



UNKLESA ANNUAL REPORT

2023



UNITED NATIONS KENYA
LOCAL EXPATRIATE
SPOUSE ASSOCIATION

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UNKLESA is Supported by
UNON, UNEP and UNICEF

Annual Report Design
Sagun Pradhan

CONTENTS	PAGE
Letter from the Executive Board	2
Changes on the Board	3
Team 2023	4
Memberships	5
Financial Overview	6 - 7
Advocacy & Networking	8 - 12
Family and Peer Support	13 - 16
Training and Development	17 - 21
Member Survey	22 - 24



MESSAGE FROM YOUR BOARD

Dear Members,

The year 2022-2023 has been an activity filled, rewarding year for us. All our participating members have shown vigor and enthusiasm getting involved and making our activities and events meaningful and successful. The executive board has worked hard to fulfill UNKLESA's mission of addressing issues affecting our members, of integrating in new environment, socialization, professional development, and seeking employment opportunities in Kenya.

The challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020-21 and a part of 2022 disrupted UNKLESA's typical operation of supporting our members. During this time many members relocated, and it was not possible to grow our memberships. Consequently, this year, 2022-2023, has been a "catch-up year," where we have seen our number of subscribers grow and the association with it. We have done a comprehensive reflection on our operation and reviewed the workings of the association. With this we have been able to apply mechanisms for steady growth of UNKLESA for the coming years.

We are excited to announce we have made significant progress this year, updating our membership database, welcoming a big growth of new members, noteworthy to mention an increase in male spouses. This year, taking from the past and working on it we have enhanced and made the jobseekers and volunteer's database better.

In the start of the year, we set our primary objectives to, increasing our membership, wellbeing of our member and finally to help in the personal and professional development of our members. In order to

achieve these objectives, we focused on raising awareness about UNKLESA, we committed to support our members providing essential information for a comfortable settlement and fostering a community that promotes social integration and we offered opportunities for continuous personal and professional growth through training and development activities by partnering with JMS, UNON & UNICEF plus sessions offered by our members themselves and with extended professional associations.

While there is still work to be done, we are proud to say that as UNKLESA, we have taken significant strides in achieving our goals this year.

We extend our appreciation to all of you who have contributed on our journey together. UNKLESA especially likes to thank all its members' spouses (staff members), and the leading supporting agencies UNDSS, HSCU, and JMS. Finally, we would like to thank our donors UNON, UNEP & UNICEF for making invaluable contribution to support the spouse association.

Cordially,
2023 UNKLESA Board



⇌ CHANGES ON THE BOARD 2023

As we all know, as part and parcel of UN families we need to relocate as per the work duty station. We have had 3 recent changes to our board members.

NEW CHAIR

The former chair Sabine Walsh resigned from her post beginning of 2023 as Sabine got opportunity to work with UNEP. Sabine started off the 2023 term with collective targets for all the working groups.

A snap election was called to refill her post and Poonam Sikka was elected the Chair for the remainder of 2023. Poonam carried forward the task at hand together with all the working groups.

NEW FAMILY AND SUPPORT COORDINATOR

Our former Family and Peer Support Coordinator, Adelaida Leon Murrillo, resigned from her role on the board as she and her family had to relocate due to work. As this vacancy on the board came up quite quickly the board as per the guidelines of the constitution re-solved the following:

Board's remaining tenure of less than 6 months, the board decided to offer the position of Family & Peer Support Coordinator to the runner-up member who fought the last election, Gulraze Shafiq. The board is pleased to let our members know Gulraze has accepted the position. We welcome Gulraze to the board.

NEW TREASURER

Dioulde Kane, has been a long-standing member of UNKLESA. She supported UNKLESA over many years as the treasurer taking a seat on several boards. Dioulde is relocating from Nairobi and vacating her seat. As this vacancy on the board came up quite quickly as well the board as per the guidelines of the constitution resolved the following:

The board has appointed Sarah Gimsay, who has served on the previous board of UNKLESA as past treasurer to the seat. The board welcomes Sarah in her role to complete this Board's tenure.

PROVISION FOR APPOINTMENT UNKLESA Constitution

*Part 6 | Management of affairs article 16 | Vacancy, expulsion, suspension & resignation
Section 1*

In the event of a vacancy in the board where such vacancy occurs less than six (6) months before the next annual general meeting, such vacancy shall be filled at the discretion of the remaining board members and said vacancy may be made by appointment from among the regular membership. Should the vacancy occur more than six (6) months before the next Annual General Meeting, such vacancy shall be filled by a special election or special general meeting called for such purpose.



