties. During this reporting period, various field activities facilitated by board and *bunge* officials took place. Twenty (20) mentorship forums took place which attracted 384 male and 487 female with the engagement of twenty two (22) male mentors and twenty seven (27) female mentors. There were eighteen (18) advocacy events that took place during this period ranging from community policing, education among others reaching 1,419 youths among them 862 male and 557 female. Twenty five (25) constituency feedback forums conducted across the four counties that gave village *bunges* the opportunity to engage with their respective CBFs leaders and take part in the preparation of work plans and budgets. During the reporting period, 215 new members have joined the SACCOs among them 114 female and 101 male. A total of 15 enterprise loans have also been issued with three (3) in Kiambu and twelve (12) in Murang'a counties.

Project Administration

During this period, the CBFs recruited office administrators who were tasked with the mandate of manning the offices, acting as bank agents and also responsible for both financial and program reporting regarding the affairs of CBFs. The SACCOs also hired book-keepers with equal mandate of those of office administrators. The office administrators, book keepers and treasurers of both CBFs and SACCOs were trained on QuickBooks so as to enable them to generate accurate financial reports and to promote accountability. Although there was a delay in the transfer of funds to both the CBFs and SACCOs, program activities continued with the support of Mercy Corps teams to ensure there was no gap in the implementation of field activities.

During this period also, the YYC-C team continued to support the county boards so as to ensure that they clearly understood the function of the structures that they had set in place. Sub-grant training was carried out before they received the funds with monitoring ongoing throughout this period. As soon as the funds were received in March, the CBFs set out to implement the approved work plan and the prepared budgets. However, it should be noted that the implementation is very

slow as the new sub recipients continue to learn on the job. Mercy Corps is therefore deliberate to ensure that they are able to follow all the procedures set apart in their contractual agreements but also have impactful activities.

Subsequent Quarter's Work Plan

The next quarter plans are drawn through a more elaborate process that promotes more participation of village *bunges* in the planning process. Individual *bunges* per every constituency will discuss and agree in developing constituency based work plans. This is because, firstly, the same *bunges* could be undertaking similar activities targeting almost the same communities and secondly, this will enable leveraging on government linkages and partnerships at the constituency level. The county work plans will then be consolidated by the county boards to constitute a county work plan. Mercy Corps through sub-awards will fund the planned activities for the next quarter. Some of the proposed activities for the next quarter include the following;

The CBFs and *bunges* will hold outreach campaigns on YYC program, CBF and *bunge* leaders will also carry out re-sensitization activities in areas where the *bunges* are and hold monthly feedback meetings to explain the program to new members and carry out formation and registration of youth *bunges*. Youth and youth *bunges* will be engaged in civic/advocacy campaign issues together with community service campaigns led by youth groups.

Murang'a and Kiambu CBFs have their AGMs (Annual General Meeting) slated for next quarter. Their constitution stipulates that only village *bunges* in good standing with the CBF are eligible to attend and vote during the meeting. By this, the CBFs will update their rosters by ensuring that the *bunges* pay the annual subscriptions and also hold individual annual meetings and elect new office bearers and per their constitutions. MC will meet only a percentage of the AGM budget while the CBFs raise the balance through the *bunge* subscriptions and other partners.

Mercy Corps will continue to address the capacity gaps identified through the needs assessment, and offer training and mentorship to village *bunges*, SACCOs, and county boards to build their capacity to impact on their membership. In particular, new CBFs will also receive training in leadership and civic education trainings on devolved government. The boards will actualize their strategic plans through a participatory process with other stakeholders. The youth will also hold public forums with government partners, CBFs, and youth *bunges*. We will hold public planning meetings organized to enhance youth participation and hold stakeholder and constituency feedback forums that will help them engage with the county/national government and engage with their *bunges* respectively. Through these forums, the youth will be linked to opportunities in the county government, MOIED and MOALF (Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries).

The SACCOs will continuously create awareness and hold education events and recruitment drives in order to recruit more members into the SACCOs and give out loans to the qualified members per their loan policies. During the next quarter, the SACCO agricultural sector loan products will be developed. The CBFs will also hold trade fairs and talent shows in order to market their agricultural products and attract investors in their regions as per the Cooperative Act, the SACCOs will have completed their audit, replaced the retiring and non performing delegates and held their ADM by April 30. However Kiambu SACCO has been authorized to have theirs on May 6, as their audit report was not ready in time.

CBFs will continue to advocate for change, and influence government officials on matters relating to the youth and their communities. They will promote dialogue with local, constituency, and county leaders, such as Members of Parliament, the Provincial Administration, the County Commissioners Office, District Youth Officers, and relevant county government ministries to help them understand the value of youth participation—both for youth and for themselves. While taking advantage of the training conducted this quarter on constitution implementation and devolution, Trainers of Trainers

will work with respective CBFs to train a bigger pool of trainers who will ensure that village *bunges* are trained to understand the Kenyan constitution and the devolved system of government as laid down in the constitution. By this, the village *bunges* will be more focused in lobbying and advocating for the rights and privileges for the youth and other citizens as laid down in the constitution. Youth will also monitor the constitution implementation and put the leaders to task as servants of the people.

CBFs will organize mentorship and intergenerational dialogue forums and link the young women and men to mentors within their regions. More stories will also be collected, documented and shared through the local media and also via online social platforms. This will also empower the young women in “telling their stories” as well as enhance their media relations skills.

II. KEY ACHIEVEMENTS (Qualitative Impact)

Objective 0: Form youth representation bodies at village and county levels

Outcome 0.1: 15,000 youth aware of Yes Youth Can! – C Program:

During the reporting period the CBFs had the responsibility of reaching out to the youth in the four counties. They carried out mobilization and sensitization meetings, advocacies, community service projects, mentorships and intergenerational dialogues reaching a total of 7,739 youth. The CBFs worked hard to mobilize youth to form new Bunge's and join existing ones. They took advantage of such events as chief *barazas*, church meetings, and sport activities as well as some of the program activities such as advocacy events, mentorship forums, constituency feedback forums and SACCO Education forums which took place in the region to reach out to more youth and create awareness about YYC program.

Constituency	Total youth population	Female in Bunges	Male in Bunges	Total Youths in Bunges	Total Bunges formed	Average per Bunge
Gatanga	47,799	3,118	3,310	6,428	293	21
Kandara	41,347	1,241	1,603	2,844	131	22
Kangema	20,380	2047	2,038	4085	144	28
Kigumo	33,203	840	1019	1,859	79	23
Kiharu	49,174	2,017	2,211	4,228	199	21
Maragwa	41,231	972	1,177	2,149	81	27
Mathioya	22,826	689	858	1,547	70	22
Gatundu North	27,359	1,186	1,516	2,702	121	22
Gatundu South	63,020	1,509	1,944	3,453	117	30
Githunguri	44,574	2,129	2,568	4,697	206	23
Juja	144,250	3,858	4,549	8,407	359	23
Kikuyu/Kabete	60,321	541	813	1354	81	17
Kiambaa	60,425	579	823	1,402	58	24
Lari	20,592	1,052	1,361	2,413	109	22
Limuru	43,135	1,205	1,423	2,628	133	20
Ndia	30,512	965	1,294	2,259	131	15
Gichugu	39,968	1,783	2,191	3,974	216	18
Kirinyaga Central	37,101	7822	1,128	1,950	99	20
Mwea	67,026	1,682	2,504	4,186	224	19
Othaya	24,407	1,377	1,670	3047	189	16
Mukurwe-ini	21,102	741	992	1733	90	19
Mathira	43,317	991	1777	2768	157	18
Tetu	21,214	213	281	494	32	15

Nyeri Town	38,643	395	452	847	56	15
Kieni	53,987	816	941	1,757	107	16
Totals	1,075,811	39,768	40,443	73,211	3,482	21

Outcome 0.2: Youth representation structures formed in the four counties

Four County *Bunge* Forum structures have now been fully established in the region with CBF secretariat constituted and every office having an office administrator. A total of **34** new *bunges* were formed in areas not initially reached through the program which has been the mandate of CBFs facilitated by the sub-grant award forming a network of **3,482** village *bunges* in central region so far. The network of CBF has seen this exercise successful with the support from active *bunge* presidents and volunteers. They are also able to run and maintain their offices by encouraging the village *bunges* to subscribe to them. The village *bunges* are expected to step up in their subscription before the next Annual General Meeting. The CBFs of Kirinyaga, Kiambu, Murang'a and Nyeri have continued to strengthen their structures by holding regular meetings and constituency feedback meetings to engage with village *bunge* members at the grassroots and impressing upon their village *bunges* to subscribe to them to reap the maximum benefits of the program as well as fund the board expenditures for delivery of services. This was also to ensure that the boards are able to run as autonomous bodies and implementing partners of YYC program. The subscription has been very slow but with the sub award, CBFs are only doing business with *bunges* who are in good standing and only *bunges* who have subscribed will attend the AGMs.

Objective I: Support youth to exercise a greater voice in local and national affairs

Outcome I.1: Bunge, CBF and SACCO capacity building to implement activities and support the youth increased

During this period, Mercy Corps worked closely with the CBFs in the four counties in preparation for their new role as sub-grantees. All CBFs and SACCO officials were trained in sub-grant management and USAID rules and regulations for managing costs and procurement rules.



SACCO officials from Kiambu, Kirinyaga, Murang'a and Nyeri signing the sub- grant agreement after the training on sub-grant management and USAID rules and regulations for managing costs and procurement rules.

The SACCO accountants and CBF administrators were taken through QuickBooks training and as a result of the training; the SACCOs and CBFs accounts have been well managed especially in Murang'a County, coupled with good leadership of the CBF president. Moreover, the SACCO accountants and several CMC members were taken through M-Pesa pay bill account management which saw the SACCOs allocated a pay bill number through which the members are able to send their contributions without incurring unnecessary expenses. The QuickBooks software is experiencing challenges of passwords expiring every month which slows down operations.

The four CBFs created positions of office administrators and initiated a hiring process. The boards were able to develop documents for the process as guided by the administrative manuals it was very competitive and transparent procedure from which the current office bearers were selected. Hiring

committees handled the shortlisting and the interviewing processes with the executive committee developing all necessary documentation for the process.

