

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KITUI

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INTERNAL MEMO

TO: CLERK OF THE ASSEMBLY
THRO: IN-CHARGE L.P & P
FROM: SERVING CLERK- COMMITTEE ON TOURISM, SPORTS AND CULTURE
REF: CAK/9/11/ V.II/ 13
DATE: 7TH OCTOBER, 2021

*Mr. Speake
You may approve
this report for
tabling
to 8/10/2021*

SUBJECT: REPORT ON SITE INSPECTION VISIT ON THE STATUS OF LOWER EASTERN HERITAGE CENTRE, RESOURCE CENTRES AND SOCIAL HALLS PROJECTS FUNDED BY THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KITUI UNDER THE BUDGETARY ALLOCATIONS 2015/2016, 2016/2017 AND 2017/2018 FINANCIAL YEARS.

The above subject matter refers;

Forwarded herewith, please find the report by the committee on Tourism, Sports and Culture on Site Inspection Visit on the Status of Lower Eastern Heritage Centre, Resource Centres and Social Halls Projects Funded by the County Government of Kitui under the Budgetary Allocations 2015/2016, 2016/2017 And 2017/2018 Financial Years.

Kindly facilitate its approval for tabling.

Makuthu Dennis

(Clerk serving Committee on Tourism, Sports and Culture)

*Approved
8/10*

*Mr. Patrick Mutua
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1/2021*

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COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KITUI
THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY

SECOND ASSEMBLY – FIFTH SESSION - 2021

COMMITTEE

ON

TOURISM, SPORTS & CULTURE

REPORT ON SITE INSPECTION VISIT ON THE STATUS OF LOWER
EASTERN HERITAGE CENTRE, RESOURCE CENTRES AND SOCIAL HALLS
PROJECTS FUNDED BY THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KITUI UNDER
THE BUDGETARY ALLOCATIONS 2015/2016, 2016/2017 AND 2017/2018
FINANCIAL YEARS.

Clerk's Chambers,
Kitui County Assembly Buildings,
KITUI.

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

- C.B.Os-----Community based organisations
CECM-----County Executive Committee Member
GVB -----Gender Based Violence
KEWI-----Kenya Water Institute
KPLC-----Kenya Power and Lighting Company
PWDs -----Persons with Disabilities

1.0 PREFACE

Mr Speaker Sir,

On behalf of the committee on Tourism, Sports and Culture and pursuant to the provisions of the Standing Order no. 179(6), it is my pleasant privilege and pleasure to present to this House the Report of the Committee on her Inspection Exercise on the Status of Lower Eastern Heritage Centre, Resource Centres and Social Halls Projects Funded by the County Government of Kitui under the Budgetary Allocation for 2015/2016, 2016/2017 And 2017/2018 Financial Years. The exercise took place from 29th April to 1st May, 2021.

1.1. Committee membership

Mr Speaker Sir,

The Committee on Tourism, Sports and Culture is currently constituted of the following members:-

1. Hon. Elizabeth Ndunge Peter	Chairperson
2. Hon. Deiys M. Mukala	Vice Chairperson
3. Hon. Alex Ngau Musili	Member
4. Hon. Alexander Munuve Mbili	Member
5. Hon. Annastacia M. Mutunga	Member
6. Hon. John Mbaki Kisangau	Member
7. Hon. Jefason Ngui Kiruru	Member
8. Hon. Mary Ndumbu	Member
9. Hon. Muteti Nding'uri	Member
10. Hon. Nelson Musyoka Kivali	Member
11. Hon. Stephen Katana	Member

1.2. Committee's Mandate

Mr. Speaker Sir,

The select Committee on Tourism, Sports and Culture derives its mandate from provisions of Standing Order 190 (5) which defines functions of the committee as to, inter alia; to:-

- a) Make reports and recommendations to the County Assembly as often as possible, including recommendation of proposed legislation.
- b) Investigate, inquire into, and report on all matters relating to the mandate, management, activities, administration, operations and estimates of the assigned departments;
- c) Investigate and inquire into all matters relating to the assigned departments as they may deem necessary, and as may be referred to them by the County Assembly;
- d) The Committees may propose to the County Assembly, sanctions against any member of the County Executive Committee who fails to report to the relevant select Committee on implementation status without justifiable reasons.
- e) Study and review all county legislation referred to it.
- f) Study the programme and policy objectives of departments and the effectiveness of the implementation.