Poonam
Chair



Regina
Secretaty



Sarah
Treasurer



Laurette
Training &
Development



Idzai
Advocacy



Gulraze
Family & Peer



Sagun
Communication



Sharon
Office Manager



Sabin
Chair



Dioulde
Treasurer



Adelaida
Family & Peer



Mierin
Office Manager



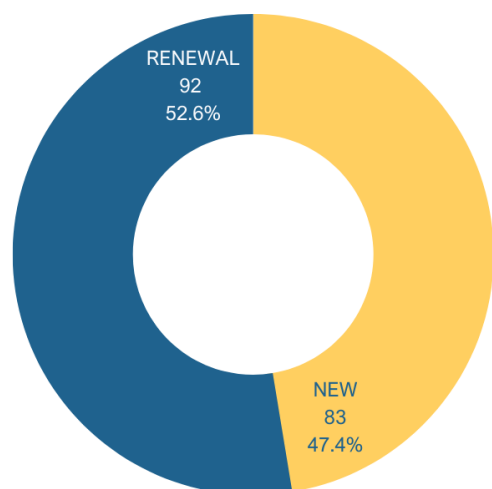
UNKLESA

Team 2023

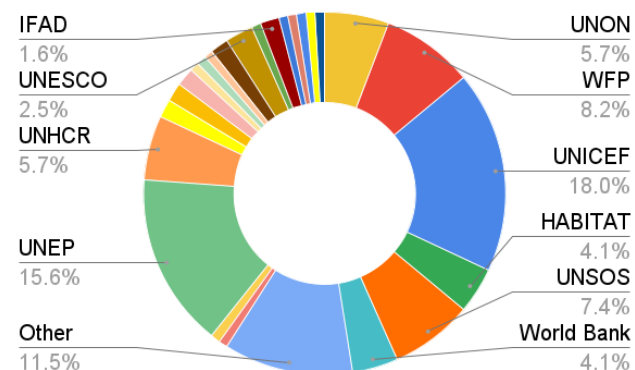


2023 MEMBERSHIP

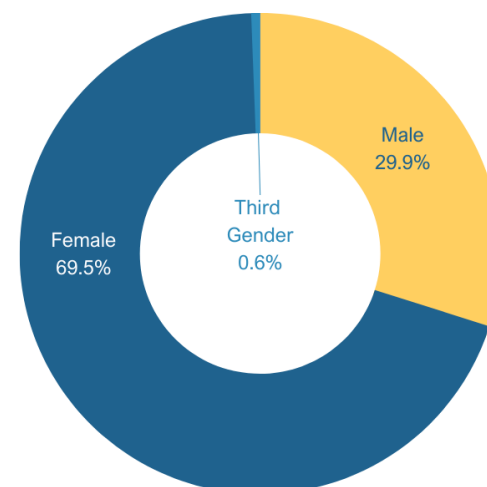
This “Catch Up Phase” Year post COVID – 19 pandemic has seen a healthy rise on our membership subscription. It is clear that the steps taken on the advocacy and outreach front has shown results as well as the work that was put forth in 2021 – 22 that layed the ground work.