In Murang'a jointly with the SACCO, the CBF was able to sit in the liaison committee and develop two documents, one on the terms of reference for the liaison committee where its mandate was defined in a documented policy as well as another policy document on the co-location between the Murang'a County Bunge Forum (MCBF) and Murang'a County Bunge SACCO (MCBS).

The executive committee constituted an internal procurement committee which facilitated the procurement of various office equipment and supplies. This was all in the lines of organizational capacity building where the forum is now able to handle its internal processes in a transparent manner. With the youth institutions receiving their first disbursement in March, we have closely monitored their diligence in following financial procedures and most of them are on the right path. Mercy Corps Field teams are working with them to rectify any anomalies in good time. However this is an organizational development process which is gradual.

Outcome 1.2: Youth bunges actively engaged in civic issues

During this reporting period, the youth in central have come up strongly in partnering with the government and private companies in addressing issues that affect their communities. A total of eighteen (18) advocacy events were conducted in the four counties during the period.

For example in Kandara constituency in Murang'a County, youth bunge presidents were able to call upon the local water and Sanitation Company to reinstall damaged water pipes that had rendered about 300 homesteads waterless for more than three weeks. From this civic action, the water was reconnected to homes. In Gatanga constituency on the other hand, village youth bunge presidents organized a forum where motorcycle riders were taken through a session on road safety. The event involved the Traffic Department of Kirwara Police Department and a local driving school which gave free road safety training as well as the provincial administration that facilitated the setting up of road bumps along the highway. This has greatly reduced road accidents in the area.

Nyeri County has not been left behind in civic engagement issues. Mathira constituency bunge members have been very vocal on the Facebook page platform dubbed 'Nyeri ni sisi'(Nyeri is Us"). This platform gives them a chance to connect with the county government on issues affecting them. The youths have been able to engage the county government on the employment crisis and 30% procurement of tenders to the youths. As a result the county assembly has come up with an act of parliament to address these two issues.

The County Peace Committee has incorporated two board members from the Nyeri County Youth Bunge Forum; the president and the vice organizing secretary. They have been crucial in bringing about the youth perspective in land issues and water for irrigation which have been the major sources of conflicts within the county with land cases accounting for about 70% of sources of conflicts in the communities. The youth feel aggrieved by their parents who according to them refuse to subdivide land to them. In extreme cases, some youth have resorted to killing their parents in a bid to get this very crucial resource. Neglect of aging parents in the county is also common as the young people feel that this is a suitable way of punishing parents who have refused to release their hold on land.

The peace committee is engaging in environmental conservation and sustainable agricultural farming methods advocacies in partnership with the board members in Kieni constituency where the struggle for irrigation water is a major issue especially during the drought season where the people upstream divert water to their farms leaving the people downstream without water.

Kieni constituency board members held a meeting with the registrar of persons, village administrators, chief and DO (District Officer) to address the lack of birth certificates leading to the lack of IDs which translates to insecurity issues. Majority lack these certificates since births happen at home due to the vast distances of the constituency. Thus late reports of these births lead to people lacking eligibility for getting IDs. As such the board members will work together with these offices to enable the community members especially the young men get these documents given that they are the main culprits in insecurity issues as they cannot identify themselves without these documents. As a result, these young men find themselves being harassed by the authorities especially when insecurity occurs anywhere within their vicinity.

Outcome 1.3: Youth-led advocacy efforts strengthened to influence policy and public investment decisions

The County Boards and youth *bunges* identified and organized eighteen (18) advocacy events in this quarter, which directly involved 1,419 youth. These activities were planned and implemented by the CBFs and village youth *bunges* in partnership with local CBOs, civil society organizations, government and other stakeholders, clearly demonstrating the leadership opportunities accorded to the youth. The advocacy events address issues like drug abuse, water and wildlife conservation and deforestation, road safety and youth involvement in community policing among others.

In Kiambu, the youth through the CBF worked closely with line ministries in the county government and other stakeholders like NACADA. Kinale Youth Empowerment Bunge, Kinale Social Volunteers, Kijabe Environment Volunteers, and Mazingira Bora Youth Bunge which are four *bunges* from Lari Constituency each sent five representatives to participate in the 'Conserve the Kereita Forest' Tree Planting Marathon organized by the County Government. The bunge members planted trees to conserve the forest while others were able to sell the trees they grow thus boosting their IGAs.



Youths from Kinale Youth bunge participate during the "Conserve the Kereita Forest' Tree Planting Marathon organized by the Kiambu County Government.

In Nyeri County, seven board members and forty one (41) bunge members were awarded certificates for their efforts in environmental conservation and wildlife conservancy by Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS). Poaching has been a major issue among the youths as there are cartels that provide ready market for ivory with one going for more than KSh 200,000. This easy alternative for getting cash is proving to be a death trap to these young people as they are willing to go to any extent to get the ivory. The gunning down of eight young men in Kiambogo, Miteero, Solio and Gitegi in Kieni constituency was a wakeup call and as such the county board has entered into

agreement with KWS to conduct advocacies on the same in order to create awareness on the importance of wildlife conservation.

In Murang'a County, Kandara Constituency's representatives to the board organized a consultative meeting between the Sub-County Government officials and motorcyclists from the area. During the meeting, a consensus was reached on revenue collection from the motorcyclists. It was to the concern of Kangema youth that education was not valued by some parents in some parts of the constituency, forming the basis for an advocacy event where the youth involved the parents and education officials to jointly address the issue.

Outcome 1.4 Local Government responsiveness to issues important to youth increased

The county government has showed tremendous support for both the CBFs and the SACCOs in the four counties in central region. This has been proven through their presence in the various stakeholder forums organized by youth in their respective counties.

During the Nyeri County Bunge SACCO launch organized this quarter, the County Co-operative minister, permanent secretary from the National government, youth minister, the county speaker, members of the County assembly among other government officials who pledged to work with the youth in the CBF and SACCO in Nyeri were in attendance.

The county commissioner for Murang'a invited three board members from the Murang'a CBF to be part of a county plenary on peace and cohesion in Murang'a County. The office expressed interest in partnering with the forum to do peace caravans within the county and to develop a strategy for promoting peace at the village levels.

The nominated member in the Murang'a County Assembly representing youth has engaged the MCBF to partner with his office in a youth financial mentorship training on business start-up, resource mobilization and finance management. A work plan is already in place for all wards for effecting in April.

The senator for Murang'a County and Deputy Speaker in the Senate joined in a constituency forum in Gatanga constituency where he took the attendees drawn from the village youth *bunges* through the roles and mandates of his office and pledged support for the MCBF and urged youth to join the MCBS.

Also in Mathioya, Maragwa and Kandara Constituencies of Murang'a County, the representatives to the board organized forums in which youths attending were taken through trainings on access to government procurement opportunities in particular the 30% tender opportunities reserved for the youths.

Objective 2: To facilitate and provide new livelihood opportunities for youth

Outcome 2.1: Youth SACCOs benefit members by way of loans

In Central region, Murang'a and Kiambu Counties have members benefitting from loans from their county youth bunge SACCO. Youth from Nyeri and Kirinyaga counties on the other hand have matured in time to start loaning since the SACCOs were launched this during this quarter and towards the end of last quarter respectively.

Murang'a Youth *Bunges* SACCO remains a platform to engage the youth *bunges* members financially and they have continued to marshal funds for projects, start-ups, expansion and the general

provision of financial welfare solutions. So far MCBS has disbursed twenty one (21) loans amounting to KSh 404,000 on loans where twelve (12) were enterprise loans.

“In the next three to four months, I will have increased my savings to be able to access KSh 50,000 loan from my youth bunge SACCO so that I can expand my shoe business to a boutique” says Joyce a 29 year old member of Muranga County Youth Bunge SACCO.

Joyce’s story mirrors what many other members of Muranga County Bunge SACCO have to say about how the idea of youth SACCO have transformed their previously struggling businesses due to limited capital. Joyce, saves between KSh 200-500 per month and was able to get a loan of KSh 18,000 that she used to start a new shoe selling business targeting ladies and children, she says that she is able to make between KSh 7,500 to 8,000 per week in which KSh 3,990 goes to repaying her loan on a monthly basis.

During this reporting period, the cumulative number of members in the Kiambu County Bunge SACCO was one hundred and fifty nine youth (69 female, 78 male). Out of this, 86 members were actively saving with the SACCO with 77 being fully paid up.

The *Bunge SACCO* also received KSh 520,000 investment capital to enable them to successfully complete milestone one. In addition to the (29) loans that were disbursed in the previous quarter totaling KSh 640,000, an additional three loans totaling KSh 75,000 were disbursed to members this quarter and (19) loan requests totaling to KSh 1,570,000 reviewed and approved for lending in the subsequent quarter.

Table showing Central Province SACCO progress

County SACCO	Cumulative Membership			Amount of Share Capital	Number of loans issued	Amount of loans disbursed this Q	Pending Loans
	Male	female	Total				
Kiambu	78	69	137	195,700	3	75,000	1,570,000
Muranga	223	189	412	325,296	21	404,000	497,000
Nyeri	37	59	96	77,975	0	0	0
Kirinyaga	32	35	67	78,600	0	0	0
TOTAL	370	352	722	677,571	24	479,000	2,067,000

As shown in the table above Kirinyaga and Nyeri county youth *bunge SACCOs* are yet to provide loans to their members. These county SACCOs are in the process of developing loan policies and products for their members and shall duly offer loan facilities in the next quarter. The SACCOs are supported by their respective DCOs in working on a policy that would enable them provide products that are affordable and friendly to their membership.

SACCO launch

Nyeri County Youth Bunge SACCO launch was a highlight during this reporting period. A committee set up by the youth was able to organize a fantastic event that captured the imagination of the whole of Nyeri town and the local media in total. Not with their colorful display of branded t-shirts did they make a procession in nearly the whole town but the accompaniment of a well-choreographed brass band by



the Salvation Army culminated into the opening of their office at the county commissioner's headquarters. The office was officially opened by the Nyeri County Executive member, Mr. Shadrack Mubea assisted by the Cooperatives Secretary-MOIED. Among other notable guests during the office opening was Mercy Corps' Country Director Liesbeth Zonneveld and USAID's Roger Steinkamp.

