

WONESU

PROGRESS REPORT

OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2020.

BERLYNE ACHIENG NDOLO
12/31/2020

FOREWORD

We have finally come to the end of this year 2020 and thank God Almighty for His guidance, care and protection. We also thank our donors *Foerdderverein Watoto: Afrikas starke kinder e.V*, *Team Dima Global* and *German Regional Scouts Association, BdP* for their unwavering financial support. Thank you too WONESU Board of Directors- members for your continued commitment and support.

Special thanks also go to our staff members (Berlyne Achieng Ndolo, Bernard Omondi Mboga, Mary Achieng Amonde, Christine Auma Onyango, Paul Okinyi Tieng'o and Molline Akinyi for active participation in implementation of all our project activities.

We do also recognize the contribution of all our projects implementing partners; Kisumu East and Kisumu West Sub County Children offices, Kisumu West Sub County Livestock Production office, Local community leaders- Chief, Assistant Chiefs and Village elders in Kisumu West Sub County, for immense contribution to the successes in our projects.

Finally, we thank our beneficiaries partner schools- parents/ guardians, teachers and children of; Manyatta Arab, Ogango, Kodiaga, Usoma, Ragumo, Geta, Obinju Kanyakwar, Ngege, Oluowa, Nyaduong, Nyakune, Wachara, Sinyolo and Kambudi Primary Schools. Thank you too our Agriculture beneficiary groups in Kisumu West sub County for your support and participation in all our projects.

Thanks and May God Bless you all abundantly!!!

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In March 2020, schools in Kenya were abruptly closed in response to contain spread of COVID-19. The closure of institutions brought forth numerous economic and social issues more severely for the underprivileged children and their households from the urban poor and rural communities. On 12th October 2020 however, the Ministry of Education partially reopened schools for only candidate's classes. WONESU distributed feeding materials to all our partner schools in Kisumu East, Kisumu Central and Kisumu West Sub Counties. Feeding program provides both educational and health benefits for the most vulnerable children thereby increasing enrolment rates, reducing absenteeism and improving food security at the household levels.

In partnership with schools, WONESU- Adolescent Girls and Boys Mentors- Berlyne Ndolo, Molline Akinyi and Paul Tieng'o organized mentorship sessions for adolescent girls and boys in Obinju Kanyakwar and Ngege Primary Schools. The mentorship sessions were also extended to Oluowa, Sinyolo and Kambudi Primary Schools. In the sessions the adolescents (boys and girls separately) shared problems of lack of food at home, lack of sanitary towels, negative peer influence, drugs and substance abuse e.t.c. The situation is compounded by loss of menial jobs, closure of businesses for their parents/ guardians due to effects of COVID-19. WONESU also mobilized adolescent girls and distributed 450 disposable sanitary towels in Obinju Kanyakwar, Manyatta Arab, Ogango and Kodiaga Prison Primary Schools.

Production of our *Hope* reusable sanitary towels also continued in our back office space. We then distributed after sensitization on use, hygiene management practices and storage methods to 70 adolescent girls in Sinyolo and Kambudi Primary Schools. This project aims to ensure adolescent girls easily access menstrual hygiene management products with longer utility periods. We also seek to reduce number of teenage pregnancies, sexually transmitted infections, and school dropout among adolescent girls from poor backgrounds who engage in premarital sex in exchange for either money or sanitary pads from their "clients". Reports confirmed by our adolescent girls across our partner schools, *Hope* pads have renewed their confidence to face their life challenges. As confirmed by one of the adolescent girls "We no longer engage in premarital sex with men for their money to purchase sanitary towels". Our application for "master craftsman" to train on tailoring and dressmaking with KYEOP was accepted and we wait for further directions from them on the next steps in 2021.

In Agriculture Program, WONESU continued to work with existing smallholder farmers within groups in Kisumu West Sub County on production of livestock; goats, rabbits, dairy cows and chicken. Our farmers also produced vegetables of pumpkins, spinach, kales, black night shade for sale and families consumption. Production of fruits of passion fruits, grafted mangoes, bananas and paw paws also continued in various beneficiaries' farms. WONESU also piloted production of tree tomatoes with selected farmers in our target area.

