



YALI REGIONAL
LEADERSHIP CENTER
EAST AFRICA • NAIROBI

Tony Mwebia

Cohort 39 – Kenya

Track - Civic Leadership

Rallying Men Against FGM

Tony Mwebia is a Gender Equality advocate with over 10 years of experience. He is the Founder and Executive director of the Men End FGM Foundation. He is an alumnus of the prestigious Chevening scholarship and holds a master's degree in Gender and Development from the Institute of Development Studies (IDS) at the University of Sussex in the United Kingdom. Additionally, he is an alumnus of the YALI fellowship Cohort 39 and has been recognized by the president of Kenya twice for his work ending Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting (FGM/C)



Men End FGM Foundation (MEF) is a global award-winning movement that rallies men and boys to join the quest to end Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting (FGM/C), child marriage, and other forms of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV). MEF operates in Kenya as a charitable organization, but we are currently looking to expand our interventions to other African countries like Sierra Leone, Mali, Somalia, Ethiopia, and Guinea. In 2022 MEF reached over 50,000 direct beneficiaries in its end FGM/C intervention that included community dialogues, in-school and out-of-school interventions, training of male champions, training religious leaders, and creating safe spaces for survivors of FGM/C this was in partnership with UNICEF Kenya and other partners. Additionally, we supported 150 households with emergency cash transfers and had campus dialogues at two universities reaching 750 students.

YALI Transformation

After YALI we have been able to think bigger and wider as an organization in terms of fundraising. This is a result of different networking and lobbying skills gained from the YALI program.

MEF has been able to change many lives in different communities that we work in. This is evident from the success stories and feedback that we get from our direct and indirect beneficiaries drawn from the communities that we work with. The stories can be found on our website <https://menendfgm.org/category/stories/>

At the moment we have a team of 13 working with us and 4 volunteers supporting our different interventions. Management and leadership skills from YALI have been hard in running the organization. In the next 5 years, I see Men End FGM Foundation as a global leader and the go-to organization for the engagement of men and boys. The organization will have expanded its wings across many African countries and cemented its roots across Kenya.



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There are many networks that I made at YALI. Though I attended the online cohort during COVID and did not get a chance to physically interact with my fellow participants we have kept close contact with each other via WhatsApp group. I have had friends from Uganda and Somalia shares funding opportunities and other events that have been beneficial to our organization.

I urge the young African leaders leading change and transformation in their communities to apply for the YALI leadership program. This is a life-changing opportunity that directly or indirectly opens many life-changing opportunities. Every time you mention the YALI brand people's perceptions and attitudes towards you change to the best.