The SACCO launch was also attended by the talented Nyeri County Youth, at the Baden Powel grounds-the venue of the official SACCO launch-thereafter, with the chief guest, Nyeri County Assembly Speaker gracing the occasion. He represented the Governor of Nyeri who reiterated his wholehearted support for the youth of Nyeri County. The chief guest spoke very passionately about youth empowerment and praised the youth for having mobilized over 50 members in a span of a week. He implored the 400 youth attending the occasion to spread the message to the rest of their peers left behind in the villages to join this investment vehicle and that many years from the day they will look back with a lot of pride that they made such a wonderful decision.

SACCO loan management

During this reporting period county youth *bunge* SACCOs have continued to receive repayments for the loans taken by their members. In Kiambu County Bunge SACCO, four borrowers have cleared their loans so far and have requested some more loans. The *bunge* SACCO capped the first loan product at KSh 30,000. The number of members completing their loans is expected to rise this quarter as MC/USAID capitalizes the SACCOs. In Muranga county *bunge* SACCO, one youth has completed repaying his loan with a larger batch completing next quarter in May. It is noteworthy, given the huge amounts loaned out by the SACCOs that none has a portfolio at risk. However, at the end of this quarter the amount in arrears was KSh 51,000 and KSh 41,700 respectively.

Outcome 2.2: Youth Obtain skills for employment and gain income through local business

The youth in village *bunges* have obtained skills that have enabled them to gain income through local businesses and also through linkages that were triggered by the value chain analysis conducted in the previous quarters.

Several trainings have been conducted in Murang'a County to improve youth's capacity on entrepreneurship. The trainings varied from Agri business, small and micro business management, requirements for procurement and tendering processes and also value addition trainings.

During the reporting period, a total of eleven (11) trainings were conducted with a total of 857 youth attending among them 379 female and 478 male. Kangema and Kiharu constituencies' youth were linked with extension officers from the department of livestock and veterinary services within the Ministry of Agriculture. This was followed by on site demonstration at one of the farms in their localities where zero grazing was practiced. The youth were guided on proper dairy cattle husbandry for improved milk production and disease control.

In Mathioya constituency, youth *bunge* members were taken to a water purification and packaging plant, Grange Park Industries. They were guided on the whole process of water purification from water sourcing to product packaging. The technical team from the water packaging industry also trained the youth on dynamics of product promotion and marketing. In Gatanga constituency, training was conducted aiming to equip the youths with skills on managing small businesses

Some linkages have been established by youth *bunges* as a way of increasing or supplementing their income. In Maragwa constituency for example, village youth *bunges* engaged in banana farming have been linked to a distilling company where they now enjoy guaranteed market and timely payments for their produce. This follows the signing of a MoU between the village youth *bunges* and the

distilling company. Eight (8) youth from the constituency participated in an exhibition organized by the Ministry of Industrialization and Enterprise Development in conjunction with the Export Promotion Council. The youth engage in banana value addition where they make banana crisps, jam, juice and other by-products.

Likewise, in Kandara constituency youth have been linked with sunflower buying companies such as Bidco Oil Refineries and Kenya Farmers Integrated Development. These partnerships have given the youth *bunge* members' opportunity for ready markets of their agricultural products.

During this reporting period, one entrepreneurial mentorship forum took place in Inoi Ward in Kirinyaga Central constituency in Kirinyaga County where youth were mentored on how to become successful entrepreneurs and how to exploit government procurement opportunities. The participants learnt that in order to become successful entrepreneurs they ought to focus on their vision, take calculated risks, and have passion and perseverance in their business endeavors. The procedure of registering a company and a business enterprise was outlined to the youth after which youth would benefit by accessing government procurement opportunities. As a result, it was later reported that several youth won government tenders. One youth was awarded with a tender to service government vehicles in the Department of Physical Planning, five (5) youth are supplying tree seedlings to the county government while three (3) others were tendered to supply wheelbarrows to the Kenya Forest Department.

Outcomes of entrepreneurship and life skills training held in the previous quarters also became manifest in Kirinyaga County where several youth have been employed in private and public sectors. For instance eighteen (18) youth from Mwea have gained employment at Nice Digital City, two youth work closely with JoyWo in the county as Field Trainers while two other youth from *Bunges* in Kirinyaga sit at Constituency Uwezo Fund Management Committees, one from Ndia and the other from Kirinyaga Central.

Objective 3: Improve young women's access to political, social and economic opportunities

Outcome 3.1: Young women & Men champions engaged to work with young female bunge members on socio-economic empowerment

During the implementing period, the CBFs organized mentorship sessions for both young men and young women in the four counties. Male youth in the CBFs organized for the male mentorships while the female youths organized for young women mentorships. The youth felt there was a need for mentorship forums in their areas on issues that concern them. They initiated discussions with mentors from the community who addressed the issues. The youth from *bunges* had an opportunity to interact with key personalities from their communities that they could identify with and aspire to emulate. Some of the issues identified that needed to be addressed across the counties were drug and substance abuse, dangers of engaging in crime, low self-esteem among young women and paternal responsibilities among others.

Outcome 3.2: Young women, men reached through mentorship forums

During this reporting period, a total of twenty (20) mentorship forums for young men and women were organized where gender issues were discussed. From the events, a total of 384 young men were linked with twenty two (22) mentors during their mentorship forums. In addition, a total of 487 young women were linked with twenty seven (27) mentors during the sessions. At the events, men were taken through life skill training, paternal responsibilities and how to use masculinity in

making their societies better. They were also educated on effects of drug and substance abuse and dangers of engaging in crime.

In the young women mentorship forums, ladies openly discussed with mentors on ways of improving their economic status and also their esteem which means that the ladies are better equipped to face the day to day situations in their communities.

Outcome 3.3 Success stories collected from YYC beneficiaries

During this reporting period, fifteen **(15)** success stories have been collected and are in the process of publishing in a newsletter as well as a documentary video.

Lessons Learned

- Constituency stakeholders meetings are an effective strategy to engage with stakeholders as different constituencies present a different set of circumstances requiring different entry points of these stakeholders which later feed into the success of the county youth bunge forum.
- The youth bunge county board and the youth bunge SACCO have realized synergy through working together. Through mobilization and education/ recruitment both institutions have been able to reach to young people both in the *bunges* and outside *bunges*.
- Members of the youth *bunges* are eager to be engaged in the program activities. This was demonstrated during the constituency feedback forums which provided an avenue for bunge members to interact with their board members and react to the work-plans and the budgets which lead to adjustments being made to the work-plans and budgets based on the issues the bunge members were most relevant and pressing to them.
- Youths are very interested in knowing how to access 30% of government tenders. If given ample training on formation of companies and business organizations there would be increased application from youth companies and business organizations for government tenders.
- Youth are ready to take responsibility hence the community can depend on them if only they are empowered.
- Being the biggest youth organizations in the counties, the CBFs can be a driving force using the bunge structures to influence policies and decision making within the county governments. For example the money set aside for youth by the government can be disbursed through this structure.
- The sub granting to the CBFs and SACCOs is a process in capacity enhancement which should be gradual. The capacity assessment on the institutions had rated them high risk meaning Mercy Corps has to play a big role and use lessons learnt for each process to inform the next. This may require a review of the sub-agreement period to accommodate the slow pace in implementation.
- By the nature of their structures, the SACCOs and CBFs need distinct management and governance functions to check of each other. It would be recommended that the two strengthen their management structure by having employees who can run the projects while the boards play a supervisory role.

III. PROGRAM PROGRESS (Quantitative Impact)

Table I: Performance Data Table

INDICATOR TITLE: # of people from 'at-risk' groups reached through USG-supported conflict mitigation activities																				
INDICATOR NUMBER: 0.1																				
UNIT: Number of people	DISAGGREGATE BY: County and gender																			
			Activity Title						31/Mar/14		W		M		Sub-total					
	Kiambu County		Outreach campaigns & Advocacies								835		881		1,716					
	Murang'a County		Outreach campaigns & Advocacies								1,651		2,249		3,900					
	Kirinyaga County		Outreach campaigns & Advocacies								300		325		625					
	Nyeri County		Outreach campaigns & Advocacies								660		838		1,498					
	Totals										3,446		4,293		7,739					
Results: Youth aware of Yes Youth Can program																				
Additional Criteria <i>If other criteria are important, add lines for setting targets and tracking</i>	Baseline		Results Achieved Prior Periods				This Reporting Period 31/Mar/14				Reporting Period 30/Jun/14		Reporting 30/Sep/14		Period		FY 2014 Target		End of Project Target	
			Achieved		Target		Achieved		Target		Target		Target		Target		Target			
	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M		
	Kiambu County	0	0	0	0	220	280	835	881	440	560	440	560	1,100	1,400	1,100	1,400			
Murang'a County	0	0	0	0	600	700	1,651	2,249	1,200	1,300	700	800	2,500	2,800	2,500	2,800				
Kirinyaga County	0	0	0	0	220	280	300	325	440	560	440	560	1,100	1,400	1,100	1,400				
Nyeri County	0	0	0	0	550	650	660	838	950	1050	700	800	2,200	2,500	2,200	2,500				
Totals	0	0	0	0	1,590	1,910	3,446	4,293	3,030	3,470	2,280	2,720	6,900	8,100	6,900	8,100				

INDICATOR TITLE: # of Village bunges formed & registered with the bunge roaster				
INDICATOR NUMBER: 0.2a				
DISAGGREGATE BY: County				
UNIT:		Activity Title	31/Mar/14	Sub-total
Number of Bunges	Kiambu County	Mobilization		0
	Murang'a County	Mobilization		0
	Kirinyaga County	Mobilization		22
	Nyeri County	Mobilization		12
	Totals			34
Results: Youth representation structures formed in the four counties				

Additional Criteria If other criteria are important, add lines for setting targets and tracking	Baseline	Results Achieved Prior Periods	This Reporting Period 31/Mar/14		Reporting Period 30/Jun/14	Reporting Period 30/Sep/14	FY 2014 Target	End of Project Target
		Achieved	Target	Achieved	Target	Target	Target	Target
Kiambu County	0	0	10	0	45	45	100	100
Murang'a County	0	0	10	0	45	45	100	100
Kirinyaga County	0	0	10	22	45	45	100	100
Nyeri County	0	0	10	12	45	45	100	100
Totals	0	0	40	34	180	180	400	400