Finally, *Team Dima Global* supported school feeding program in Oluowa Primary School. Feeding program provides both educational and health benefits for the most vulnerable children thereby increasing enrolment rates, reducing absenteeism and improving food security at the household levels. Thanks so much to *Team Dima Global* for the initiative to also support our interventions.

2. WONESU COVID- 19 RESPONSES

Kenya's economic growth has been negatively impacted by COVID-19 shocks. In fact according to a survey by The Kenya Private Sector Alliance (KEPSA) 2020 on COVID-19 pandemic on Kenya's economy revealed that 61% of businesses have negatively been affected by the containment measures. COVID-19 pandemic made life very difficult to the entire Kenyan population. In fact 75% of them have been pushed back to total poverty. There are also other reports confirming that at least one million Kenyans have lost their jobs, or have been put on indefinite unpaid leave, since the start of the pandemic in March 2020. Further desk review of literature by WONESU and qualitative interviews with stakeholders on impact of COVID-19 in the target areas also revealed that many families are missing meals, have lost jobs and expressed worries that the cost of living was going up.

Therefore, in the second and third quarters (April- September) of this year (2020), WONESU donated- food supplements of sugar, ugali flour, rice, salt and cooking oil amongst others to close to five hundred needy households from our partner schools- in our target areas. However, the donations have since stopped due to financial constraints. The efforts by the government to mitigate the pandemic (COVID -19) continue to negatively impact the lives of poor and vulnerable households (slums and rural areas) who rely on informal employment and businesses to fend for their children. Thus compromising parents/guardians ability to also finance school related expenditures (when schools reopen in January 2021) such as school uniforms, examination levies and learning materials. School closures (since March 2020) have also had implications for learners who relied on school feeding programs as a main source of nutrition. With children now at home, families' ability to provide food for them has been even further reduced due to loss of income and jobs. This group urgently needs social protection measures like food distribution and/ or cash transfers amongst others.

3. GERMAN REGIONAL SCOUTS ASSOCIATION- (B-D-P) ACTIVITIES

3.1. School Feeding

Objective: To improve quality of education through provision of nutritive food supplements to over 3500 vulnerable children.

The Government of Kenya abruptly closed all learning institutions nationwide in response to contain spread of COVID-19. The closure of the institutions not only affected learners and teachers but it also brought forth numerous economic and social issues. They included interrupted/ loss of learning, education exclusion, homelessness, economic crisis, childcare challenges/ increase in sexual exploitation- teenage pregnancy cases and financial cost implication to households amongst others. The effects have been more severe for the underprivileged children and their households from the urban poor and rural communities.

On 12th October 2020 however, the Ministry of Education partially reopened schools for candidate's classes- (class four and eight for primary schools and form fours for secondary schools). WONESU distributed feeding materials to all our partner schools. School feeding program provides both educational and health benefits for the most vulnerable children thereby increasing enrolment rates, reducing absenteeism and improving food security at the household levels.



Adelite Abuto (school cook) served porridge to children in Manyatta Arab Primary School



A section of Manyatta Arab Primary School children posed for photo after they served porridge in their school compound.



Ms. Caren Okumu (teacher) served porridge to children in Ragumo Primary School



Ogango Primary School children were served porridge by their teacher and cook in the school compound.



Ms. Alice Okelo (school cook) also served porridge to children in Kodiaga Primary School compound.



Mr. Kennedy Tungani (teacher) also served porridge to children in Ngege Primary School compound.



A section of pupils in Ngege Primary School enjoy cup of porridge in their school compound.



Ms. Jamila Idi (cook) served porridge to children in Usoma Primary School compound.



A section of pupils in Usoma Primary School enjoyed cup of porridge behind the school kitchen.

3.2. Adolescents Girls: Menstrual Hygiene Management

Objective: To increase access to menstrual hygiene products and education to 1500 adolescent girls in Kisumu

Government of Kenya continued to enforce raft of measures aimed at controlling the spread of COVID-19. Thus contributing to loss of livelihoods particularly in low-income households, some children have been forced into income-generating activities to support their families' survival. This raises the increase on sexual exploitation with the young girls engaging in transactional sex in order to gain not only access to essential needs like sanitary towels but also to support their families. This has highly contributed to early and unplanned teenage pregnancies which have been projected to be on the rise during COVID-19.