Mr Speaker Sir,

The committee used the following methods in carrying out her task in order to get the necessary information required;-

- Direct observation of the Sites/projects.
- Direct interactions with county staff situated at the projects.

- Documented information on the projects.
- Engaging members of the community with knowledge of the projects.

Acknowledgement

Mr Speaker Sir,

The Committee wishes to thank the Offices of the Speaker and of the Clerk of the County Assembly for the invaluable support and assistance extended to it during the execution of her mandate.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank all members of the Committee for their patience, Sacrifice, endurance and Commitment to Public Service under tight schedules which enabled us to complete the task within the stipulated period.

The Committee wishes to record its appreciation for services rendered by the committee Clerk attached to the Committee. His effort and input made the work of the Committee and compilation of this Report possible.

Mr. Speaker Sir,

It is now my pleasant duty, on behalf of the Committee on Tourism, Sports and Culture, to present the committee report on Inspection Exercise on the Status of Lower Eastern Heritage Centre, Resource Centres and Social Halls Projects Funded by the County Government of Kitui under the Budgetary Allocation for 2015/2016, 2016/2017 And 2017/2018 Financial Years.

Thank you,

SIGNED 

HON ELIZABETH NDUNGE PETER.

CHAIRPERSON, COMMITTEE ON TOURISM, SPORTS AND CULTURE

Date:

2.0 BACKGROUND

Mr Speaker Sir,

In undertaking the inspection exercise, the committee acted within the provisions of **Article 185 (3)** of the Constitution which states that;-

“A County Assembly, while respecting the principle of the separation of powers, may exercise oversight over the County Executive committee and any other County Executive organs;

This role is further entrenched into our standing orders No; 190(5) (b) which provides that; “Each Sectoral committee shall study the programme and policy objectives of departments and the effectiveness of the implementation”.

In realization of the above objectives, the Liaison Committee in a meeting resolved that the Committee on Tourism, Sport and Culture should present with immediate effect a comprehensive report on the status of the Lower Eastern Heritage Centre Gallery in Tseikuru and Resources Centres funded by the County Government of Kitui across the County.

Consequently, the Committee on Tourism come up with a program for the inspection exercise which was carried out from 29th April to 1st May, 2021 with a view of coming up with this detailed report to be tabled in this honourable house for adoption and thereafter forwarded to the line county ministry for implementation.

Mr. Speaker Sir,

The three-day inspection exercise covered the following areas as shown in the itinerary below;

DATE	SUB-COUNTY	WARD	PROJECT
Thursday 29/04/2021	Mwingi North	Tseikuru Ward	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lower Eastern Heritage Centre Gallery.
	Mwingi Central	Kivou Ward	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mwingi Resource Centre.
Friday 30/04/2021	Kitui West	Mutonguni Ward	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mutonguni Resource Centre.
	Kitui Central	Township Ward	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manyenyoni Resource Centre.
Saturday 1/05/2021	Kitui East	Zombe Ward	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mwitika Social Hall.
	Kitui South	Mutomo Ward	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kyoani Resource Centre.

3.0 COMMITTEE FINDINGS.

Mr Speaker Sir,

On successful completion of the rigorous projects inspection exercise, the Committee observed the following:-

1. LOWER EASTERN HERITAGE CENTRE-TSEIKURU WARD IN MWINGI NORTH SUB COUNTY.

Mr. Speaker Sir,

This facility is constructed on a land donated by the former Vice President H.E Hon. Stephen Kalonzo Musyoka. It is located next to his residence in Tseikuru and is the only heritage centre in Kitui, Makueni and Machakos Counties.

