

APPROPRIATION OF ICTS BY YOUTHFUL WOMEN IN INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS

- The study will focus on a bottom up community based perspective of how youthful women in Kenya's urban informal settlements experience, produce meaning and engage with civil society media and communication initiatives.
- This study seeks to understand issues of participation in public debate by youthful women living in informal settlements, an area that has attracted few scholars, and been given little attention academically.

- **Mathare Pioneer Valley Youth Group (based in an urban informal settlement) which is one of Grassroots Organizations Operating Together in Sisterhood (GROOTS-Kenya) initiative.**
- **GROOTS-K**, is a network of women self help groups and CBOs among poor communities with empowerment projects in Nairobi's Mathare's slum and in about 16 rural areas spread across Kenya. These areas are in Nanyuki, Thika, Karachuonyo, Kakamega, Thika (Gatundu), Kiambu (Limuru), Kajiado and Nairobi's Korogocho and Mathare informal settlements.
- Currently, the network focuses its joint efforts on governance, AIDS, disaster, secure tenure and on post-conflict resolution.

- The results will be used to make inferences about how youthful women in informal settlements are engaged by Civil Society media, how youthful women create groups of communication forums using social media, how they get the information on governance issues and how they in turn participate or engage in governance debates.

- It is anticipated that the study will demonstrate a model that reduces barriers and empowers youthful women in urban informal settlements, enabling them to benefit from access to information and communication technologies.
- Issues? Title, whether to use young women or youthful, summary of chapters, ideas?