Molline Akinyi sews Hope pads in the back office space.

WONESU continued production of more reusable sanitary (*Hope*) towels. We also distributed *Hope* sanitary towels to adolescent girls in Sinyolo and Kambudi Primary Schools in Kisumu West Sub County. In both schools the head teachers informed us that the children faced challenges related to rape cases, teenage pregnancies, and high rate of absenteeism, drugs and substance abuse. Most of these challenges were also attributed to increase in number of family break ups/ separation and finally children left under care of old guardians in their communities.

WONESU team together with the schools then organized for separate meetings for the two schools. The adolescent girls were then sensitized on use/ storage and seventy adolescent girls received *Hope* pads. We shall continue follow up visits to the schools in the next quarter (January- March 2021).



Berlyne Ndolo held demonstrations on steps to follow in washing Hope reusable sanitary towels to adolescent girls in Sinyolo Primary School.



Molline Akinyi posed for photo with adolescent girls in Sinyolo Primary School after they received Hope pads.



Adolescent girls in Kambudi Primary School also followed demonstrations on steps in washing Hope reusable sanitary towels led by Berlyne Ndolo and Molline Akinyi.



Kambudi Primary School adolescent girls shortly after they received packs of Hope pads.

WONESU applied to be contracted (January- March 2020 period) as “Master Craftsmen”- with Kenya Youth Empowerment & Opportunities Project (KYEOP) and National Industrial Training Authority (NITA) in Kisumu. The contract aims to allow individuals or institutions with capacity to train on different fields like food/ beverage; tailoring/ dressmaking, hair dressing and beauty therapy e.t.c. WONESU seek to offer specific skills training on Tailoring and Dress making in our back office- (five months). The students (three) will then undertake examinations with National Industrial Authority (NITA) after three months attachment period. Our application was accepted and we wait for further directions from KYEOP on the next steps in 2021.

3.3. Agriculture Program

Objective: Improve food security and income to rural households through crop and livestock production in Kisumu West Sub County.

Kisumu West Sub County is located in the Western side of Nyanza Province. It covers an approximated area of about 360.8 km² with an estimated population of over 150,831 people. Currently, 79% of the total potential land for crop cultivation (14,505 Ha) is under utilization- (Ministry of Agriculture). The major crops grown in the region are; maize, beans, sweet potatoes, sorghum, cassava and fruits under rain fed production, while tomatoes, local vegetables and kales are under irrigation/ manual watering. Livestock production is generally traditional in nature with major livestock reared includes cattle, poultry and goats. However, according to The Kisumu County Integrated Development Plans 2018 -2022 indicate that Kisumu West Sub County is characterized by high poverty levels (47.56%). Additionally, Kenya Government reports have also classified 80.7% of the households in the regions as food insecure - (GoK, 2014). Other factors affecting food security in the region include: Inadequate use of farm inputs/ poor hybrid seeds for crops, livestock in -breeding problems resulting to diminishing livestock size (weight), unreliable weather due to changing climatic conditions, frequent hailstones which negatively impacts on crops, striga weed threat on Maize and sorghum, poor attitude as relates credit acquisition by the local farmers and poor marketing channels.

WONESU therefore works with existing smallholder farmers within groups in the region to employ a host of on-farm strategies to cope with climate risks and shocks including: planting of drought-resistant crop varieties, diversification, value addition strategies and conservation agriculture.

3.3.1 Goats Production



Everlyne Lumumba- Korando B1 member prepared to clean goats unit in her homestead

WONESU farmers continued production of goats through cross breeding of local and Toggenburg species of goats thereby giving forth to F1 and F2 generations of goats on their farms. To effectively achieve our objectives, as this quarter came to an end, all the groups' bucks (Toggenburg species) were rotated or replaced. F1 bucks generation of goats and individual local bucks in our members farms were also sold/ disposed at different times in the course of this year (2020) all to control inbreeding. Our beneficiary farmers (F1 buck farmers) used proceeds from sale of F1 bucks to meet basic family/ education needs of their children and part of it purchased more local does. WONESU distributed knapsack sprayers to the groups. The farmers then purchased drugs for weekly spraying and quarterly deworming drugs in their respective groups for all their livestock. This ensured both external and internal parasites are controlled hence reduced overall cost on production.