INDICATOR TITLE: # of County forums formed and elections conducted				
INDICATOR NUMBER: 0.2b				
DISAGGREGATE BY: County				
UNIT:		Activity Title	31/Mar/14	Sub-total
Number of Bunges	Kiambu County	Mobilization & elections		0
	Murang'a County	Mobilization & elections		0
	Kirinyaga County	Mobilization & elections		0
	Nyeri County	Mobilization & elections		0
	Totals			0
Results: Youth representation structures formed in the four counties				

Additional Criteria If other criteria are important, add lines for setting targets and tracking	Baseline	Results Achieved Prior Periods		This Reporting Period 31/Mar/14		Reporting Period 30/Jun/14		Reporting Period 30/Sep/14		FY 2014 Target		End of Project Target	
		Achieved		Target		Target		Target		Target		Target	
		W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M
Kiambu County	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1
Murang'a County	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1
Kirinyaga County	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1
Nyeri County	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1
Totals	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	4	4	4	4

INDICATOR TITLE: # of CBF Board members, officials or Bunge officials who attend organizational capacity building training programs

INDICATOR NUMBER: I.1

UNIT: Number of Bunges	DISAGGREGATE BY: County and gender									
	Activity Title					31/Mar/14	W	M	Sub-total	
	Kiambu County	Capacity building trainings						1	1	2
	Murang'a County	Capacity building trainings						0	3	3
	Kirinyaga County	Capacity building trainings						4	2	6
	Nyeri County	Capacity building trainings						1	2	3
Totals							6	8	14	

Results: Youth reached through capacity building trainings

Additional Criteria If other criteria are important, add lines for setting targets and tracking	Baseline		Results Achieved Prior Periods		This Reporting Period 31/Mar/14				Reporting Period 30/Jun/14		Reporting Period 30/Sep/14		FY 2014 Target		End of Project Target	
			Achieved		Target		Achieved		Target		Target		Target		Target	
			W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M
Kiambu County	0	0	0	0	1	2	1	1	2	2	1	2	4	6	4	6
Murang'a County	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	3	2	2	1	2	4	6	4	6
Kirinyaga County	0	0	0	0	1	2	4	2	2	2	1	2	4	6	4	6
Nyeri County	0	0	0	0	1	2	1	2	2	2	1	2	4	6	4	6
Totals	0	0	0	0	4	8	6	8	8	8	4	8	16	24	16	24

INDICATOR TITLE: # of youth who attend Bunge meetings							
INDICATOR NUMBER: 1.1b							
UNIT: Number of Bunges	DISAGGREGATE BY: County and gender						
	Activity Title			31/Mar/14	W	M	Sub-total
	Kiambu County	Bunge meetings			265	375	640
	Murang'a County	Bunge meetings			260	370	630
	Kirinyaga County	Bunge meetings			300	350	650
	Nyeri County	Bunge meetings			250	355	605
Totals				1,075	1,450	2,525	
Results: Youth actively participating in Bunge activities							

Additional Criteria If other criteria are important, add lines for setting targets and tracking	Baseline		Results Achieved Prior Periods						This Reporting Period 31/Mar/14		Reporting Period 30/Jun/14		Reporting Period 30/Sep/14		FY 2014 Target		End of Project Target	
	Achieved		Target		Achieved		Target		Target		Target		Target		Target			
	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M		
	Kiambu County	0	0	0	0	250	350	265	375	300	325	300	325	850	1,000	850	1,000	
Murang'a County	0	0	0	0	250	350	260	370	300	325	300	325	850	1,000	850	1,000		
Kirinyaga County	0	0	0	0	250	350	300	350	300	325	300	325	850	1,000	850	1,000		
Nyeri County	0	0	0	0	250	350	250	355	300	325	300	325	850	1,000	850	1,000		
Totals	0	0	0	0	1,000	1,400	1,075	1,450	1,200	1,300	1,200	1,300	3,400	4,000	3,400	4,000		

INDICATOR TITLE: # of youth members of Bunges who have completed USG-assisted civic education programs							
INDICATOR NUMBER: 1.2a							
UNIT: Number of Bunges	DISAGGREGATE BY: County and gender						
	Activity Title			31/Mar/14	W	M	Sub-total
	Kiambu County	Capacity building trainings			3	3	6
	Murang'a County	Capacity building trainings			1	4	5
	Kirinyaga County	Capacity building trainings			1	3	4
	Nyeri County	Capacity building trainings			4	2	6
Totals				9	12	21	
Results: Youth bunges members trained on civic engagement issues							

Additional Criteria If other criteria are important, add lines for setting targets and tracking	Baseline		Results Achieved Prior Periods		This Reporting Period 31/Mar/14				Reporting Period 30/Jun/14		Reporting Period 30/Sep/14		FY 2014 Target		End of Project Target	
			Achieved		Target		Achieved		Target		Target		Target		Target	
	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M
Kiambu County	0	0	0	0	7	10	3	3	7	10	8	10	20	30	20	30
Murang'a County	0	0	0	0	7	10	1	4	7	10	8	10	20	30	20	30
Kirinyaga County	0	0	0	0	7	10	1	3	7	10	8	10	20	30	20	30
Nyeri County	0	0	0	0	7	10	4	2	7	10	8	10	20	30	20	30
Totals	0	0	0	0	28	40	9	12	28	40	32	40	80	120	80	120

INDICATOR TITLE: # of community service projects implemented by Bunges					
INDICATOR NUMBER: 1.2c					
UNIT: Number of Bunges	DISAGGREGATE BY: County				
	Activity Title			31/Mar/14	Sub-total
	Kiambu County	Community service			1
	Murang'a County	Community service			1
	Kirinyaga County	Community service			1
	Nyeri County	Community service			1
Totals				4	

Results: Community service projects implemented by bunges

Additional Criteria If other criteria are important, add lines for setting targets and tracking	Baseline		Results Achieved Prior Periods		This Reporting Period 31/Mar/14		Reporting Period 30/Jun/14		Reporting Period 30/Sep/14		FY 2014 Target		End of Project Target	
			Achieved		Target		Achieved		Target		Target		Target	
	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M
Kiambu County	0	0	1		1		1		1		3		3	
Murang'a County	0	0	1		1		1		1		3		3	
Kirinyaga County	0	0	0		1		1		1		2		2	
Nyeri County	0	0	0		1		1		1		2		2	

Totals	0	0	2	4	4	4	10	10
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INDICATOR TITLE: Number of Constituency Feedback Forums held				
INDICATOR NUMBER: 1.2d				
UNIT: Number of County Forums	DISAGGREGATE BY: County			
		Activity Title	31/Mar/14	Sub-total
	Kiambu County	Mobilization		6
	Murang'a County	Mobilization		8
	Kirinyaga County	Mobilization		4
	Nyeri County	Mobilization		7
	Totals			25
Results: Youth getting a platform to discuss about the program activities, work plans and achievements				

Additional Criteria If other criteria are important, add lines for setting targets and tracking	Baseli ne	Results Achieved Prior Periods		This Reporting Period 31/Mar/14		Reporting Period 30/Jun/14		Reporting Period 30/Sep/14		FY 2014 Target		End of Project Target	
		Achieved	Target	Achieved	Target	Target	Target	Target	Target				
Kiambu County	0	0	4	6	12	12	28	28					
Murang'a County	0	0	7	8	12	7	26	26					
Kirinyaga County	0	0	4	4	4	4	12	12					
Nyeri County	0	0	6	7	12	6	24	24					
Totals	0	0	21	25	40	29	90	90					

INDICATOR TITLE: # of Bunges involved in youth-led advocacy campaigns targeted towards policy and public investment decisions				
INDICATOR NUMBER: 1.3				
UNIT: Number of County Forums	DISAGGREGATE BY: County			
		Activity Title	31/Mar/14	Sub-total
	Kiambu County	Advocacies		15
	Murang'a County	Advocacies		11
	Kirinyaga County	Advocacies		0
	Nyeri County	Advocacies		12
	Totals			38
Results: Youth <i>bunges</i> involved in youth-led advocacy campaigns targeted towards policy and public investment decisions				

Additional Criteria If other criteria are important, add lines for setting targets and tracking	Baseline	Results Achieved Prior Periods		This Reporting Period 31/Mar/14		Reporting Period 30/Jun/14		Reporting Period 30/Sep/14		FY 2014 Target		End of Project Target		
		Achieved		Target		Achieved		Target		Target		Target		
		W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	
Kiambu County	0	0	0	0	10	15	20	20	20	20	50	50	50	50
Murang'a County	0	0	0	0	10	11	20	20	20	20	50	50	50	50
Kirinyaga County	0	0	0	0	10	0	20	20	20	20	50	50	50	50
Nyeri County	0	0	0	0	10	12	20	20	20	20	50	50	50	50
Totals	0	0	0	0	40	38	80	80	80	80	200	200	200	200

INDICATOR TITLE: # of local mechanisms supported with USG assistance for citizens to engage with their sub-national government

INDICATOR NUMBER: I.4

UNIT: Number of people	DISAGGREGATE BY: County and gender								
	Activity Title								
	31/Mar/14								
	W	M	Sub-total						
	Kiambu County	Local government officials					0	1	1
	Murang'a County	Local government officials					1	2	3
Kirinyaga County	Local government officials					3	4	7	
Nyeri County	Local government officials					1	8	9	
Totals						5	15	20	

Results: Local government officials who engage with youth in Bunges using USG assistance

Additional Criteria If other criteria are important, add lines for setting targets and tracking	Baseline		Results Achieved Prior Periods		This Reporting Period 31/Mar/14				Reporting Period 30/Jun/14		Reporting Period 30/Sep/14		FY 2014 Target		End of Project Target	
	Achieved		Target		Achieved				Target		Target		Target		Target	
	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M
Kiambu County	0	0	0	0	4	6	0	1	4	6	4	6	12	18	12	18
Murang'a County	0	0	0	0	4	6	1	2	4	6	4	6	12	18	12	18
Kirinyaga County	0	0	0	0	4	6	3	4	4	6	4	6	12	18	12	18
Nyeri County	0	0	0	0	4	6	1	8	4	6	4	6	12	18	12	18
Totals	0	0	0	0	16	24	5	15	16	24	16	24	48	72	48	72