Construction of the facility was started by the National Government and later handed over to the County Government.

The objective of the project was to promote tourism on the southern savannah and enhance tourism circuit from Meru-Kora to Mwingi North Game Reserve.

The heritage centre is expected to create job opportunities for the youth of ukambani once it is operationalized.

Scope of Work

- Structural and Electrical works of Gallery one.

Committee Findings from the Visit

- The National Government used total sum of Kshs **7,788, 320/=** to construct an ablution block with a septic tank within the compound, two offices within the gallery and walling of gallery one, before handing over the project to the County Government of Kitui.
- The County Government has managed to undertake the construction of *Gallery One* in three(3) phases, and has had three contractors since taking over from the National Government;

- i. *Phase one*; Main gate, sentry house and chain-link fence by **Marison G.T limited Company** at a total cost of **Kshs 1,355,634/=** which was done and completed under a budgetary allocation in the 2015/2016 Financial Year.
 - ii. *Phase Two*; Roofing by **Genesis Two Limited** at a total cost of **Kshs 3,200,000/=** which was done and completed under a budgetary allocation in the 2019/2020 Financial Year.
 - iii. *Phase Three*; Electrical Installations and Finishing (Doors window panes, tiles and painting) by **Trimetu Enterprises Limited** at a total cost of **Kshs 2,752,600/=** under a budgetary allocation in the 2019/2020 Financial Year. The works are still ongoing.
- The centre lacks signage which is necessary to indicate the project name, client, and the contractor for accountability and awareness.

Challenges facing the lower eastern heritage centre.

- For security purposes at night, the heritage centre has neither electricity nor solar energy lamps installed within the compound.

2. MWINGI RESOURCE CENTRE-KIVOU WARD IN MWINGI CENTRAL SUB COUNTY.

The resource centre is located in Mwingi central and has a capacity of 1,200 people. It is the only County Government facility where people from the larger Mwingi can hold large meetings. The centre was constructed under a budgetary allocation in the 2015/2016 Financial Year.

Scope of Work

- Structural and Electrical works.

Contract Amount:

Kshs. 30,646,135.00

Name of the Contractor:

Bavko Engineering (K) Ltd

Committee Findings from the Visit

- The contractor completed the construction of the resource centre.
- A gate has been put up at the entrance and perimeter fencing has been done around the compound occupied by the resource centre.
- Poor workmanship of the ablution block as they have no doors.
- The water reservoir tanks have no water due to dilapidated water gutters.
- The facility is operational and has been equipped with 852 seats; (500 white in colour plastic chairs, 152 blue in colour plastic chairs and 200 red in colour executive seats). Some of the seats purchased have never been assembled and have been kept in the store collecting dust.
- The seats are not tagged therefore posing the risk of getting lost or stolen. These are Government assets and asset tagging is vital in aiding asset management and tracking.
- The resource centre is rented out to the public at a fee which is directly paid to the County Government of Kitui.
- Electricity was cut off in 2019 due to unpaid bills.
- The centre lacks electricity/solar energy lamps which poses a security threat to the centre at night.
- The kitchen is not equipped thus not serving its intended purpose.

- There are no cleaning equipment at the resource centre.
- Poor workmanship of the roof. Some parts of the ceiling are rotting due to leaks in the roof.
- The centre lacks signage which is necessary to indicate the project details and ease of access.

Challenges Facing the Mwingi Resource Centre.

- Staffs at the resource centre use their own money to buy cleaning equipment and detergents in order to clean the resource centre since there is no petty cash / imprest to cater for such.
- Sometimes seats are rented out without any payments.

3. KYOANI RESOURCE CENTRE- IKUTHA WARD IN KITUI SOUTH SUB COUNTY

The resource centre is located in Ikutha ward along the Kitui-Kibwezi road. The centre was constructed under a budgetary allocation in the 2015/2016 Financial Year. The resource centre was officially opened to the public early 2017.

Scope of Work

- Structural and Electrical works.

Contract Amount:

Kshs. 30,900,938.40

Name of the Contractor:

Muyo (K) Ltd.