The project goats; local, F1 and F2 generations of goats were tagged across our members farms. Goats tagging enhances ownership, ease in identification and controls breeding. WONESU engaged and regularly consulted veterinary officers from time to time for routine management of all project goats. This aim at controlling livestock diseases and hence control deaths. Construction of goat units across our farmers' homes over the years has also controlled breeding, enhanced manure collection for production of local vegetables/ grains, ensured proper feeds/feeding, enhanced records keeping, disease control, early detection and treatment amongst others.

As the rains poured, our farmers' plant fodder crops of nappier grasses, molato grasses and leguminous crops like sweet potatoes vines and desmodium. They also supplement feeds/ feeding with natural fodder like sesbania, black jack and other natural grasses. There is improved control of animal diseases infections and prevention from harsh environmental conditions hence improved overall productivity.



Nappier grass plantation on Olivia Achieng-Korando A member's farm



Molato grass plantation on Grace Bonga- Korando B1 member's farm.

As the project progresses, our farmers use goat wastes as manure on their farms. Goat wastes are organic manure that boosts soil fertility, controls striga weeds and overall boost to production. Therefore there is improved production of grains and local vegetables on their farms hence improved returns. Our farmers also milk F1 does generation of goats on their farms. Currently one F1 doe generation of goats produces one liter of milk in a day and this is consumed in their families. Goat milk is very nutritious, boosts immunity, fasten growth and development of children.

Challenges

- There is more F1 generation of goats bucks kidded in our project. This delays the process of breeding for upgrading of our goats to pure breeds.

3.3.2 Poultry Production

WONESU farmers continued production of both local and improved breed of chicken in their various homesteads. The skills gained and good management practices employed by the farmers over the years boost production of local chicken among our farmers. In fact they ensure they provide proper housing, feeds/ feeding, maintain hygiene, and administer all required vaccines to the flock. This has in turn reduced loss of stock to infectious poultry diseases such as Newcastle, Gumboro and fowl typhoid amongst others.

The farmers continue to sell mature local chicken to the nearby markets and to their neighbors. As businesses continue to experience down turn due to measures put in place to control further spread of COVID-19, our farmers reported they used proceeds from sale of local chicken to supplement their family's needs. Chicken is also a delicacy for their families.



Olivia Achieng- Korando A member fed on food left overs part of local poultry flock in her homestead.

We also continued production of rainbow roosters improved breed of chicken among our farmers. Rainbow roosters breed of chicken are fast maturing – (four- five months). WONESU farmers feed the chicken on food left overs and commercial feeds like growers marshes that hasten growth. Part of the chicken flock that matured has been disposed as others wait to mature. Our farmers will restock their flock.



Part of improved breed of chicken flock in Magdalene Okore – Korando A members unit



Flock of rainbow roosters improved breed of chicken in Jane Omwodo- Koarando A members unit.



Improved breed of chicken in Dickson Omedo's farm in Lela

3.3.3 Rabbits Production

Our farmers use rabbits waste as manure for production of local vegetables and other crops on their farms. The rabbits' wastes are rich in nitrogen and potassium. The rabbit urine is also used as insecticide. It's ideal for controlling crops insects like aphids. Our farmer Olivia Achieng – Korando A member expanded her rabbit unit. It can now host up to one hundred rabbits. Josephine Anyango also Korando A member also renovated the rabbit unit in her homestead. It can also host up to forty rabbits. The renovations and expansion of the units are to ensure that there would be adequate space as rabbits continued to kid.



Rabbits in Josephine Achieng- Korando A members unit.



Olivia Achieng – Korando A member fed rabbits in newly expanded unit in her homestead.



Rabbits feeding on green vegetation in Olivia Achieng rabbit unit.

As the project progressed, more farmers also constructed new units in their homesteads. WONESU distributed rabbits to the farmers from stock of our pioneer members- Olivia Achieng and Josephine Anyango- Korando A members. We expect more rabbits to kid in the next quarter (January- March 2021). The number of new rabbit farmers also expected to increase as they prepare to construct rabbit units in their homesteads.