INDICATOR TITLE: # of youth who register, buy shares and save with the SACCO								
INDICATOR NUMBER: 2.1a								
UNIT: Number of people	DISAGGREGATE BY: County and gender							
	Activity Title					31/Mar/14	Sub-total	
	Kiambu County	Joining SACCO and saving				2	4	6
	Murang'a County	Joining SACCO and saving				14	28	42
	Kirinyaga County	Joining SACCO and saving				39	32	71
	Nyeri County	Joining SACCO and saving				59	37	96
Totals					114	101	215	

Results: Youth registering , buying shares and saving with the SACCO

Additional Criteria If other criteria are important, add lines for setting targets and tracking	Baseline		Results Achieved Prior Periods		This Reporting Period 31/Mar/14				Reporting Period 30/Jun/14		Reporting Period 30/Sep/14		FY 2014 Target		End of Project Target	
	Achieved		Target		Achieved		Target		Target		Target		Target			
	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M
Kiambu County	0	0	0	0	60	100	2	4	100	120	125	120	285	340	285	340
Murang'a County	0	0	0	0	60	100	14	28	100	120	125	120	285	340	285	340
Kirinyaga County	0	0	0	0	40	50	39	32	120	135	125	155	285	340	285	340
Nyeri County	0	0	0	0	40	50	59	37	120	135	125	155	285	340	285	340
Totals	0	0	0	0	200	300	114	101	440	510	500	550	1,140	1,360	1,140	1,360

INDICATOR TITLE: # of Loans issued for microenterprises				
INDICATOR NUMBER: 2.1b				
UNIT: Number of County Forums	DISAGGREGATE BY: County			
	Activity Title		31/Mar/14	Sub-total
	Kiambu County	Loans issued		3
	Murang'a County	Loans issued		12
	Kirinyaga County	Loans issued		0
	Nyeri County	Loans issued		0
Totals			15	

Results: Microenterprise loans issued

Additional Criteria If other criteria are	Baseline	Results Achieved Prior Periods	This Reporting Period 31/Mar/14		Reporting Period 30/Jun/14	Reporting Period 30/Sep/14	FY 2014 Target	End of Project Target
			W	M				

<i>important, add lines for setting targets and tracking</i>		Achieved		Target	Achieved		Target	Target		Target	Target	
Kiambu County	0	0	30	3	45	50	125	125				
Murang'a County	0	0	30	12	45	50	125	125				
Kirinyaga County	0	0	0	0	60	65	125	125				
Nyeri County	0	0	0	0	60	65	125	125				
Totals	0	0	60	15	210	230	500	500				

INDICATOR TITLE: # of youth benefiting by way of income from enterprises initiated or scaled up through loans taken from SACCO

INDICATOR NUMBER: 2.1c

UNIT: Number of people	DISAGGREGATE BY: County and gender					
		Activity Title	31/Mar/14	W	M	Sub-total
	Kiambu County	Youths benefitting from loans		13	18	31
	Murang'a County	Youths benefitting from loans		2	10	12
	Kirinyaga County	Youths benefitting from loans		0	0	0
	Nyeri County	Youths benefitting from loans		0	0	0
Totals			15	28	43	

Results: Youth benefitting from enterprise loans

Additional Criteria <i>If other criteria are important, add lines for setting targets and tracking</i>	Baseline		Results Achieved Prior Periods		This Reporting Period 31/Mar/14				Reporting Period 30/Jun/14		Reporting Period 30/Sep/14		FY 2014 Target		End of Project Target	
			Achieved		Target		Achieved		Target		Target		Target		Target	
	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M
Kiambu County	0	0	0	0	15	20	13	18	20	25	20	25	55	70	55	70
Murang'a County	0	0	0	0	15	20	2	10	20	25	20	25	55	70	55	70
Kirinyaga County	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	35	30	35	55	70	55	70
Nyeri County	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	35	30	35	55	70	55	70
Totals	0	0	0	0	30	40	15	28	90	120	100	120	220	280	220	280

INDICATOR TITLE: # of youth who gain on-the-job experience through private sector apprenticeship or life skills

INDICATOR NUMBER: 2.2a

UNIT: Number of people	DISAGGREGATE BY: County and gender									
						31/Mar/14	W	M	Sub-total	
	Activity Title									
	Kiambu County	Youths gaining on-the-job experience						0	0	0
	Murang'a County	Youths gaining on-the-job experience						0	0	0
	Kirinyaga County	Youths gaining on-the-job experience						10	8	18
Nyeri County	Youths gaining on-the-job experience						4	9	13	
Totals							14	17	31	

Results: Youth gaining on-the-job experience through private sector apprenticeship

Additional Criteria If other criteria are important, add lines for setting targets and tracking	Baseline		Results Achieved Prior Periods		This Reporting Period 31/Mar/14				Reporting Period 30/Jun/14		Reporting Period 30/Sep/14		FY 2014 Target		End of Project Target		
			Achieved		Target		Achieved		Target		Target		Target		Target		
	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	
	Kiambu County	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	1	2	2	2	4	6	4	6
Murang'a County	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	1	2	2	2	4	6	4	6	
Kirinyaga County	0	0	0	0	1	2	10	8	1	2	2	2	4	6	4	6	
Nyeri County	0	0	0	0	1	2	4	9	1	2	2	2	4	6	4	6	
Totals		0	0	0	0	4	8	14	17	4	8	8	8	16	24	16	24

INDICATOR TITLE: # of young people gaining employment or better employment as a result of participating in USG-funded workforce development programs like SACCO

INDICATOR NUMBER: 2.2b

UNIT: Number of people	DISAGGREGATE BY: County and gender									
						31/Mar/14	W	M	Sub-total	
	Activity Title									
	Kiambu County	Youths gaining employment						1	0	1
	Murang'a County	Youths gaining employment						0	1	1
	Kirinyaga County	Youths gaining employment						12	10	22
Nyeri County	Youths gaining employment						2	0	2	
Totals							15	11	26	

Results: Youth gaining employment as a result of participating in USG-funded program

Additional Criteria If other criteria are	Baseline		Results Achieved Prior Periods		This Reporting Period 31/Mar/14				Reporting Period 30/Jun/14		Reporting Period 30/Sep/14		FY 2014 Target		End of Project Target	
	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M

important, add lines for setting targets and tracking	Periods		Achieved		Target		Achieved		Target		Target		Target		Target	
	W M		W M		W M		W M		W M		W M		W M		W M	
	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M
Kiambu County	0	0	0	0	10	12	1	0	17	17	18	21	45	50	45	50
Murang'a County	0	0	0	0	10	12	0	1	17	17	18	21	45	50	45	50
Kirinyaga County	0	0	0	0	10	12	12	10	12	15	13	18	35	45	35	45
Nyeri County	0	0	0	0	10	12	2	0	12	15	13	18	35	45	35	45
Totals	0	0	0	0	40	48	15	11	58	64	62	78	160	190	160	190

INDICATOR TITLE: **Number of youth who take part in exhibitions and competitions aimed at gaining product exposure and attracting investment to the area**

INDICATOR NUMBER: **2.2c**

DISAGGREGATE BY: County and gender							
UNIT: Number of people	Activity Title					31/ Mar/ 14	Sub-total
	W	M	W	M	W	W	M
Kiambu County	Youth participating in Exhibitions						0
Murang'a County	Youth participating in Exhibitions						3
Kirinyaga County	Youth participating in Exhibitions						0
Nyeri County	Youth participating in Exhibitions						0
Totals							3

Results: Youth gaining product exposure for their products and attracting investors in their counties as a result of taking part in exhibitions and trade fairs

Additional Criteria If other criteria are important, add lines for setting targets and tracking	Baseline		Results Achieved Prior Periods		This Reporting Period 31/Mar/14				Reporting Period 30/Jun/14		Reporting Period 30/Sep/14		FY 2014 Target		End of Project Target		
	Achieved		Achieved		Target		Achieved		Target		Target		Target		Target		
	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	
Kiambu County	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	160	200	190	250	350	450	350	450
Murang'a County	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	5	35	50	45	70	80	120	80	120	
Kirinyaga County	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	160	200	190	250	350	450	350	450	
Nyeri County	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	35	50	45	70	80	120	80	120	

Totals	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	5	390	500	470	640	860	1,140	860	1,140
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INDICATOR TITLE: # of mentorship forums held						
INDICATOR NUMBER: 3.1a						
UNIT: Number of people	DISAGGREGATE BY: County and gender					
		Activity Title		31/Mar/14		Sub-total
	Kiambu County	Mentorship forum				5
	Murang'a County	Mentorship forum				14
	Kirinyaga County	Mentorship forum				1
	Nyeri County	Mentorship forum				0
Totals						20
Results: Young men/women mentorship forums held						

Additional Criteria If other criteria are important, add lines for setting targets and tracking	Baseline	Results Achieved Prior Periods		This Reporting Period 31/Mar/14		Reporting Period 30/Jun/14		Reporting Period 30/Sep/14		FY 2014 Target		End of Project Target	
		Achieved	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved	Target	Achieved	Target	Target	Target		
Kiambu County	0	0	3	5	4	3	10	10					
Murang'a County	0	0	3	14	4	3	10	10					
Kirinyaga County	0	0	3	1	4	3	10	10					
Nyeri County	0	0	3	0	4	3	10	10					
Totals	0	0	12	20	16	12	40	40					

INDICATOR TITLE: # of mentors paired with young women or men								
INDICATOR NUMBER: 3.1b								
UNIT: Number of people	DISAGGREGATE BY: County and gender							
		Activity Title		31/Mar/14	W	M	Sub-total	
	Kiambu County	Mentorship forum			7	5	12	
	Murang'a County	Mentorship forum			16	13	29	
	Kirinyaga County	Mentorship forum			4	4	8	
	Nyeri County	Mentorship forum			0	0	0	
Totals						27	22	49

Results: Number of mentors paired with young men and women in youth <i>bunges</i>																
Additional Criteria If other criteria are important, add lines for setting targets and tracking	Baseline		Results Achieved Prior Periods		This Reporting Period 31/Mar/14				Reporting Period 30/Jun/14		Reporting Period 30/Sep/14		FY 2014 Target		End of Project Target	
	Achieved		Target		Achieved		Target		Target		Target		Target			
	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M
Kiambu County	0	0	0	0	1	2	7	5	1	2	2	2	4	6	4	6
Murang'a County	0	0	0	0	1	2	16	13	1	2	2	2	4	6	4	6
Kirinyaga County	0	0	0	0	1	2	4	4	1	2	2	2	4	6	4	6
Nyeri County	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	1	2	2	2	4	6	4	6
Totals	0	0	0	0	4	8	27	22	4	8	8	8	16	24	16	24