Enrollment 2023



Membership by agency



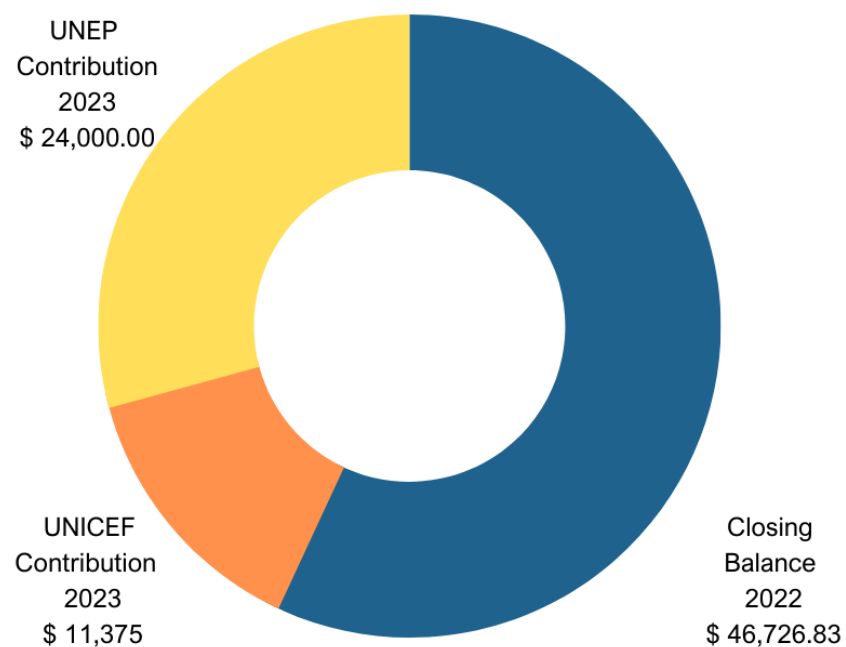
Membership by gender



FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

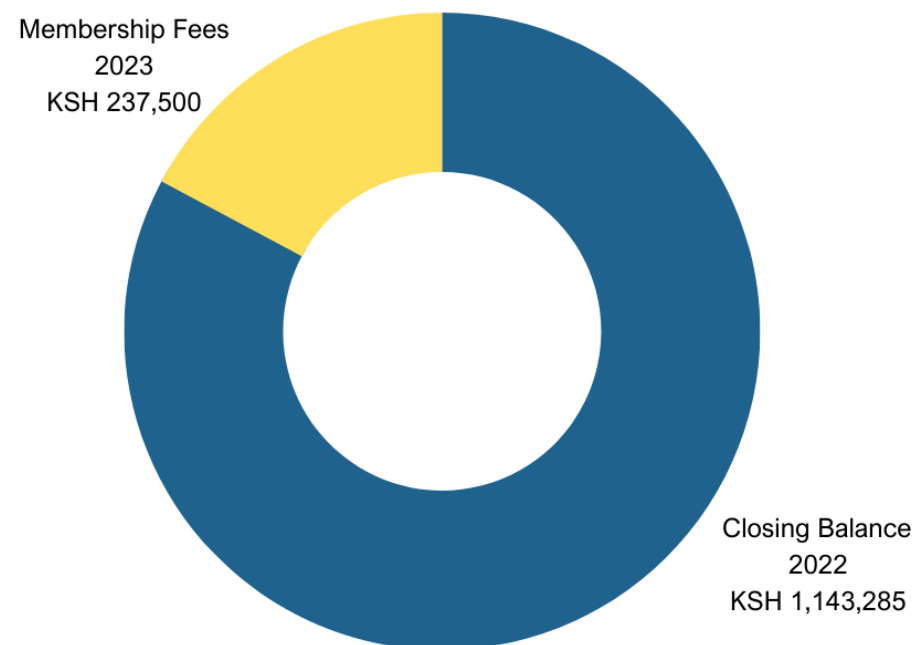
ACCOUNTABILITY & TRANSPARENCY

Treasurer | Sarah Gimsay



Closing Balance 59.9% UNEP 29.2 % UNICEF 13.9%

REVENUE USD
TOTAL \$ 82,101.83



Closing Balance 82.8% Membership Fees 17.2%

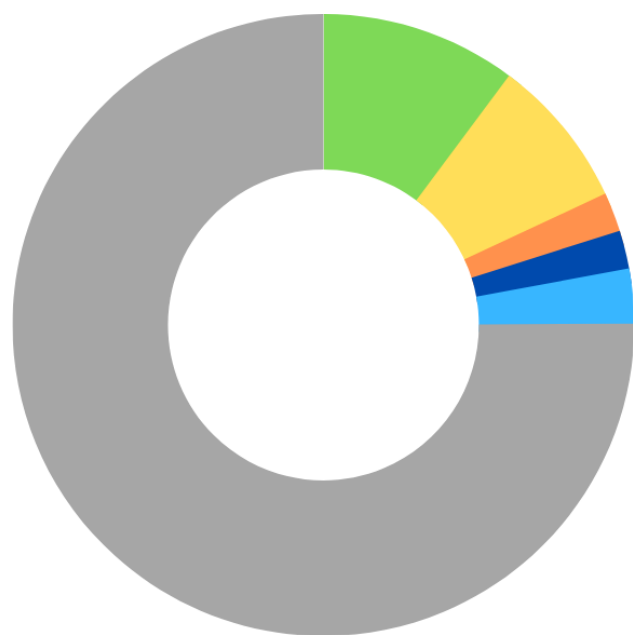
REVENUE KSH
TOTAL 1,380,785.50



FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

ACCOUNTABILITY & TRANSPARENCY

Treasurer | Sarah Gimsay



EXPENSES USD
TOTAL \$ 22,712.48

Expenses

	Family & Peer Support	\$ 2,313.96
	Training & Development	\$ 1,787.93
	Advocacy	\$ 462.07
	Communication	\$ 451.00
	Administrative Expenses	\$ 647.52
	Board Stipend	\$ 17,050.00

