MAP KIBERA Security

The first complete, free and open map of Kibera

Carjackings are frequent at the Ayany Bridge.

Bus stops in Makina and Karanja, two of the formal villages, are known for robberies since the many business owners here often carry large sums of money.

The railway line is dark and secluded, so girls try and avoid this area.

Ngong Forest is known to be a place where rape and defilement take place. Girls avoid this area even during the day.

Gatwekera and Raila have almost no lights.

Kambi Muru has only one safe space but many girls report that the area is dangerous.

The high reeds in the Nairobi Dam area make it a convenient area for robbers and sexual predators. Despite this, many children play near the football grounds here.

This map is an overlay of information obtained through a four-step process, which involved stakeholder meetings, data collection by 13 Kibera mappers, community consultations (community meetings with large groups of people), and the creation of narrative media.

Step one:
The team organized stakeholder meetings to engage implementers and community-based organizations working on issues of gender-based violence, HIV and AIDS, and related topics to identify the most appropriate data to collect for the map.

Step two:
The Map Kibera team, consisting of 13 youth from the community trained in open source mapping techniques, created a map of security and vulnerability. This map contains so-called “black spots” or unsafe spaces (places where drugs and alcohol are consumed, or where people are frequently attacked and injured), safe spaces (i.e. girl groups, community centers, and well-lit areas), resources (gender based violence (GBV) clinics, youth groups in charge of security, and police posts), and locations and functionality of street lighting.

Step three:
Community representatives were invited to consultations with the mappers. Using printed maps, tracing paper and colored pens, the mappers led discussions with different community members including mothers working on safety issues, local male leaders, and girls and young women, to discuss safety and vulnerability. The groups discussed the initial map findings, and shared opinions on issues including where they felt safe or at risk, their daily routines, where they spent weekend nights, and where drugs and alcohol were consumed. The process of mapping security is not only helpful for identifying physically safe and unsafe spaces, but also provides contextual information to raise awareness and offer advocacy opportunities around issues of security.

Step four:
Narrative media was created to contextualize the issue, by members of Map Kibera’s video team, Kibera News Network. Audio and video recordings of discussions about security along with individual interviews created personal stories which were combined with map information and when appropriate, made available publicly online.

Data obtained from all four steps was merged using GIS techniques. Results from the mapping process can be used to identify physical and psychological areas of risk, vulnerability, and patterns of risk perception. Further, the information is publicly owned and available, helping to keep grassroots advocates and policy planners more accountable to young people in the community.

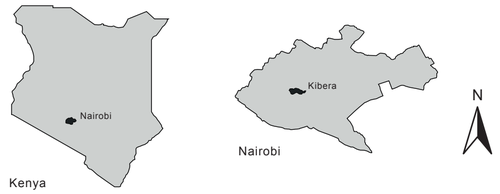
Some of the stories emerging from the map:

- *Safe spaces are places where girls can gather, such as churches, schools, and youth centers.*
- *Many young girls who can’t afford to go to town dance at nightly funeral parties. They are highly at risk of violence.*
- *The most dangerous areas are those that are close to natural cover, such as forest at end of Ayany as well as area in Silanga near Nairobi dam. These areas are dangerous even in the daytime because of high reeds and forest cover.*
- *Mugging is known to take place in formal areas, particularly on pay days, since these are entry points into Kibera for goods and funds. Mugging is also common early in the day when shopkeepers and business people may be going out to get stock, and in Makina starting from the main matatu stage, and Karanja Road.*

Legend

- Safe Space
- GBV Support
- Chief’s Camp
- Administration
- Youth Support
- Police
- Black Spot
- Hatari Spot
- Bar
- Adopt A Light Non-Operational
- Adopt A Light Operational
- Street Light Not-Installed
- Street Light Non-Operational
- Street Light Operational
- Dangerous Paths
- Paths
- Roads
- Railway
- Informal Villages
- Formal Villages
- Buildings

Kibera location



Information

OpenStreetMap follows a similar concept as Wikipedia, but for maps and other geographic facts.
More information at: www.openstreetmap.org
Map Kibera has produced the first complete free and open map of Kibera.
More information at:
www.mapkibera.org
www.voiceofkibera.org
www.kiberanewsnetwork.org

Credits & Copyrights

Data: OpenStreetMap, Map Kibera Trust
Created: 1st June 2010
Design and layout: Emma Engleson

Contacts

Have an update for this map? Want to learn how to use map data in your work?
Email us at contact@mapkibera.org