

# Credible and Peaceful Election: Our Responsibility

## KEY FACTS

Region: Bungoma, Kisumu, Busia County  
Period: July-December 2017  
Partner: Act! International Foundation for  
Electoral Systems IFES  
Donor: DANIDA, USAID

## CONTEXT

Devolved governance has heightened divisions with minority communities, such as the Teso and Sabaot, threatened with exclusion from county governments, both in the Assembly and Executive.

Youth are vulnerable to criminal violence and political manipulation, in particular during election due to high unemployment rate and lack of gainful economic opportunities,

## PROJECT AIM

Promote tolerance and cohesion among majority and minority communities in Bungoma and Busia Counties. Prevent and resolve electoral violence by strengthening the resilience of youth at risk, the Councils of Elders, and other civic, state and non-state actors.

## STRATEGY

The project facilitated problem solving dialogue among the Councils of Elders and

Minority communities, as well as community security between the police and youth at-risk. Consultative forums were held between the civil society, political and religious leaders on the need to restrain hate and ethno-political incitement.

## ACHIEVEMENTS

- A total of 576 representatives from civil society, the police and the private sector participated in dialogue and community security forums to increase collaboration and effective response to violence.
- The Bukusu, Teso and Sabaot Council of Elders successfully lobbied for the inclusion of all minority communities as members of the County Executive Committee (CECs) in Bungoma County.
- Youth at-risk and police officers in Bungoma and Busia County, demonstrated more trustful and non-violent behaviours towards each other. Specifically, the "boda boda" youth shared information on impending violent demonstrations and police responded on time. The "boda boda" youth were not involved in violent demonstrations.



Like an onion, a  
conflict has many  
layers of  
complexity

Community training on  
conflict transformation  
related to election  
violence in Bungoma.