*All expenses converted to USD using
current exchange rate for presentation purpose only
All expenses booked as per expenditure currency on actual*



ADVOCACY & NETWORKING

INCREASING UNKLESA VISIBILITY

Group Coordinator | Idzai Muchabaiwa

INCREASING UNKLESA VISIBILITY

Advocacy and networking focus lies on promoting UNKLESA among the UN Agencies and other organizations. In 2023 the building of collaboration with International Schools in Kenya was one of the major accomplishments.

The exercises carried forward for UNKLESA visibility are quarterly meetings with all the members and other new members about UNKLESA.

One of the main challenges we have faced for advocating on behalf of our members to get employment with UN agencies remain. However, breakthroughs have been made on the UNV & UNESCO front.

The Advocacy Working Group took many steps to reach out and build relations with many of the UN agencies, other LESAs, NHIF & NSSF, JMS and other agencies. Listed below are some of the steps taken achievements and engagements.

- Encourage UNKLESA members to update their profiles on the UNV portal. UNV positions are one of the ways to get into the UN system.
- Initiated the formation of the UNKLESA HR team and the agencies in discussion will support skill building.
- UNKLESA HR team will receive session training UNDP HR team.
- UNOPS will profile UNKLESA jobseekers to their staff members and share the job vacancies



ADVOCACY & NETWORKING

INCREASING UNKLESA VISIBILITY

Group Coordinator | Idzai Muchabaiwa

- UNEP HR team will conduct training on how to fill the INSPIRA for our members and will share job vacancies UNKLESA members.
- Given the situation in Sudan, UNKLESA welcome spouses of UN staff members from Sudan who are based in Nairobi.
- UNKLESA managed to have new collaboration with UNDP, UN Visitors, UNOPS, UNICEF, UNEP and WFP
- Maintained the old collaborations
- In collaboration with other LESAs, specifically with NYLESA. helped with the collaboration of schools and with Embassies. This resulted in the increase of members from the Embassies.
- The weekly attending UNDSS presentation has increased the visibility of UNKLESA within the UNON community and the bigger UN community in Nairobi.
- UNKLESA Advocacy working group outreach to international schools in Kenya has taken root to have list of schools who have agreed to collaborate with UNKLESA. We now have several schools listed on the website, LINK. The idea behind the collaboration is to collect more detailed information on International Schools to make it available for our members. As we highlight the schools, we engage with the school to introduce our members with relevant backgrounds and make them aware we have a pool of talent among our members that brings related expertise to the school.



ADVOCACY & NETWORKING

INCREASING UNKLESA VISIBILITY

Group Coordinator | Idzai Muchabaiwa

- We received testimonies from the schools and from UN staff members and UNKLESA members on how they have benefited from that information.

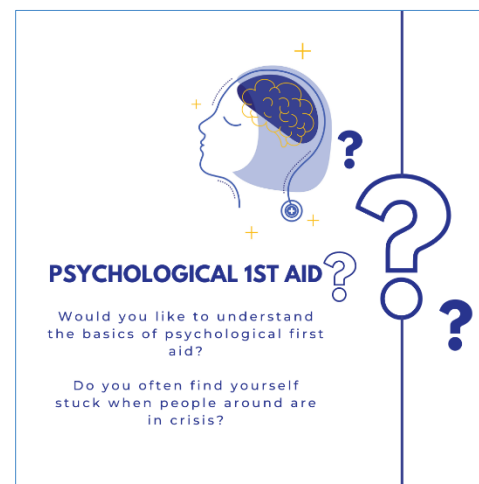
LIST OF INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS IN KENYA