Committee Findings.

- The contractor completed the construction of the resource centre.

- A gate has been put up at the entrance and perimeter fencing has been done around the compound occupied by the resource centre.
- There is a generator and security guard room constructed at the entrance.
- There are six (6) 10,000litres water reservoir tanks filled with water, with well fitted water gutters.
- The facility is operational and has been equipped with 850 seats; (500 plastic chairs, 200 metallic chairs, 100 red in colour executive seats and 50 semi-sofa sets). Some of the chairs purchased have never been assembled and have been kept in the store.
- The resource centre hosts Ikutha ward MCA's and Village administrator offices respectively.
- Electricity was cut off in 2019 due to unpaid bills.
- The kitchen is not equipped thus not serving its intended purpose.
- There are no cleaning equipment at the resource centre.
- The rental charges depend on the number of people expected to be in attendance and is directly paid to the County Government of Kitui. However, the centre is rented out to the community based organisations for free.
- There is a portion of ceiling that has fallen off.
- There is no ablution block at the resource centre.
- There is only one staff who works as the culture officer, daytime watchman and gateman at the centre.
- The centre lacks signage which is necessary to indicate the project details and ease of access.

Challenges Facing the Kyoani Resource Centre.

- The staff at the resource centre uses her own money to buy cleaning equipment and detergents in order to clean the resource centre. Imprest to cater for detergents and cleaning equipment was given once in 2018.
- There is no piped water.
- Bats and termites are a menace at the centre.
- Sometimes seats are rented out without any payments done to County Government.
- The community has occasionally used their own chairs when using the facility despite chairs purchased by the County Government been kept in the store.

4. MANYENYONI RESOURCE CENTRE-TOWNSHIP WARD IN KITUI CENTRAL SUB COUNTY.

The resource centre is located opposite KEWI institute in Manyenyoni area-Township ward. The centre was to be constructed under a budgetary allocation in the 2015/2016 Financial Year. However, construction work were suspended and was due for re-tendering.

Perimeter fencing around the compound had been completed by Power Pump Technical Co. Ltd at a cost of **Ksh. 3,399,480.**

Committee Findings.

- There is no structural walling since construction was suspended at the foundation level.
- The foundation slab is dilapidated while foundation columns have fallen off thereby exposing the rusty wires.

- There is no signage at the facility.
- The fence no longer exists.
- The area where the facility is situated has become bushy due to neglect.

Challenge Facing the Manyenyoni Resource Centre.

- There is no access road to the facility.

5. MUTONGUNI RESOURCE CENTRE- MUTONGUNI WARD IN KITUI WEST SUB COUNTY.

The resource centre is located 2kilometers from Tulia market in Mutonguni Ward. The centre was constructed under a budgetary allocation in the 2015/2016 Financial Year.

Scope of Work

- Structural and Electrical works.

Contract Amount: Ksh. 8,676765.00

Name of the Contractor: Teos Co. Ltd

Committee Findings

- The chief's office is located at the resource centre thereby offering security to the facility.
- The compound is big enough and is well maintained.
- The masonry works of house structure is complete and roofed.
- Finishing is incomplete.
- There is no ablution block at the resource centre.

- The project has stalled.

Challenge Facing the Mutonguni Resource Centre.

- There is no signage at the facility. The local residents are not even aware it is a resource centre.

6. MWITIKA SOCIAL HALL – ZOMBE/MWITIKA WARD IN KITUI EAST SUB COUNTY.

The resource centre is located in Zombe/Mwitika ward along the Zombe-Endau road. It is easily accessible and near the market. The social hall was constructed under a budgetary allocation in the 2015/2016 Financial Year.

Committee Findings.

- The contractor completed the construction of the social hall.
- A gate has been put up at the entrance and perimeter fencing has been done around the compound occupied by the resource centre.
- The social hall is not equipped at all.
- The facility is rented out to the community based organisations for free.
- The hall is not connected to electricity
- The village administrator is in charge of the facility.
- There is only one water reservoir tank within the facility.
- There is no ablution block at the resource centre.
- The market cleaners are periodically mobilized by the village administrator to clean the facility.
- The centre lacks signage which is necessary to indicate the project details and ease of access.