INDICATOR TITLE: # of young men and women reached though mentorship forums organized in the community									
INDICATOR NUMBER: 3.2a									
UNIT: Number of people	DISAGGREGATE BY: County and gender								
	Activity Title				31/Mar/14	W	M	Sub-total	
	Kiambu County	Mentorship forum					179	111	290
	Murang'a County	Mentorship forum					288	243	531
	Kirinyaga County	Mentorship forum					20	30	50
	Nyeri County	Mentorship forum					0	0	0
	Totals						487	384	871

Results: Number of mentors paired with young men and women in youth <i>bunges</i>																
Additional Criteria If other criteria are important, add lines for setting targets and tracking	Baseline		Results Achieved Prior Periods		This Reporting Period 31/Mar/14				Reporting Period 30/Jun/14		Reporting Period 30/Sep/14		FY 2014 Target		End of Project Target	
	Achieved		Target		Achieved		Target		Target		Target		Target			
	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M	W	M
Kiambu County	0	0	0	0	20	25	179	111	25	27	25	28	70	80	70	80
Murang'a County	0	0	0	0	20	25	288	243	531	27	25	28	70	80	70	80
Kirinyaga County	0	0	0	0	20	25	20	30	25	27	25	28	70	80	70	80
Nyeri County	0	0	0	0	20	25	0	0	25	27	25	28	70	80	70	80
Totals	0	0	0	0	80	100	487	384	100	108	100	112	280	320	280	320

INDICATOR TITLE: # of success stories collected and disseminated through multimedia

INDICATOR NUMBER: 3.3

UNIT: Campaigns	DISAGGREGATE BY: County and type of activity			
		Activity Title	31/Mar/14	Sub-total
	Kiambu County	Success stories		0
	Murang'a County	Success stories		0
	Kirinyaga County	Success stories		0
	Nyeri County	Success stories		0
Totals			0	

Results: Success stories collected and disseminated through multimedia

Additional Criteria If other criteria are important, add lines for setting targets and tracking	Baseline	Results Achieved Prior Periods	This Reporting Period 31/Mar/14	Reporting Period 30/Jun/14	Reporting Period 30/Sep/14	FY 2014 Target	End of Project Target	
		Achieved	Target	Achieved	Target	Target	Target	
Kiambu County	0	0	1	0	1	1	3	3
Murang'a County	0	0	1	0	1	1	3	3
Kirinyaga County	0	0	1	0	1	1	3	3
Nyeri County	0	0	1	0	1	1	3	3
Totals	0	0	4	0	4	4	12	12

IV. PERFORMANCE MONITORING

In this reporting period, activity report forms were used as our monitoring tools for program activities. This means that all the activities which were conducted by the CBFs & SACCOs, an activity report was duly filled and filed accordingly. We also have monitoring and evaluation systems in all the four counties with a monitoring and evaluation focal point person to write monthly reports and document all the county activities. There is also a data base known as a *bunge* tracker that helps us document and track all the groups within the YYC program and has a profile of group presidents and secretaries which makes it very easy to get any information needed from the *bunges*. All these monitoring tools have been very helpful in the compilation of the report for this quarter coupled with an advantage of having field officers representing each and every county.

As the program transitions to the youth, performance monitoring will be one of the key components Mercy Corps has taken up very seriously. The program has developed tools for county boards and SACCOs to enhance this. Some of the tools include a monthly program progress report template, an activity report form, a county based PMP and work plan, as well as a data collection sheet. We also have a CBF and SACCO monitoring tool that is filled fortnightly to give progress reports on the two structures. Any monitoring reports are shared with the CBFs & SACCOs and any areas of improvement agreed upon with a time frame. The SACCO book keeper and the CBF office administrator are responsible for sending the documents monthly to the respective county field officers who will in turn give feedback. The field officers are in charge of filling the bi-weekly monitoring tools respectively.

Mercy Corps has hired a sub-grants officer to ensure that all sub-granting rules passed down to sub-grantees are followed and funds are used for purposes intended. Monthly monitoring visits are conducted which are participatory to enhance learning. The CBFs submit monthly expense reports and monthly requests which will be reviewed and disbursed. The SACCOs are using milestones per their loan demand from members and with approved loans from the credit committees per their policy, the capitalization funds will be disbursed and monitored down to the borrowers to repay the same which is the basis for the next disbursement.

To ease the performance monitoring, the program has rolled out QuickBooks training and software installation for all CBFs and county SACCOs in the region. This will enhance the accounting for the monies received and spent but most importantly the generation of financial reports as demanded by the Cooperative Act. However the QuickBooks software passwords have to be reactivated every month with some stalling completely. We are devising Excel spreadsheets as a backup for use by the Office administrators and book keepers.

V. PROGRESS ON LINKS TO OTHER USAID PROGRAMS

Yes Youth Can Central linked Nyeri County *bunge* forum to APHIAplus who are already partnering with Kiambu County Board. Together they carried out advocacy on behavior change in Mathira as well as Voluntary Testing and Counselling in Nyeri town. Discussions are underway with the new KAVES program to get the *bunges* in agribusiness to participate in farming French beans and passion fruits in Kirinyaga.

VI. PROGRESS ON LINKS WITH GoK AGENCIES

Mercy Corps and partners continued to work closely with the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Development in registering the new village *bunges* department of Youth Affairs and Sports, Provincial Administration, National Registration Bureau, Ministry of Industrialization and Enterprise

Development, plus other government departments. The linkages are strong at the county level with the county executive, assembly and respective ministries but also at the national level with MOIED. The gender and social development office is vested with the registration and regulation of Self-Help-Groups under which village *bunges* and CBFs fall. The Ministry of Industrialization and Enterprise Development on the other hand registers and regulates the SACCOs. Since most of the functions have been devolved to the county government, our linkage is now strong at the County level. Most of the county officers prefer not to work with national officers.

VII. PROGRESS ON USAID FORWARD

Yes Youth Can! Central has been instrumental in building the capacity of the nascent youth structures in order to implement activities directly with USAID funds. The signing of the sub award agreements with the CBFs and the Fixed Obligation Grants with the SACCOs as sub awardees for the program was a great statement in supporting USAID forward. The capacity building is done through trainings, mentorship, on the job trainings, exposure to general accepted accounting procedures as well as benchmarking with successful institutions in their localities especially for SACCOs.

During this reporting period, capacity building resulted in having operational systems for SACCOs and County Boards. Key among these were support in establishing systems and structures in finance, operations and human resource, administration as well as the development of county strategic plans which will help them to remain focused towards set objectives of the forum. In addition they have also come up with proposals, work plans, monitoring plans and budgets for the remaining part of the program implementation period which has shown their growth proving that they are actually ready to undertake the responsibilities ahead of them. They all have bank accounts with mandate for withdrawals and check books for business transactions. They have applied for a CBO Personal Identification number (PIN) from KRA, NSRF and NHIF membership since they will be hiring employees. As USAID sub grantees, they all have DUNS numbers.

VIII. SUSTAINABILITY AND EXIT STRATEGY

The YYC-C program comes to an end in August 2014. In sustaining the gains made under this program as well as ensuring continuity, Mercy Corps has ensured the implementation of the program together with the national and county government offices which will continue to offer support to the CBFs and county SACCOs. The continuous capacity building for the structures is aimed at ensuring that they will remain to execute their mandate after the program is closed. The next two quarters will see increased partnership with the private sector in the region for sustainability. Mercy Corps will be developing an exit strategy with the final 90 days focused on ensuring that the beneficiaries are prepared and that all other operational and financial liabilities are met ahead of the final exit.

IX. SUBSEQUENT QUARTER'S WORK PLAN

All the activities of the subsequent quarters are informed by the work plans of the respective county boards and SACCOs and Mercy Corps will be playing a facilitative role.

Planned Activities from Previous Quarter	Actual Status this Quarter	Explanations for Deviations
Mobilization meetings to reach out to more youth in Central and form more <i>bunges</i>	On-going	This is a YYC continuous activity in order to reach out to more youths so that they can

		join hands and together be positive agents of their own change
Capacity building trainings that are need-based per county	On-going	This is essential in order to equip the youth with necessary skills for growth
Constituency Feedback Forums	On-going	To update <i>bunges</i> on their progress and to ensure that the boards and <i>bunges</i> are on the same page on program implementation
Train CBF in the four counties on Project management, monitoring and evaluation and fundraising	Ongoing	This activity has been ongoing and will continue as the CBFs gain experience during the sub grant transition
Hold advocacy campaigns on civic issues affecting the youth in Central	On-going	It is a continuous activity that gives youth a platform to address the issues they confront in their communities
Hold mentorship forums and gender outreach campaigns within the region	On-going	It is a YYC continuous activity to sensitize the communities about gender issues and incorporating gender in our programming
Hold stakeholder forums in the four counties	On-going	This is meant to give youths a platform to identify with the potential stakeholders and work with them in their respective counties
Hold trade-fair exhibitions to gain product exposure	To start next quarter	Exhibitions expose the youths to available market links in the area
Public forums with government partners and CBFs/ young <i>Bunges</i> to enhance youth participation	On-going	Youths are able to engage with the county government and air their views on important matters
Link youths to opportunities in the county government, MOIED and MOALD	On-going	This will enable youth to tap into the opportunities available in the county government
SACCO agricultural sector loan products developed	To start next quarter	Youths will have an opportunity to acquire loans and better their lives hence economic empowerment
Educate and recruit youth into youth <i>bunge</i> SACCOs in the four counties	On-going	This will grow the SACCOs and ensure their sustainability for years even after YYC program closes
Train <i>Bunge</i> SACCO committees on roles and processes in SACCO management	Ongoing	Youth <i>Bunge</i> SACCOs will continue to receive technical support from Mercy Corps and GoK partners on SACCO management

Creation of County Bunge Roaster	To start next quarter	This will be very crucial so as to ascertain the membership of the <i>bunges</i> as well as the various individual and group enterprises
<i>Bunges</i> subscribing to the CBFs	On-going	The subscription will enable the daily running of the CBF affairs and also be a way of <i>bunges</i> owning and taking part in CBF affairs.
SACCOs hold ADMs	Ongoing	
CBFs hold AGMs	Ongoing	This activity will be the highlight of representation at the CBFs with greater scrutiny placed on CBF leaders since becoming sub awardees
Supporting SACCO credit committees in conducting credible youth loan appraisals for onward lending from YYC revolving fund	Ongoing	This activity will receive greater attention this quarter as YYC capitalizes youth <i>bunge</i> SACCOs

X. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Note: the financial data provided in this section is an estimate of the financial condition, and does not constitute the contractually required financial reporting as defined in the Award Notice.