SAINT ANDREWS SCHOOL	Private Bag 20106 Molo, Kenya +254 (0) 735 33 7736 +254 (0) 202 02 5708 officeprep@turimail.co.ke www.standrewstun.com
BRAEBURN GROUP OF INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS	PO Box 45112 00100 Nairobi, Kenya +254 (0) 730 88 1000 enquiries@braeburn.ac.ke www.braeburn.com Braeburn Schools Brochure
BROOK HOUSE SCHOOLS	Magadi Road, Langata Road P.O. Box 24987-00502 Nairobi, Kenya +254 (0) 20 243 0260 info@brookhouse.ac.ke www.brookhouse.ac.ke
LYCÉE FRANÇAIS INTERNATIONAL DENIS DIDEROT	Argwings Kodhek Road Kilimani (Near Yaya Center) +254 (0) 20 243 7714 contact@lyceefrançaisnairobi.com www.diderot.ac.ke Brochure
ROSSLYN ACADEMY	Magnolia Close, Off Limuru Road P.O. Box 14146-00800 Nairobi, Kenya +254 (0) 20 263 5294 info@rosslynacademy.com admissions@rosslynacademy.com www.rosslynacademy.org
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF KENYA <i>The American School</i>	Peponi Road, Getathuru Gardens PO Box 14103 – 00800 Nairobi, Kenya +254 (0) 720 639 363 +254 (0) 209 1308/9 communications@isk.ac.ke www.isk.ac.ke



ADVOCACY & NETWORKING

SOME OF THE EVENTS – ACHIEVEMENTS
Group Coordinator | Idzai Muchabaiwa



PSYCHOLOGICAL 1ST AID

First Aid for the Soul

Would you like to understand the basics of psychological first aid? Do you often find yourself stuck when people around you are in crisis? We witness crisis events, both at a large scale and at an individual level often. They involve natural disasters, clashes, war and terrorist attacks or disease outbreaks. Furthermore, individual events like accidents, assaults, robberies, and other kinds of crises are all around us and we do not know how to respond.



ADVOCACY & NETWORKING

SOME OF THE EVENTS – ACHIEVEMENTS
Group Coordinator | Idzai Muchabaiwa

ONLINE PRESENCE

UNDSS, JMS, MEMBER's ONLINE MEETINGS





FAMILY & PEER SUPPORT

SOME EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

Group Coordinator | Gulraze Shafiq

PREMATURITY DAY 2022

November 17th, World Prematurity Day, is one of the most important days in the year to raise awareness of the challenges and hardship of caring for preterm newborns. This day is an opportunity to shine a light on the risks and consequences faced by preterm infants and their families globally.

Each year UNKLESA highlights this day to raise awareness and to raise funds to help families of preterm births. This year as previous years we plan to donate diapers to mothers in Kenyatta/Pumwani Hospitals. With your help we can drive this donation to make a small yet significant support for the families of preterm newborns.





FAMILY & PEER SUPPORT

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

Group Coordinator | Gulraze Shafiq

WORLD WOMEN'S DAY MARCH 8TH

This year on March 8th, UNKLESA again organized a brunch program for our members to celebrate the women of all nations and regions of this world. UNKLESA celebrates our women members and all the women in the world on this day.





FAMILY & PEER SUPPORT EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

Group Coordinator | Gulraze Shafiq



MLANGO FARM VISIT

A well-attended event Eco-Farm Trip!

The UNKLESA annual Mlango farm visit was a real success this year. The event was open to all our members plus to the whole of the UN & the Diplomatic staff members and their families

A lovely lunch was served in the garden of the farmhouse with a variety of recipes from fresh ingredients from the farm. The children played in the surrounding area, feeding the farm animals, and enjoying the green acreage of the farm! All in all, a day well spent in nature.



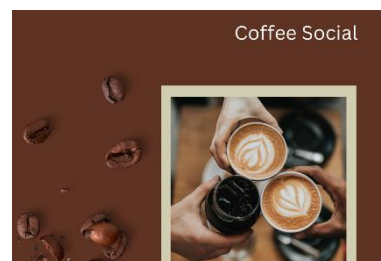


FAMILY & PEER SUPPORT

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

Group Coordinator | Gulraze Shafiq

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES





TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT

ENHANCING & DEVELOPING SKILLS

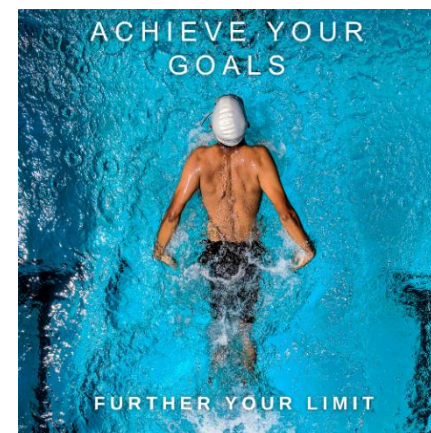
Group Coordinator | Laurette Tovalou Ekon