Charles Okore- Korando A member posed for photo next to newly constructed rabbit unit in his homestead.



Patrick Nyakwaka – Korando C member put rabbits back into the unit during follow up visit in his homestead.

3.3.4 Dairy Cow Production



Berlyne Ndolo and Mary Amonde—during follow up visit on John Oguna’s dairy cow shade- farm in Lela

WONESU farmers also employ artificial insemination amongst other best animal management practices for breeding and production of dairy cows of Freshian and Ashire breeds on their farms. These breeds easily adapt to different weather conditions, have high milk production, high butter content in milk and experience a fast breeding cycle. The farmers therefore plant different fodder crops of nappier grasses, molato grasses and leguminous crops like sweet potatoes vines and desmodium. Our farmers also supplement feeds/ feeding with natural fodder like sesbania, black jack and other natural grasses. They have also constructed standard units/ cow shades that ensure controlled breeding, enhanced manure collection for production of local vegetables/ grains, ensured proper feeds/feeding, enhanced records keeping, disease control, early detection and treatment amongst others hence improved productivity. Milk production is for their families’ consumption as surplus is sold to the nearby markets for additional income.



Elizabeth Oliech – Korando B2 member provided feeds to dairy cows in her homestead.



Korando B1 heifer inside the caretakers homestead in Korando area

3.3.5 Crops Production

3.3.5.1 Banana production



Banana plantation on Charles Akinyi's farm in Lela

WONESU organized trainings, exchange visits for our farmers on production of both *Fear 16* and *Fear 17* banana species. Both the species of bananas are resistant to most common banana diseases like banana wilt, the root fibers are also well established therefore resistant to wind erosion, generates more suckers hence recommended for seed bulking, high production in quality and quantity hence suitable for income generation. Our farmers continue to establish plantations of bananas across their farms. Currently, mature banana sucks are harvested across our members farms, ripened and either consumed at family levels or/and surplus sold to the markets. Banana production has therefore ensured additional income for our farmers to meet very basic family's needs. These include purchase of food items of sugar, flour, salt, cooking oil amongst others. Some of our farmers have used proceeds from sale of banana fruits to meet education costs of their children- paid school levies and purchased school materials.



Magret Ogolla - Korando B2 member posed for photo inside banana plantation on her farm.



Magret Ogolla displayed ripe bananas in her house that were ready to sell in Otonglo market.



Everlyne Lumumba posed for photo just shortly after she harvested mature banana suck from banana plantation on her farm.



Banana plantation on Teresa Ogalo-Korando B2 member's farm



Banana plantation on Benson Ochieng's farm in Lela area

As the project progresses, in future there will be need to train our farmers on value addition strategies to boost income. The strategies may include training on production of banana juices, banana crisps, baking banana cakes and scones amongst others.

3.3.5.2 Production of Orchards



Patrick Nyakwaka – Korando C member on his orchards. He provided support to banana plants to prevent destruction by strong winds.

WONESU also trained, purchased and distributed different fruit seedlings to our farmers for production of orchards on their farms. These fruits include grafted mangoes, avocados, oranges and paw paws fruits. Currently the fruits seedlings have established others at vegetative growth stages and some at fruiting stages of fruits development on various farms. We plan to expand (enroll new farmers) production of fruits orchards in the region (Kisumu West Sub County) in 2021.

3.3.5.3 Production of Local Vegetables



Local vegetables of black night shade on Beatrice AChieng- Korando B1 members farm.

WONESU also purchases and distributes high breed seeds of local vegetables to our farmers in the region (Kisumu West Sub County). Therefore, they continued production of these fast maturing and highly nutritious local vegetables of amaranthas, black night shade, spider plant, spinach, kales and cow peas on their farms. Basically, local vegetables production is for their families' consumption- vegetables meals, for sale to individuals (in their neighborhoods) and vegetable vendors from local markets- for income generation. WONESU also train the farmers from time to time on best farming management practices like spraying against aphids and diseases like vegetables blight, addition of manure to provide more nutrients, timely weeding to get rid of unwanted plants that host pests / compete for nutrients and lower productivity. As a result our farmers sell on weekly basis to their customers in the neighboring markets. Our farmers therefore use the proceeds from sale of their vegetables to meet very basic needs of their families.