Challenge Facing the Mwitika Social Hall.

- There is no water at the facility.
- The centre lacks an ablution block.

7. COMMITTEE'S GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

- i. There is Clear wastage of public resources.
- ii. Most resource centres have stalled while others are not equipped.
- iii. Some of the resource centres are alleged not to be equipped yet a good number of chairs purchased are collecting dust in rooms they were stored in.
- iv. Chairs are either not labelled properly or not labeled at all thereby exposing avenues of the chairs getting lost or stolen.
- v. There is general negligence of duty in relation to social halls that were supposed to give/offer service to people thereby leading to misuse/wastage of public resources.
- vi. The resource centres are poorly maintained and repair works have never been carried out/undertaken. This shows how the Sector Ministry lacks seriousness in managing the resource centres.

8. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr Speaker Sir,

In respect to the above findings and observations, the Committee makes the following recommendations; **THAT;**

- (i) The Government is a going concern. Public funds were used to construct/develop the facilities yet the projects have stalled. The

committee recommends that the Ministry of Gender, Sports and Culture prioritizes reviving and completing the stalled facilities and ensure they are operational. This is public money and accountability and Value for money is key when implementing development interventions.

- (ii) The Ministry of Gender, Sports and Culture should ensure that the resource centres that are complete are fully equipped and operational so as to serve their objective and purpose.
- (iii) All equipment/furniture purchased should be tagged properly with immediate effect. These are Government assets and asset tagging is necessary to aid in asset tracking and management.
- (iv) Projects should have proper signage. Right signage helps in promoting the centres, visitors understand the project in sight and increases accountability and management of the project.
- (v) The ministry of Gender, Sports and Culture should pay the pending KPLC dues and invest in solar flood lights to enhance security at night. This will also help in scaling down the electricity bills. The operations at Mwingi and Kyoani resources centres have been affected by disconnection of power by KPLC thus affecting the overall production.
- (vi) Community based organisations (C.B.Os) be tasked with cleaning of the resource centres. The residents relayed to the committee that they do not realise any benefits associated with resource centres and social halls.

- (vii) The Ministry of Gender, Sports and Culture should consider doing Cabros works at the parking-lot and walk-ways in all the resource centres and social halls.
- (viii) There should be monies allocated for petty cash/ imprest to cater for the daily management of the resource centres and social halls.
- (ix) The Ministry of Gender, Sports and Culture should sink boreholes at the resource centres and social halls using the county machinery, so as to warrant constant water supply instead of relying on rain water which sometimes is not sufficient.
- (x) The ministry of Gender, Sports and Culture should have proof of land ownership so as to fend off any land ownership issues relating to resource centres and social halls.

9. CONCLUSION.

The inspection exercise was worthwhile for it accorded members an opportunity to see for themselves the current situation of the projects and also come up with useful recommendations. These projects under the ministry of Gender, Sports and Culture have immense socio-economic potential whereby, if prudently managed, could be of benefit to both the residents and the County Government of Kitui.

The stalled projects can be used to bring revenue and also create job opportunities once completed.

In conclusion, the members must play their oversight role as expected in ensuring that value for money is achieved as the County pursues the full realization of the objectives and principles of devolved Governance as enshrined in Article 174 of our Constitution 2010.


CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF THE REPORT BY THE COMMITTEE


We, honourable members of the Committee on Tourism, Sports and Culture do hereby append our signatures to affirm our approval and confirm accuracy, validity and authenticity of this report:-

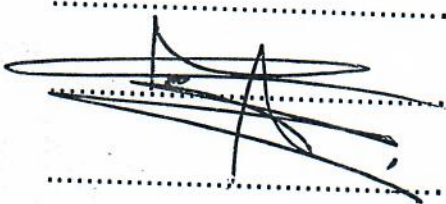
Name


Signature


1. Hon. Elizabeth Ndunge Peter
2. Hon. Deiys M. Mukala
3. Hon. Alex Ngau Musili
4. Hon. Alexander Munuve Mbili
5. Hon. Annastacia M. Mutunga
6. Hon. Jefason Ngui Kiruru
7. Hon. Nelson Musyoka Kivali
8. Hon. Mary Ndumbu
9. Hon. Stephen Katana
10. Hon. John Mbaki Kisangau
11. Hon. Muteti Nding'uri



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APPENDIX II- PROJECTS INSPECTION PHOTO GALLERY



Figure 1. Members inspecting the Lower Eastern Heritage Centre in Tseikuru Ward.



Figure 2. Hon. Members sharing with the county staff in-charge of the facility during the inspection of the Lower Eastern Heritage Centre.

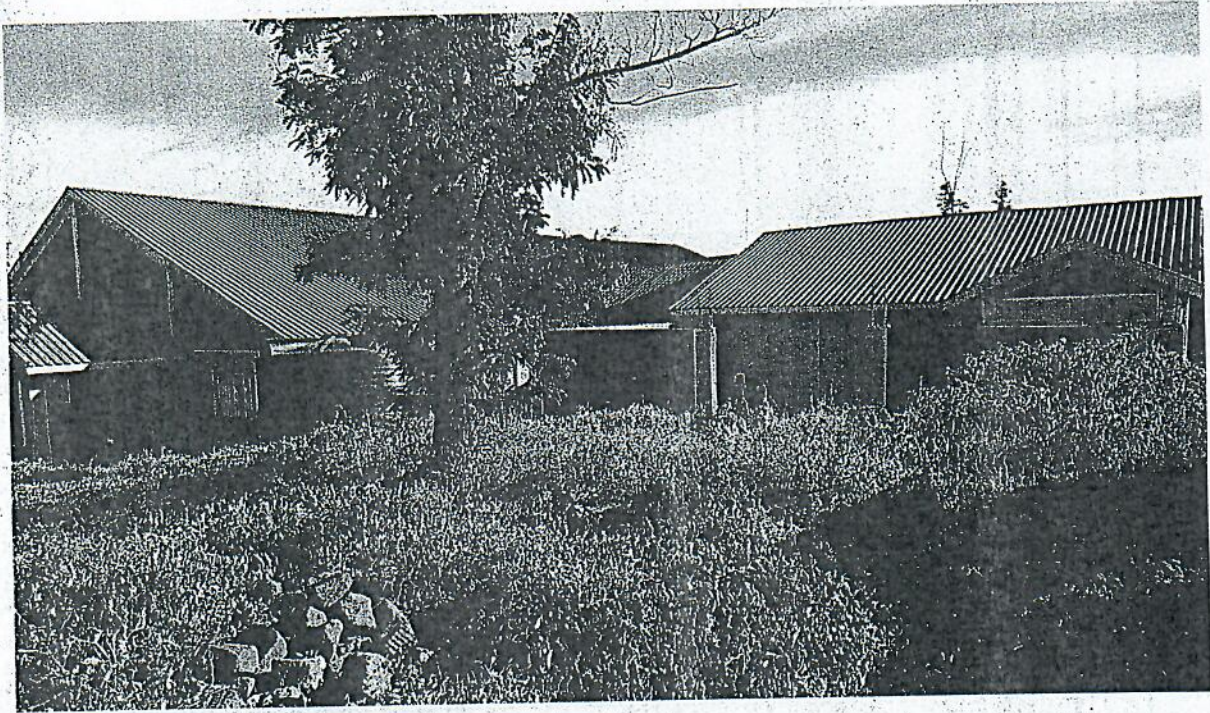


Figure 3. A side view of the Mwingi Resource Centre in Kivou Ward.