ENHANCING & DEVELOPING SKILLS

This year's goal has been to enable members to enhance their skills and develop new ones. The training & development working group always brings many outstanding sessions for our members. The working group has done outstanding work during the year to bring CBI session, Canva Graphic Design, Personal Effectiveness, Q&A Work Permit in Kenya, Tutorial session and revamped Babel Café to name a few programs to our members. Our group coordinator Laurette has worked very hard with her team to bring many offerings to our members.

BUILDING ON PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT AND CAREER & PERSONAL BRAND

To ensure that the very best people join the organization a competency-based interview process is adopted. Competency based interviews are also called "behavioral interviews" or "criterion-based interviews." Such interviews are based on the concept that past behavior and experience is the best indicator of future performance. In other words, your history tells a story about you: your talents, skills, abilities, knowledge, and actual experience in handling a variety of situations. This was a very useful session for members who are looking for work in the UN environment.





TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT

ENHANCING & DEVELOPING SKILLS

Group Coordinator | Laurette Tovalou Ekon

EDX COURSES



UNKLESA offers members the opportunity to enhance their skill or learn a new one online with Edx courses. With hundreds of highly rated courses, choose your course and we will pay up to \$300 for the course fee.



A rise in EDX courses!



TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT

SOME OF THE EVENTS – ACHIEVEMENTS
Group Coordinator | Laurette Tovalou Ekon

BABEL CAFÉ

Babel Café now offers language discussions, crocheting and Masai bead weaving. Babel Café is an interesting mix of social events with an environment that helps members share their experiences while doing craft and practicing language skills.



CBI | COMPETENCY BASED INTERVIEW



CANVA 4 BEGINNERS





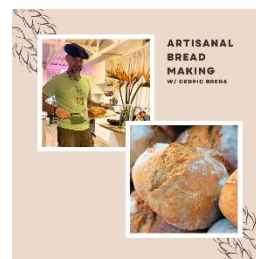
TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT

SOME OF THE EVENTS – ACHIEVEMENTS

Group Coordinator | Laurette Tovalou Ekon

COOKING WITHOUT BORDERS

UNKLESA, as a diverse community as it comes, is a melting pot of cultures and cuisines. This year cooking classes were conducted by fellow members to introduce new cuisines to participating members.





TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT

SOME OF THE EVENTS – ACHIEVEMENTS

Group Coordinator | Laurette Tovalou Ekon

FIRST AID TRAINING

A certification two-day course organized for our members in association with UNON Joint Medical Service. A key training for the members to be a 1st aid responder. The event was well participated in by many members. With this success UNKLESA will be organizing more sessions for more members.