Kales vegetables on Charles Okore- Korando A member's farm

3.3.5.4. Passion fruits production



Passion fruit tree on Josephine Anyango- Korando A members farm

Our farmers also continued production of passion fruits across their farms. WONESU train the farmers on best farming and crops management practices. As a result some of the passion fruits plants have flowered, matured and harvested for families' consumption. However, we have observed that the first generations of passion fruit trees planted two years ago slowly drying up. This is attributed to the rocky soil up the hills in Korando area. The rocks get hot in dry seasons hence providing grounds for pests breeding. The upper hill area also receives very strong winds therefore during flowering stages they fall off prematurely hence decline in productivity. We plan to expand production of passion fruits in lower parts of Korando area and Lela areas in 2021.



Passion fruit plant on Magret Oloo- Korando C member's farm.

3.3.5.5. Tree Tomato Production



Tree tomato plant on Patrick Nyakwaka- Korando C member's farm

WONESU purchased and distributed tree tomatoes seedlings for pilot production with selected farmers in the region (Kisumu West Sub County). Basically tree tomatoes are rich in vitamins, carbohydrates, proteins, fat, calcium and potassium – thus helps in immune boosting. It also helps in controlling diabetes since it contains chlorogenic acids which help lower sugar content in human body amongst others. Tree tomatoes also matures within nine to twelve months, are resistant to nematodes (pests), resistant to drought- can do better with little rainfall, have longer lifespan and as such can be harvested for longer period of time. We therefore train our farmers on best farming management practices that include: provision of manure to provide more nutrients, watering during dry spell to provide moisture and mulching to conserve moisture around the rooting zones- also done during dry spells.

As the project will progress there will be need to train our farmers on production of juices, jam and tomatoes pastes from tree tomatoes. This will ensure more profits to the farmers in our target area (Kisumu West Sub County).

3.3.5.6. Paw Paw Fruits Production



Paw paws plant on Jecinter Okongo – Korando C member's farm.

Our farmers also continue production of hybrid variety of paw paw fruits on their farms. WONESU train the farms on production of paw paw seeds through establishment of nursery beds, after which paw paw seedlings have been transplanted to members' farms. Currently, there are hundreds of paw paw fruit trees that have established some at vegetative growth stage, flowering / fruiting and maturity stages on our members' farms in the region. Our farmers harvest paw paw fruits from time to time for their families' consumption. They also sell paw paw fruits to their neighbors and markets and purchase basic food items for their families.



Paw paw trees on the vegetative stage of growth on Rose Amondi- Korando B1 members farm.

3.3.5.7. Pumpkin Production



Leotine Bodo- Korando B1 member displayed pumpkin fruit in the plantation on her farm during follow up visit.

In Kisumu West Sub County, our farmers also produce pumpkins on their farms. To improve productivity we do ensure our farmers' twine together pumpkin stems to make them grow to restricted areas. Twining of the stems also help prevent pumpkin plantations from animals and human destruction. Currently across our members farms, pumpkin plantations have generated leaves, some have flowered, fruited and more expected to fruit. Our farmers harvest pumpkin leaves consume in their families and sell surplus to meet basic family needs.

Mature pumpkin fruits are also harvested for their families' consumption and for sale. The proceeds are then used to purchase basic food items for their families.



Pumpkin plantation on Marsela Onger Korando A member's farm

3.3.5.8. Grafted Mangoes Production

WONESU farmers in the region (Kisumu West Sub County) also produce grafted mangoes of *ngowe* and *apple* species. Grafted mangoes require minimal space for growth, takes a shorter time to mature- (2-3 years), production is also high in terms of quality and quantity compared to the indigenous mangoes species. We train our farmers on best farming and crops management practices that also include spraying the plants to initiate and sustain production of flowers and fruits.



Everlyne Lumumba – Korando B1 member removed dry leaves from the grafted mangoes tree on her farm.