Cash Flow Report and Financial Projections (Pipeline Burn-Rate)

The cash flow chart (Chart 1) below is derived from the financial table (Table 2), also provided in this section of the report. Both provide a visual representation of the “burn rate” of the project – both actual and projected. The main categories include:

- 1) **Obligations** (the funds authorized to date for expenditure on the project; this is NOT the Total Estimated Cost, but amount already obligated up to the time of the writing of this report),
- 2) **Actual expenditures** through the current reporting period, and
- 3) **Pipeline projection** (expenditures expected, by quarter, for the coming three quarters, based on planned project hiring, procurements, expansions, etc.).

Chart I: Obligations vs. Current and Projected Expenditures

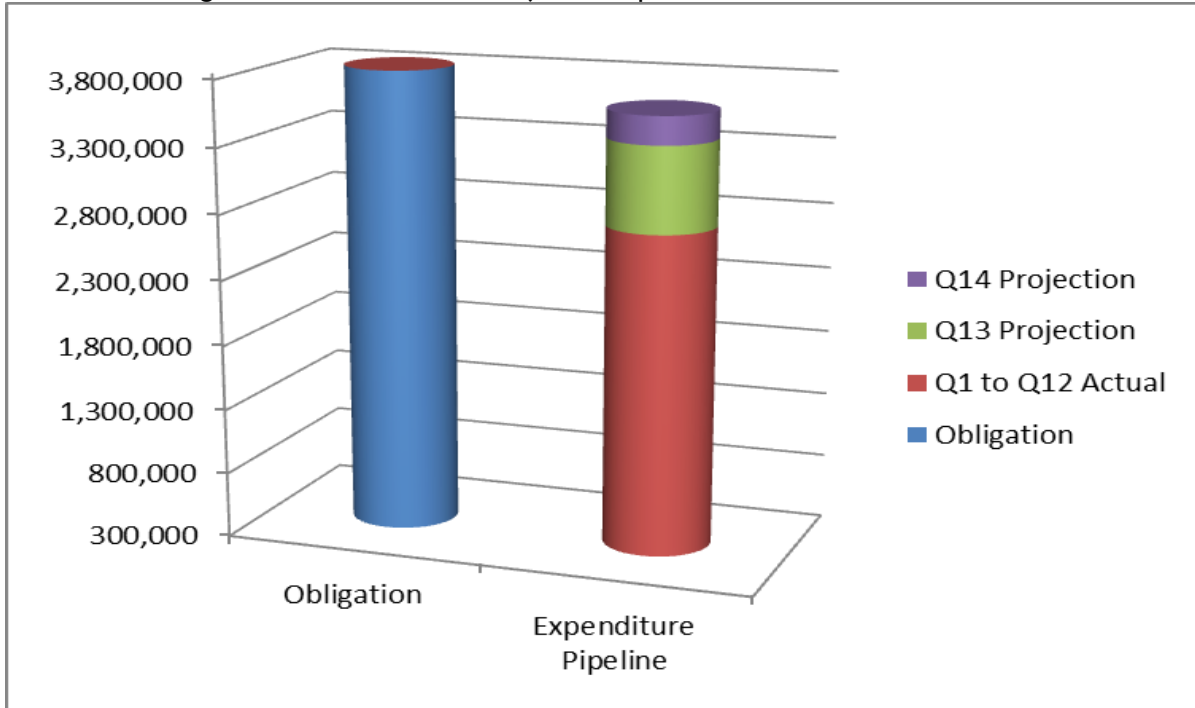


Table 2: Budget Details

T.E.C: \$ 3,842,644

Cum Obligation: \$ 3,842,644

Cum Expenditure: \$2,749,916

Obligation	1st to 12th Quarter Actual Expenditures	13th Quarter Projected Expenditures	14th Quarter Projected Expenditures
3,842,644	2,749,916	649,268	213,203

Personnel	782,938	122,121	81,414
Fringe Benefits	269,390	72,236	48,158
Travel	49,190	9,500	7,300
Equipment	43,630	2,263	0
Supplies	36,209	2,500	0
Window of Opportunity Fund	916,561	284,000	0
Other Direct Costs	270,682	64,260	45,994
Indirect Costs	381,316	92,387	30,337

Budget Notes

Personnel	Salaries for the coming quarters are calculated based on the expected number of engaged staff in program implementation and the award closeout process.
Fringe Benefits	Fringe benefits are constant ratio against all salaries and wages calculated based on the Kenya Labor Law requirements and Mercy Corps internal policies. Increase is expected in the 13 th and 14 th quarter due to the grant closeout and payment of the final dues.
Travel	Travel expenses are projected to continue increasing in 13 th and 14 th quarter during the intensive grants monitoring and closeout activities.
Equipment	Depreciation rate expense is expected to be constant and based on the vehicle usage under this program.
Supplies	Any procurement is expected to cover possible replacement of supplies that are out of working order.
Window of Opportunity Fund	Expenditures related to direct program implementation, inclusive of capacity building expenditures, CBF and SACCO sub-awards. It is projected that budget under Investment and Grant Fund will not be fully utilized before the end of the program; budget underspent is expected.
Other Direct Costs	The level of expenditures is expected to increase slightly during the award closeout process.
Indirect Costs	Calculated as per Award conditions.

Table 3: New Sub-Award Details

No new Sub-awards this period.

Total Amount in the approved budget for sub-awards: \$480,000

Total Amount sub-awarded to date: \$67,941

Transfer info for each sub-award made in the past reporting period:

Sub-recipient's name as per the registration document	Agreement			Transfer Info					
	Total budget amount in USD	Start date	End date	Cash Request/ Voucher No	Milestone No	Transfer 1 (USD)	Transfer 2 (USD)	TOTAL (USD)	BALANCE (USD)
Kiambu County Board Forum YYC (CBF)	60,000	1/24/2014	6/30/2014	1/	n/a	11,414.80		11,414.80	48,585.20
Muranga Youth Bunges County Forum (CBF)	60,000	1/24/2014	6/30/2014	1/2/	n/a	11,171.39		11,171.39	48,828.61
Kirinyaga Youth Bunge's County Forum (CBF)	60,000	1/24/2014	6/30/2014	1/	n/a	8,949.71		8,949.71	51,050.29
Nyeri Youth Board Forum (YYC) (CBF)	60,000	1/24/2014	6/30/2014	1/2/	n/a	7,808.19		7,808.19	52,191.81
Kiambu County Bunge Savings and Credit Co-operative Society Limited (SACCO)	60,000	1/24/2014	6/30/2014	1/	1 & 2/	6,081.87		6,081.87	53,918.13
Muranga County Bunge Savings and Credit Co-operative Society Limited (SACCO)	60,000	1/24/2014	6/30/2014	1/	1 & 2/10/	6,081.87	4,269	10,350.88	49,649.12
Kirinyaga County Youth Bunge Savings and Credit Co-operative Society Limited (SACCO)	60,000	1/24/2014	6/30/2014	1/	1&2/	6,081.87		6,081.87	53,918.13
Nyeri County Youth Bunge Savings and Credit Co-operative Society Limited (SACCO)	60,000	1/24/2014	6/30/2014	1/	1 & 2/	6,081.87		6,081.87	53,918.13
	480,000				TOTAL SACCOs:				
					TOTAL CBFs:				
					TOTAL (SACCO+CBF)	63,671.57	4,269	67,941	412,059

XI. PROJECT ADMINISTRATION

Constraints and Critical Issues

- We received USAID's modification number 4 to extend the program on November 18, 2013. This resulted in delayed implementation during this quarter. We received USAID's concurrence and Agreement Officer's approval to issue sub-awards on January 24, 2014 which resulted in delayed transfer of funds to the CBFs and SACCOs.
- With information that the CBF will be receiving money through the CBs, quite some infighting has erupted in the leadership of some counties because many want to be in charge of deciding on how to use those funds. Mercy Corps will disburse money on a monthly basis for the first three months until the control systems are well tested.
- The SACCOs in Kirinyaga and Nyeri are just starting off meaning they will have a shorter period for capacity building and support. We are engaging MOIED to ensure they continue supporting them beyond the program.
- Since the structures are young and the youth still learning, it is unlikely that the money obligated to the youth will be fully disbursed. This is because we have to allow time for youth to learn and hence by the end of June 2014, when all sub-awards should close, Mercy Corps will still be holding a significant amount of the obligated funds. To enhance implementation, we propose that the CBFs and SACCOs engage qualified SACCO managers and project manager for CBFs and the Boards to provide oversight to them.
- The youth, especially under the County Boards, are unhappy that we have restricted them to fund village based IGAs that could facilitate the markets for youth to be able to be valuable members of the SACCO. Our mandate is to direct them to their SACCOs to take up loans instead of grants from the CBFs.

Personnel

The position of sub-grants officer was created to ensure that the eight sub-awards in the region have the critical support required in grant management in addition to program support by the YYC-C team. The position of economic empowerment specialist changed to youth enterprise specialist to work with the SACCOs and the position of civic engagement specialist changed to capacity building specialist to work with the CBFs. We decentralized support to the counties with each county assigned a field officer to coordinate and support youth initiatives from the county. This position is based in the office of either the SACCO or the County Board.

The program is facing challenges in keeping the good staff due to the short nature of it. With an August 2014 end date, some of the staff's contracts end in June and hence they are already looking out for other opportunities. This is also the most critical time in the second month of sub-granting where all efforts are needed. An early determination by the donor on whether the program will be extended will support Mercy Corps to retain key staff.

Changes in the Project

The only major change in the project is the transition of the program activities from Mercy Corps as an implementer to the SACCOs and the CBFs. Mercy Corps is a facilitator and will monitor the activities of the CBFs and the SACCOs with no direct implementation role.

Contract, Award or Cooperative Agreement Modifications and Amendments

No changes.