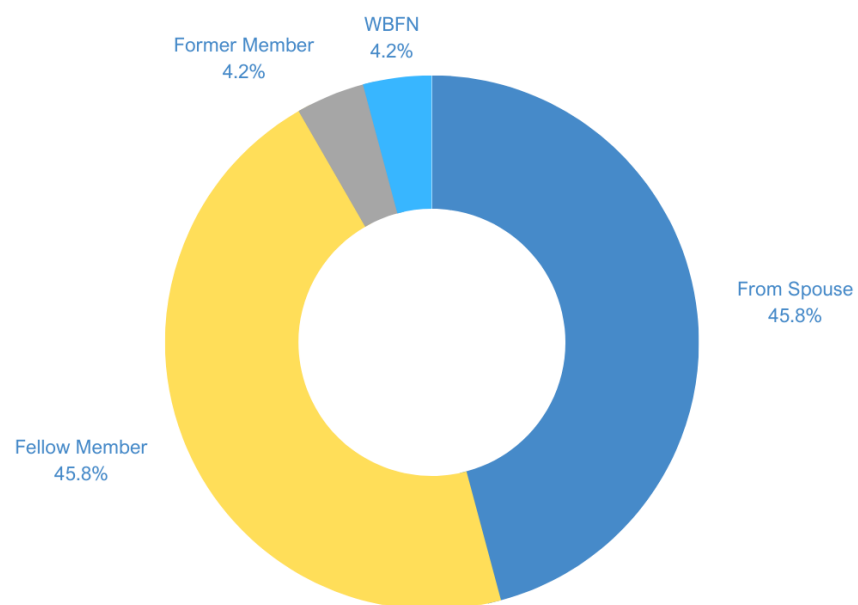




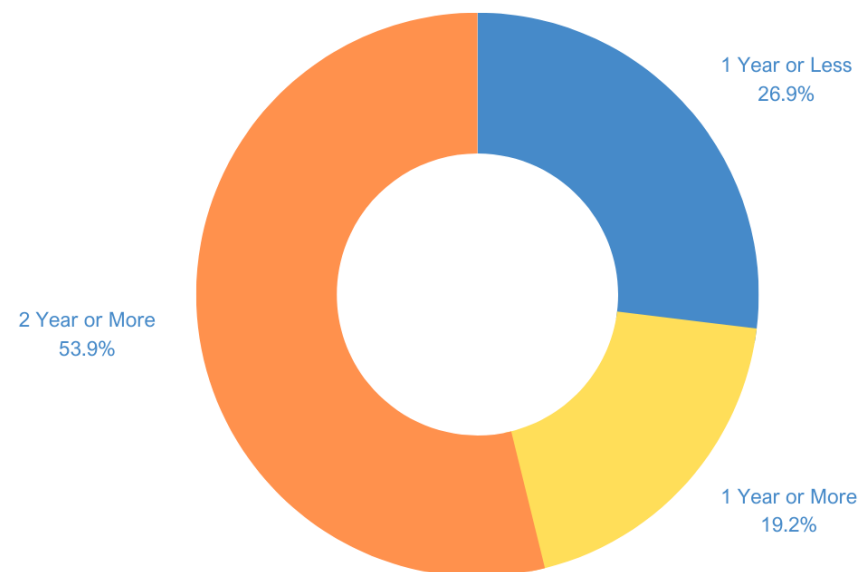
MEMBER SURVEY

FEED BACK

Total of 26 members took the time to fill out the member survey form



How did you learn about UNKLESA?



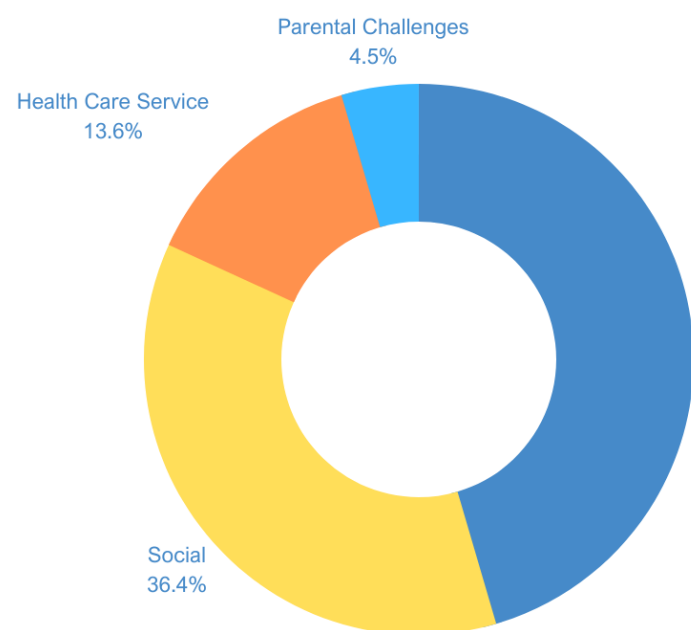
How long have you been a UNKLESA member?



