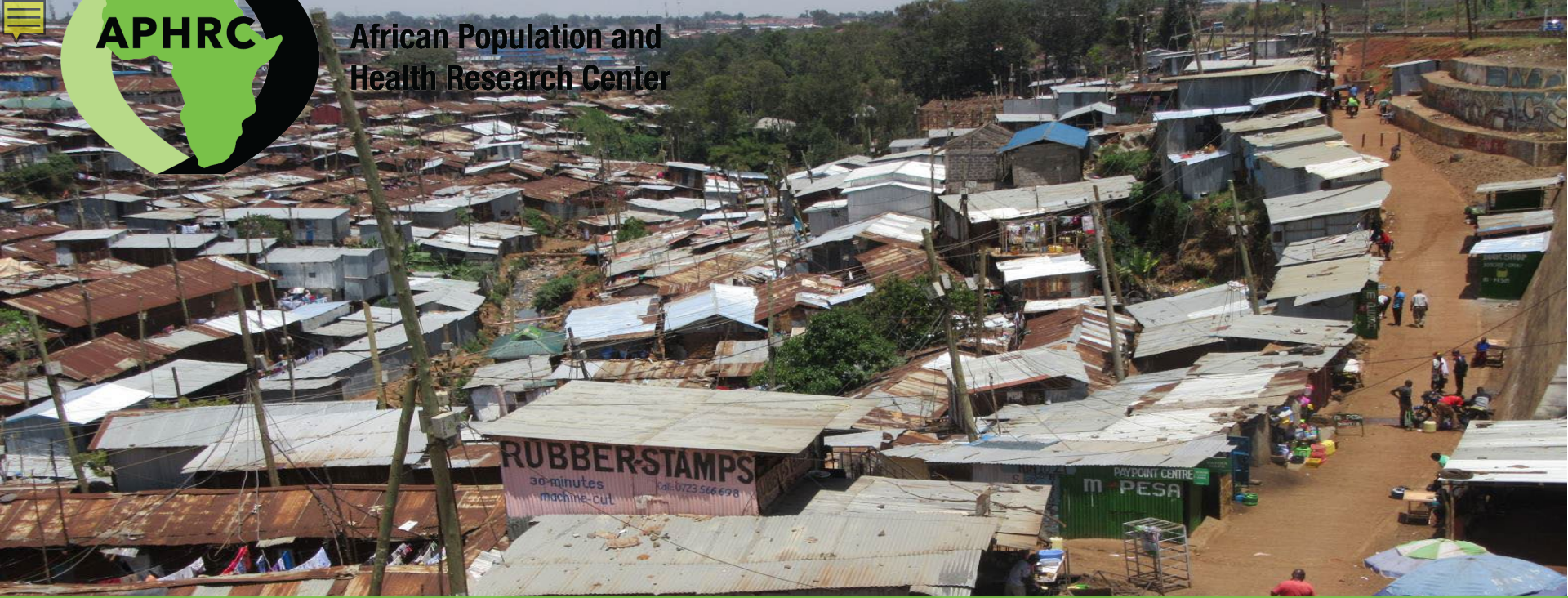




**African Population and  
Health Research Center**



# **In Their Voices:**

**LIVED EXPERIENCES WITH FOOD  
INSECURITY FOR THE URBAN POOR**

# Sustainable Development Goal



End all forms of hunger and malnutrition by 2030

# Right to Food

Universal human right for **people to feed themselves in dignity**

## **Constitution of Kenya:**

**Article 43. (1)c** Every person has the right—to be free from hunger, and to have adequate food of acceptable quality

## In urban slums...



Household food  
insecurity



Prevalence of stunting  
in children under 5

# Community Engagement to Bridge the Gap



Using innovative participatory methods to stimulate dialogue on the right to food for the urban poor, Nairobi, Kenya



To bridge the gap between the right to food and the lived experiences

# Approach: Public Engagement

- Community Engagement in 10 urban poor settings in Nairobi - Working with community organized groups from the settings





# METHODOLOGY : Participatory Methods

Digital stories



Photovoice



Dialogues



# METHODOLOGY : Participatory methods

Radio shows



Magnet theatres



Graffiti murals



# METHODOLOGY : Participatory Methods

Community dialogues



Human library



Soup Kitchen



# METHODOLOGY : Participatory methods

## Participatory mapping



## Film screening





# IN THEIR VOICES

Lived Experiences of the Urban Poor

# Food Availability

Food is available in the market **but not available in the house**



# Economic Access



*“...There is plenty of food in our markets. **The problem is the money to buy it.** But in the markets, there is a lot of food and a wide variety. We cannot complain...”* –Photovoice, adults

# Physical Access – Insecurity

*“...People who go to the vegetable market go early when it's still dark in order to get very fresh vegetables. So the challenge is, at that time you will come across rapists and thieves who will rob you of the money you were going to use for purchases... Since he has taken the money, I go back to the house to sleep and the result is that I sleep hungry and spend the day like that...”*

*(FGD, older women aged 60 years and above, Korogocho)*



# Food Safety

“... This situation is not unique in the slum, where you find **food being sold near a sewer that has burst**. The sewages here are always bursting and vendors continue selling their food near them without knowing that it contaminates the food they are selling. ...” –FGD, adults.

# Food Stability



*“...There are times when the market has food in plenty but because there is no way of preserving the food you find that they're being sold at throwaway prices...” -Photovoice, Mixed adults*

# Coping Strategies

# Scavenging



Food from **wastes at the dumpsite**

“...**Left over food from aeroplanes** is one of the major sources of food collected from the dumpsite, this food is sometimes still packed but what makes it unsafe is that it is mixed up with all the other waste. People still pick it up and sell it and sometimes you will find things like needles in there...”-*Photovoice, youth*

# Other Coping Strategies

- Stealing
- Child Labor
- Prostitution/sex for money and early marriage
- Begging on the streets

“...I have a neighbor who has a husband, the husband escorts her to the streets as her security, watching over her as she does street prostitution to get money so that they get food to give the children because the husband does not have a job and the wife does not have a job too. So they have to look for a way out for the children to get food...”

(FGD, adults aged 31-59 years, Mathare)

# Other Public Engagement Initiatives

- Public engagement on the baby friendly community initiative (BFCI) - 2014
- Engagement among the Maasai Community – 2017
- Extension of the right to food project to Kisumu



# Impact

- Evidence Informed policies
- Evidence informed actions/programming
- Public participation
- Global recognition of our work



# Further Information

**Creative Book:** <https://media.tghn.org/articles/Right to Food - Creative Book A4.pdf>

Right to Food Project documentary long version (00: 12:47) :

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xiUrKBdHRCA&t=4s>

**Right to Food Project documentary-** short version (00: 05:07):

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/16zNRN3GCOhajG2WSxagY9VD\\_HX9myJ5T/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/16zNRN3GCOhajG2WSxagY9VD_HX9myJ5T/view)

**Vox Pop** on process of photovoice:

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1Wa1fxuuoWlySTCcDebM1xCPFLsSNDPOk>

**Vox Pop** on process of wall murals with children:

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1hWQNYjK0Zm62l0NPJ64TgL50Ok7nlbjV>

**Film on our Vision:** <https://youtu.be/nFQZKVnCb1w>



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# THANK YOU



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