List of Deliverables

- Program Extension work plan (November 11, 2013-August 31, 2014)
- Program Extension PMP (November 11, 2013- August 31, 2014)
- Fixed Obligation Grant Agreements for the four County SACCOS
- Sub-grant agreements for the four County Youth Bunge Forums

Summary of non-USG Funding

None for this award

Type of Accounting System Used During Reporting Period

Mercy Corps has changed its accounting system from MASS 90 to Navigator effective December 1, 2013.

Annex I: Schedule of Future Events

Date	Location	Activity
April 13 -16, 2014	<i>Kiambu, Murang'a, Nyeri, Kirinyaga</i>	Youth forum on Kenya Constitution Implementation
April 30, 2014	<i>Kiambu, Murang'a, Nyeri, Kirinyaga</i>	SACCO CMC management training
May 5, 2014	<i>Murang'a</i>	SACCO Annual Delegates meeting
May 7, 2014	<i>Kiambu</i>	SACCO Annual Delegates Meeting
May 6 – 9, 2014	<i>Kiambu, Murang'a, Nyeri, Kirinyaga</i>	SACCO level 3 training
May 19, 2014	<i>Murang'a</i>	CBF Annual General Meeting
May 30, 2014	<i>Kiambu</i>	CBF Annual General Meeting

Annex II: List of Deliverable Products

1. Revised Program work plan for period ending August 31, 2014
2. Revised Program PMP for period ending August 31, 2014

Annex III: Success Stories

The National Youth Bunge Association launches youth led saving and Credit Cooperative Society (SACCO) in Nyeri

The youth of Nyeri can now enjoy the services of a saving and credit Cooperative Society (SACCO) thanks to the Yes Youth Can initiative. The Nyeri County Youth bunge SACCO was launched by the Cooperative Development Secretary, Dr.Nelson Githinji, on 20th February, 2014 at Baden Powell grounds in Nyeri County.

The event was attended by more than 400 youth from Nyeri County and a few youths from Muranga, Kiambu and Kirinyaga County.

Also in attendance were the SACCO Committee members and delegates. Michael Mugweru the Nyeri County Youth Bunge SACCO chairman spoke on behalf of the SACCO saying, “This is a great opportunity for young people to develop a platform for our own development agenda. He further emphasized that, *“it is time for the Nyeri county youth to cultivate a culture of saving and investing in projects that will ensure long term benefits instead of engaging in idleness, petty offenses and violence”*.

Dr. Githinji applauded the achievements of the NYBA and challenged the association to ensure continuity. The SACCO which received a Fixed obligation grant of KSh 5.1 million will boost the youth to venture into investment, agriculture and other income generating activities through loans to its members He further noted that the SACCO will also attract both public and private sector investment that will benefit the young people from Nyeri County. He emphasized that, USAID has done its part and it is now upto the youth to run with the process.



The guest of honor and the SACCO officials in the new SACCO office

The youths, should take advantage of the opportunity to form group networks that can assist them access the various loan products from the Nyeri County Youth Bunge SACCO. This is an initiative that will empower young people and ensure that there is equitable distribution of wealth.

The NYBA in collaboration with the Ministry of Cooperatives Development and marketing and USAID have collaborated with the County Bunge Forums to form the County Bunge SACCO. The NYBA approached the Ministry of Cooperative Development and Marketing and USAID to help them form county SACCOs with the goal of serving all the youth and youth groups that are members of the village Bunge network.

The County Bunge SACCOs will not only be a safe place for youth savings but a source of loans for its Bunge members. The SACCOs will also seek to explore and attract private and public sector

investment capital. The NYBA leadership emphasized that these SACCOs will be led, managed and driven by the youth.

Fish Farming in Kirinyaga helps youth to break the status quo

Maize farming in Kirinyaga County dwindles due to the rise of alternative crop farming such as horticulture farming. Jijenge Youth bunge in Gichugu, Kirinyaga County which consists of 15 active members, is among the young farmers who have shifted from maize farming after little or no profits in the past few years. Cosmas Kinyua the bunge president explains that, “we did not make any profits, just harvesting for our own home consumption.” He further notes that “this forced us to embrace sugarcane farming, beekeeping and fish farming. Since we started we do not want to go back to maize farming.”



Youth bunge member tending to the sugarcane in their farm

Horticulture and fish farming has enabled them to educate their children besides meeting their family needs. “Fish is always on high demand” says Kinyua a bunge member. Fish eating in Kirinyaga has become increasingly popular and the group now regularly sells more than 10 kilos of fish per week at a cost of KSh 300 per kilo to the local community. With more and more local people in Kirinyaga county starting to appreciate fish as a delicacy, their customer base is growing. “I would encourage the youth to take up aquaculture to meet the rising demand for the delicacy and this will help reduce the overreliance on the traditional foods and help in diversifying.

Through the sale of fish in the nearby markets of Mwea, Kagio and Kutus, the group intends to buy some land on which they can construct three fish ponds. They are now raising tilapia and catfish and would like to have at least ten ponds. Through partnership with the ministry of agriculture, it has trained them to manage the fish pond and make the more valuable, and the group is considering gutting fish to increase their value, as the guts can be used as a good natural fertilizer. The group also intends to access credit facility from the Kirinyaga County Youth bunge SACCO which they are members at an individual and group level.



Jijenge youth bunge members fishing from their fish pond in Gichugu

A few bunge members have gone through the entrepreneurship and SACCO level I and II training facilitated by MercyCorps in partnership with USAID. This has contributed positively to the groups’ success. Some of the skills acquired include: book keeping, entrepreneurship, saving and investment. “Through these trainings we are now able to appreciate group dynamics and each bunge member is a key foundation to the success of our bunge” says Cosmas. He further notes that, Yes Youth Can-Central has believed in our bunge and we are now role models for the youths in Gichugu to emulate.

Consequently, through the sale of fish to the community they are able to educate their children as well as cater for the members’ social welfare needs. The challenges they face is lack of fishing

equipment like fish nets and fish scullers and this makes delay the catch as well meet the demand of their products. The group is looking forward to get a loan from the Kirinyaga County Youth Bunge SACCO.

Transforming lives through rabbit rearing

“We are passionate about rabbits. “They are our main source of income. They have enabled us to feed our families, clothe them, meet their medical expenses and educations as well as invest.” That is the testimony of Upendo Kahuruko youth bunge members. The group started farming rabbits in 2011, in Kahuruko village Tetu constituency. They also engage in tree planting where they have a tree nursery with 1000 tree seedlings which they sell to various institutions around Tetu and Nyeri County in general.

Upendo Kahuruko youth bunge is engaging in rabbit rearing which is growing rapidly in Kenya as increasingly extreme weather leaves farmers struggling to raise cattle and grow crops. Mary the group chairlady notes that “rabbits are cost effective to rear “They mature first and litter regularly,” she says. “Small livestock thrive well in all seasons, unlike cattle which are affected by drought due to unavailability of enough pasture.”



Mary the Chairlady of Upendo Kahuruko Youth Bunge in Nyeri County feeds to some the groups' rabbits.

Although the group started in 2011, Yes Youth Can-Central has helped them join as a bunge and register in the ministry of Social Services. Mary further notes that, “through the help of Mercy Corps and USAID we are a strong group and we are now admired and recognized as an active youth group in Kagumo constituency both by fellow youth and the government administration.”

Raising rabbits hasn't been entirely easy either. Keeping rabbits has traditionally been a pastime for boys, and consuming rabbit meat was frowned upon in many communities. Neighbors looked down upon our rabbit farming activity, but through our hardwork and group unity they came to appreciate the economic and nutritional value of the animals. “Our venture is no longer treated as an intrusion or an activity reserved for boys,” Jeff a bunge member notes that the demand for rabbit meat, which according to him tastes like chicken, has increased locally.

“Rabbit meat is white, high in protein, low in fat and cholesterol,” Jeff a bunge member explains. One of the major advantages of rearing rabbits is that, their gestation period is only 30 days and they grow fast, such that they can be slaughtered when three months old. Compared to cattle they are also easier to handle, and rarely get sick unless kept in unhygienic conditions. Rabbit production has low demand on land and feed resources since they can be successfully fed on leftover vegetables or hay.

The group rears the New Zealand white, which weighs up to 8 kg and produces more meat than smaller breeds. The productive period for does is four years, and a mature live doe can sell for KSh 3,000 shillings. The bunge now sells rabbits to others across Tetu constituency and Nyeri County at large. We are interested in venturing into large scale rabbit farming. Through the Nyeri County Youth Bunge SACCO (NCYBS) we can now access credit products that favor our youth group and propel as into great heights in the agri business sector.

Passion Fruit Farming transforming lives

Superchania Youth in Gatanga Muranga County was formed in 2011 by 14 young farmers whose vision was to “empower youth economically through agri business”. Like most youth groups in the country the only obstacle to achieving this dream was funds to facilitate the group farming activities. The group was fortunate to receive the USAID funded Youth Enterprise grant of Ks 40,000. This grant has helped the group to raise their farming activities and now farming the purple passion fruits.

The bunge has been able to establish a demonstration plot on one of the members’ farms where all the group members share the cultivation costs and receive practical training on the growing of passion fruits from an agricultural officer and this has led to increased land productivity and they have increased their sale income from the sale of horticultural products.

Some of the main challenges the group faces include: lack of market linkages , lack of technical know-how on production and marketing strategies of the fruit, lack of organized market linkages and finding time for both home and group activities.



A youth from Super Chania youth bunge tends to passion fruits in their farm in Gatanga

The group also supplements the passion fruit farming with vegetable crops to diversify their production, Use of improved seed and new techniques, has increased land productivity ,through the sale of these horticultural products these young farmers have been able to increase their incomes. “We are now respected in the community because we are busy people and don’t have time to idle, says Mwangi a bunge member. He further notes that, through this bunge we have also been able to join the Muranga County Youth Bunge Savings and Credit Organization (MCYBS) SACCO both as an individual and as a group. As a result *bunge* members can borrow loans for personal and group development. Mwaura the bunge president notes that “we have already applied for a KSh 30,000 development loan to help us purchase a few bags of fertilizers in order to increase the productivity of our farm.”

Different group members have diversified into passion fruit, kale, spinach, cabbages, and tomatoes. With the additional income earned, the group members have been able to pay school fees for their children, access better healthcare facilities. Some group members have invested in business such as bodaboda.