KPA CAPACITY STATEMENT:

The Kenya Paediatric Association (KPA) is an association whose principal members are pediatricians practicing in Kenya but includes researchers, pediatricians in training and any other cadres of health workers as associates. The KPA is a society duly exempt from registration under section 10 of the Society’s Act. Cap 108, Laws of Kenya. The Kenya Paediatric Association’s vision is for the ‘provision of an optimal healthcare environment for children’. The mission is ‘to be the guide and leader in comprehensive child healthcare delivery through promotion of best practice in pediatrics training, research, policy formulation and capacity building of members. Since its inception in 1968, the organization has various activities, in partnership with developmental partners in several projects. Kenya Paediatric Association has the capacity to implement and oversee implementation of activities.

Kenya Paediatric association has partners with Government and various development partners to implement projects in the areas of child health. The following are some of the key projects that the association has been involved in and continues to be involved in to date.

1. HIV/AIDS KPA has been building health worker capacity in HIV/AIDS prevention since 2006 in Kenya. Our partners in the several projects included CDC, FHI, EGPAF and MSF. Through these projects, over 2500 health workers have been trained all over the country. KPA has also played a key role in developing the Paediatric HIV strategic plan for the country and led paediatric HIV curriculum development

2. Integrated Management of Neonatal and Childhood Diseases In 2013 KPA/KEPRECON partnered with Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI). This partnership was formed to help the Ministry of Health strengthen the capacity of health care workers (HCW’S) in dealing with pneumonia and diarrhea. These illnesses are still among the top 3 causes of death in the under 5 age group in Kenya Over 400 HCW’s have been trained

3. Continuous professional education and Scientific conferences KPA organizes continuous medical education sessions for health care workers in Kenya and beyond. This is done majorly through webinars, symposiums and scientific conferences to pediatricians and other health care providers with passion for children are invited from all over the world. A calendar of events with different themes is shared to all members and speakers from Kenya and other countries are invited to update members on best practices. The KPA Annual Conference is a unique forum that brings together one of the largest gathering of Paediatricians from Kenya and colleagues from the region to deliberate on issues, gain knowledge and share experiences in a variety of areas of the profession. The association has successfully held 22 conferences since its inception The Association also assists other health care institutions to plan for International conferences within the country as the secretariat has the capacity to plan for activities.
4. Newborn Advanced Life Support The aim of this training is to give first responders knowledge and skills to effectively resuscitate neonates in the first 20 minutes of life. This project was a collaboration between KPA and Rotary International. Over 380 health workers were trained by 2011, Nairobi area.

5. Emergency Triage Assessment and Treatment + (ETAT+) This was an initiative with Ministry of Health and KEMRI/Welcome Trust Research Program. KPA undertook the trainings with an aim to introducing clinical practice guidelines for pediatrics. The trainings include skills teaching for triage, early recognition, rapid assessment and management of sick children. The trainings have been rolled out across the country and in Uganda and Rwanda as well.

6. Paediatric in Disaster This is a new training collaboration with University of Colorado and Ministry of Health. This training highlights, the specific considerations when dealing with children in disaster situations including mass casualty incidents. The first training was held in October, 2015 and plans are underway to roll out this training country-wide, once funds are available.

7. Immunization Advocacy Project This was a project done in partnership with the American Academy of Paediatric (AAP) and CDC. The objective of the project was to develop mentors to prepare the injectable polio and MR amongst other.

8. Kenya Paediatric Fellowship Program: Kenya Paediatric association received funds from ELMA philanthropies to undertake strategic selection and deployment of trainees, mentoring graduates, monitoring and evaluation, national coordination and linkage to the ministry of health for the Kenya Paediatric fellowship program. The project was conducted from June 2019-June 2023.

9. Tobacco Control Advocacy: Kenya Paediatric Association has been partnering with the American Academy of Pediatrics to promote medical literacy and train pediatric health care workers on patient-centered advocacy in the area of tobacco control in Kenya. The objectives of the project are to extend education around tobacco control and support services available for tobacco users to other cadres of health care workers involved in the primary care of children, adolescents and their families and to foster all-inclusive and collaborative tobacco advocacy stakeholders’ engagement.

10. Early Childhood Development Project; Kenya Paediatric Association has been partnering with the American Academy of Pediatrics to implement an Early childhood development Advocacy Project. The project sought to leverage clinical expertise, patient experience and an expansive network of paediatricians to ensure national and sub-national health care systems are responsive and inclusive of nurturing care for Early childhood development.