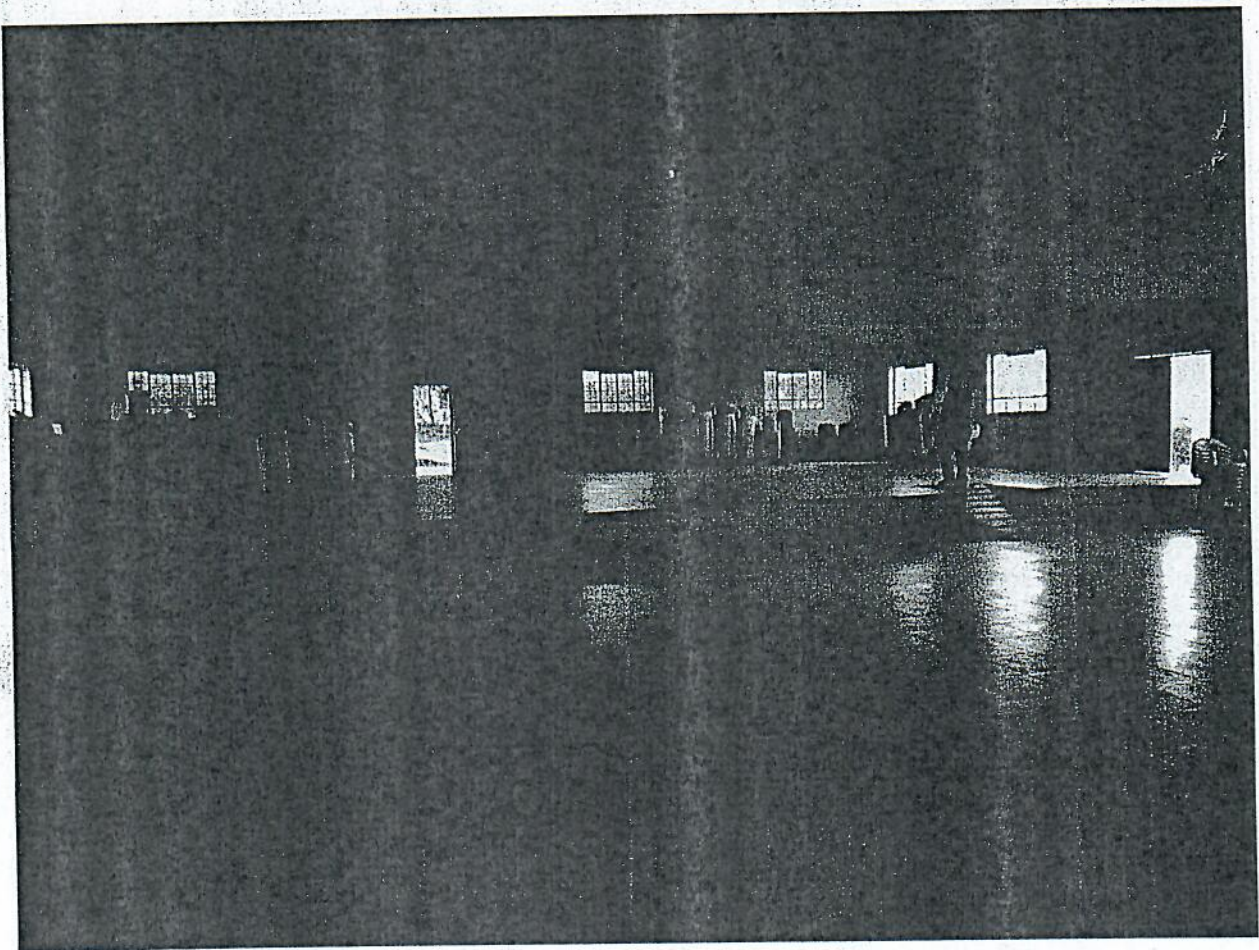


Figure 4. An inside view of the Mwingi Resource Centre.



Figure 5. Members at Kyoani Resource Centre.



Figure 6. A side view of the Kyoani Resource Centre.



Figure 7. A portion of ceiling that has fallen off at the Kyoani Resource Centre.



Figure 8. Some of the untagged seats at the Resource Centres.