



RICCA SECOND QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER NEWSLETTER APRIL-JUNE 2025

As we close the second quarter of 2025, we reflect on our journey of ensuring rural children are feeling connected.

From summits to decentralizing our activities to schools and local communities, RICCA has been at the forefront, amplifying rural children's voices and advocating for their rights to education and protection. This quarter, we also spent time monitoring the outcomes of our first-quarter teacher training and reflecting on our strengths and gaps, especially in governance and operational structures. We are on the path to establishing afterschool centers, accelerating teacher training, and building stronger home-school connections for parents. We remain open to partners, donors, and collaborators as we strive to create lasting change in the communities we serve.

Here's a recap of the key events we undertook in this quarter:

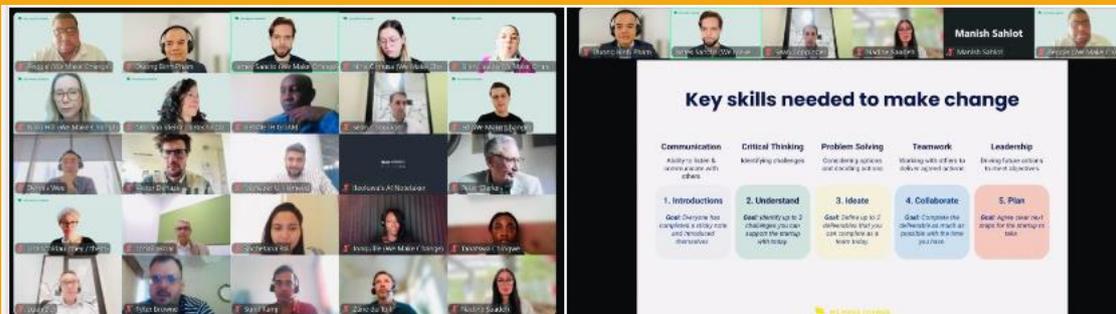
Impact stories: Feature a story

"Our teachers are happier and help us more in class since RICCA came. They teach us new things in ways we understand better, and I feel excited to come to school every day,"
shared Achieng, a Class 5 pupil in a rural school supported by RICCA.

Advocacy and Partnerships

New Collaborations: Strengthening Systems for Greater Impact

In our recent collaboration through Standard Chartered Change Day, our team, participated in a transformative systems capacity-strengthening session.



Duong Pham, Chartered MCIPD, reflecting on the experience, *"Engaging with RICCA's team and their mission to empower children was a humbling experience. Their alignment with the UN Sustainable Development Goals highlights the essential impact of our collective efforts."*

This session marked a significant step in building efficient systems for greater impact in the communities we serve. We are grateful for the support and look forward to continued partnerships that drive meaningful change.

Policy advocacy efforts: *Advocating for Educational Reforms Through Digital Innovation*

This quarter, RICCA actively participated in the EdTech East Africa Summit in Meru, engaging with changemakers to champion meaningful reforms in education. RICCA is committed to addressing digital literacy gaps by supporting schools and communities with digital resources, skills training for teachers, parents, and children, and innovative approaches to transform learning. This forum provided an invaluable platform to rethink how education can better serve learners in Kenya's central rural regions, strengthening our resolve to create lasting impact.



Updates on Governance and Organizational Growth

RICCA, together with the board, has aligned its interventions emphasizing children's education, empowerment and advocacy, with a focus on inclusivity and quality education. RICCA's strategy emphasizes safeguarding and protecting children and young people, making protection from abuse and gender-based violence a core focus.

"We are looking at inclusivity because it's not just a matter of dealing with children with disabilities but also children from special groups, such as those in pastoralist and farming areas. Girls from these areas are often the ones not going to school,"

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

Driving Conversations on Barriers to Quality Education and Sustainable Farming in Rural Kenya

We are exploring the demand and supply side of barriers to quality education. The demand side encompasses inadequate school infrastructure and facilities, while the supply side emphasizes the role of parents in enhancing children's well-being. This includes addressing retrogressive cultural practices, actively participating in their children's education, and ensuring sufficient incomes to provide nutritious food, decent shelter, and stable, happy families.



Inspired by Seeds of Change Founder, William N. Gitau's call to "not just regenerate soil but regenerate livelihoods, autonomy, and ecosystems" RICCA is fostering a critical dialogue on the demand and supply side of education and child protection. One farmer, speaking in Kiswahili during a community session, captured the struggle into local context:

"Mkulima saa hizi ni mtu ako na shida sana-hakuna soko, mbolea, dawa ya kunyunyizia na mbegu, hata ni ya GMO, juu huwezi panda tena...na ni bei kali...ni ukweli wa mambo, nionyeshe mkulima mmoja mwenye anawezana na mahitaji ya familia, wacha ya shule, na tunaomba RICCA washikane na sisi tubadilishe hii na Watoto wafurahie hapo." Translated: "The image of a farmer currently is that of a poor person.... there is no market. Synthetic chemicals, artificial fertilizer and seeds which are GMO because it's impossible to replant...are very expensive—it's the reality of things. Show me one who can meet their family's needs, let alone school needs. With RICCA, we can change that and help make children happy. I agree. ..Let's end child poverty." (farmer, Kirinyaga Kenya)

✔ RICCA is looking for partners, donors, volunteers and supporters to turn this around...

✔ To introduce RICCA gardens

Not just to train school children fight food insecurity, but bring parents on board to adopt a balanced approach between regenerative, organic, and agroecological practices—ensuring that their farming methods not only restore land health but also enhance household resilience and children's well-being.

● Support needed: \$3,000

✔ To roll out After-School Learning Centres

Part of our child-friendly model to improve literacy, inclusion, and life skills among rural children.

● Support needed: \$10,000

✔ To equip one of our selected model schools

In our decentralised activities—with context-sensitive, simple, scalable technology (a projector and laptop as teaching aids).

● Support needed: \$2,000

➔ 📧 Get in touch today

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