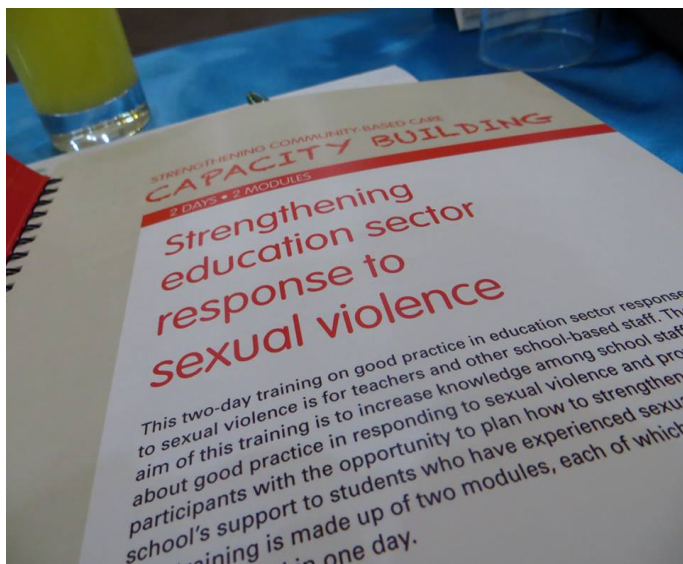


The secret to success is to learn from experience, and to identify challenges and alleviate them at the earliest opportunity. Project reviews are a great way to do both these things. A review process is a valuable way for teams to improve their performance and skills; they help fuel continuous improvement as well as increase team morale. A review is also an efficient accountability and evaluation tool, to measure the progress of the project.



The communities care program officers and stakeholders from CISP, UNICEF and JHU (John Hopkins University) participated in a project review meeting at Safari Park Hotel in Nairobi. The week long gathering will help them gauge how far they have come, the achievements they have made and learn from the mistakes and the challenges that they face every day at work. It is also an opportunity for the staff to have a clear understanding of what's happening in the project, and

are therefore more likely to make good decisions about how to execute them.



The communities care project focuses on strengthening positive social norms that protect women and girls and also reinforcing the approaches to primary prevention and response to gender based violence (GBV) in Somalia. Emphasis is placed on supporting the health, psychosocial, education, and security and justice systems for the provision of community-based care. The community members, elders, religious leaders and local authorities are key stakeholders in the project, they participate actively in the community discussions and in promoting positive social norms in the society and in identifying the problems or areas that they want to change.

This is a pilot project, first of its kind in Somalia; UNICEF developed a toolkit, a guide that CISP is currently using to implement the project on the ground. The review process mainly focuses on this tool kit to find out how adoptable it was in a setting such as Somalia. The outcome is a positive one since the toolkit is engaging, easy to comprehend and use in any setting, however there are a few issues that need to be looked into and improved to better suit the Somalia

setting. Preliminary research findings on Social Norms were also shared by John Hopkins University, official findings will be released at a later date.