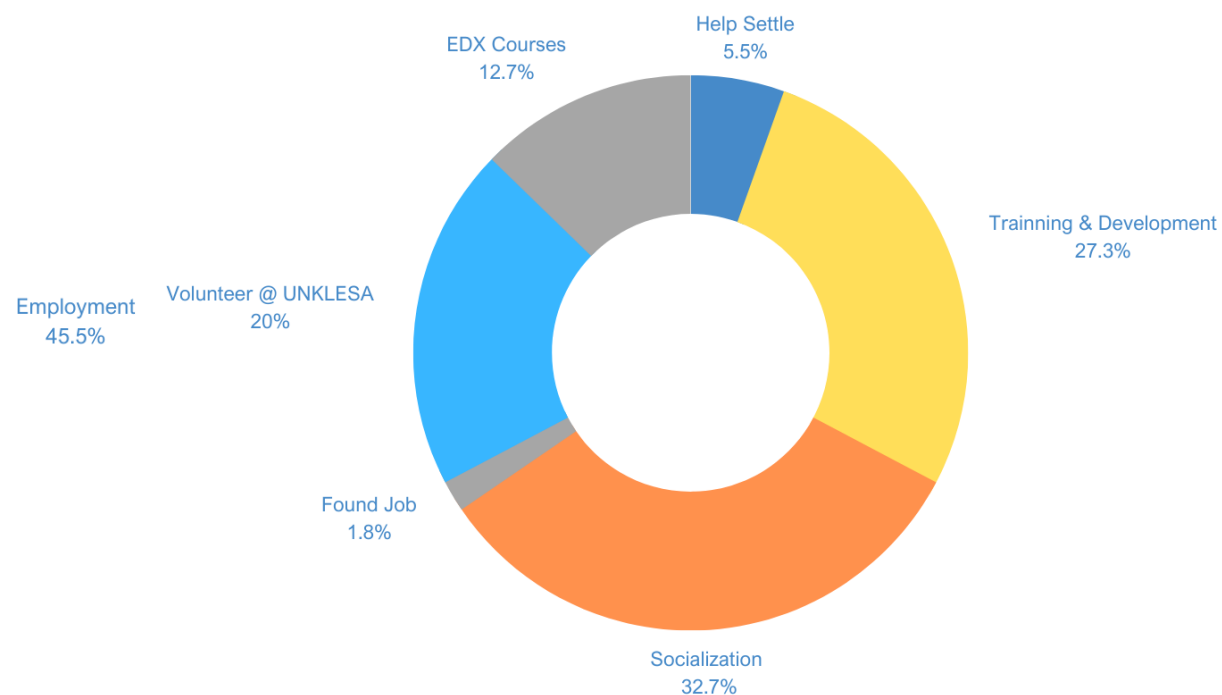
MEMBER SURVEY

FEED BACK

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What challenges did you face settling in Kenya?



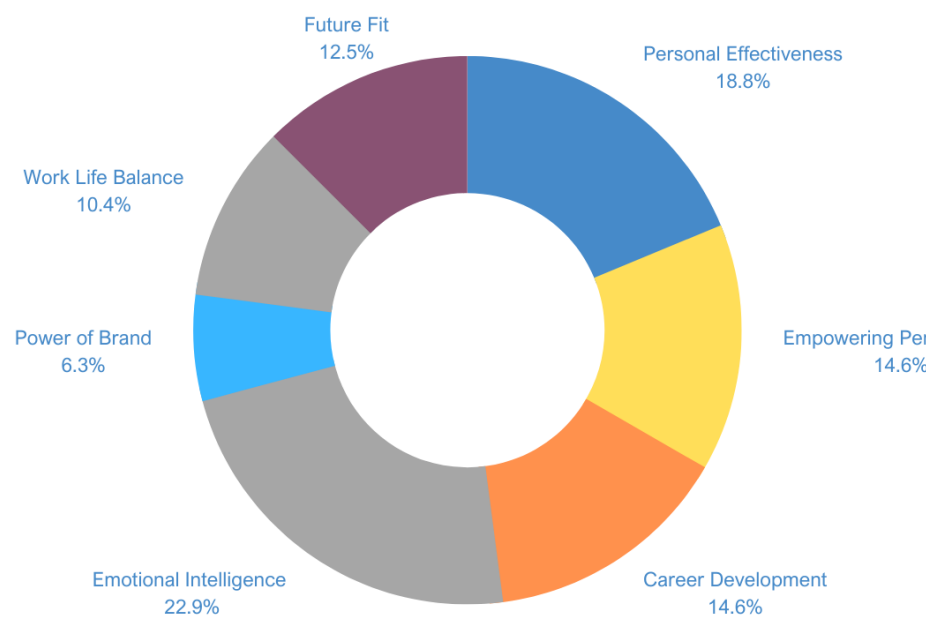
How has UNKLESA been beneficial to you?



MEMBER SURVEY

FEED BACK

Total of 26 members took the time to fill out the member survey form



Which of the Training and Development Activity would you like to see next?