3.3.6. Savings and Loaning Schemes (Table Banking)



Korando A members in past savings and loaning scheme meeting in Magdalene okore's house

WONESU farmer groups also initiated savings and loaning schemes in their various groups. These involve member's weekly monetary contribution of shares, loaning of the shares and repaying back at 10% interest rate over a period of one month. The savings and loaning scheme then revolves for a maximum period of one year after which members are paid back all their shares contribution, savings and interests earned on the savings.

Over the years our beneficiary groups' members have used the proceeds from savings and loaning schemes to pay school levies for their children, boost their small scale businesses stocks and purchased food for their families. They have expanded production of pure breeds of goats. The groups have also purchased plastic chairs for hire at a fee- income generation for the group. However, corona virus pandemic led to reduced income from their small scale businesses that in turn affected weekly shares contributions, loans uptake, reduced interest earned. Schools also closed and children continued stay at home also placed a greater burden of care on them and the pressure to generate livelihoods amidst the economic hardship. As the year (2020) came to an end all the groups did sharing out. They planned to pay school levies, purchase school related requirements for their children from the monies earned. Ministry of Education planned to reopen schools on 4th January 2021. WONESU groups will continue savings and loaning schemes in their various groups in the same month (January 2021).



Mary Amonde joined members of Korando B1 in one of their savings and loaning scheme meeting.

4.0. FOERDERVEREIN WATOTO: AFRIKAS STARKE KINDER e.V. ACTIVITIES

4.1. Adolescent's Mentorship Program

4.1.1. Knit and Chat Club.

Objective: To mentor 200 adolescents' girls through collective responsibility into responsible future adults



Berlyne Ndolo in past mentorship with adolescent girls (15- 16 year olds) in Oluowa Primary School

The Ministry of Education in this quarter (October- December 2020) partially reopened schools on 12th October 2020 for only candidate's classes- (class four and eight for primary schools). However, classes' five to seven pupils continued their stay at home and as such adolescent girls within slums and rural areas still exposed to a lot of social injustices. Adolescents (aged 10 to 19) are in a key phase of their life that is- making rapid transitions from childhood to adulthood. Therefore, critical shocks or negative events in this period of life- such as gender-based-violence, rape, defilement, teenage pregnancy, child prostitution- on the rise during COVID- 19 period and school dropout negatively alters the course of adolescent girls' lives.

Our Adolescent Girls Mentors (Berlyne Ndolo and Molline Akinyi) continued mentorship sessions in our partner schools. During the sessions some adolescent girls reported not being sure of returning/ continuing when schools reopened due to difficulty in paying school fees- (occasioned by loss of income for their caregivers). While government primary schools (WONESU partner schools) are free, there are extra costs for things like examinations and uniforms amongst others.

There are also anecdotal reports of highly vulnerable adolescents' girls that are experiencing violence, forced to work and also engage in transactional sex just to get a source of income from the slums and rural areas- (COVID-19 period). These extreme outcomes should be monitored and addressed as they are likely to rise with the prolonged social and economic hardship. It is also important that stakeholders' needs to account for the economic hardship caused by COVID-19 and not keep girls out of school if households cannot afford to send them back to school in January 2021. These adolescents are in need of immediate social protection and assistance.

WONESU will also work closely with stakeholders on back to school campaigns for adolescent girls when schools reopen in January 2021. This will be to make sure that the most vulnerable adolescent girls return to and stay in school and that COVID-19 does not lead to irreversible outcomes for adolescent's girls in Kenya for decades to come.



Molline Akinyi also held discussions with adolescent girls in Obinju Kanyakwar Primary School



Berlyne Ndolo in a mentorship session with adolescent girls in Ngege Primary School



Adolescent girls in Obinju Kanyakwar Primary during mentorship session in the school compound



Berlyne Ndolo during a special session - mentorship for adolescent girls (15-16 year olds) in Obinju Kanyakwar Primary School compound

WONESU also distributed the much needed sanitary towels after we found out (during home-visits and meetings with adolescent girls in our partner schools) that most girls have no food, basic supplies like sanitary towels or the resources to study from home.



Adolescent girls in Ogango Primary School posed for photo after they received sanitary towels in the school compound.



Obinju Kanyakwar Primary School adolescent girls also posed for photo after they received sanitary towel in the school compound.



Kodiaga Primary School adolescent girls posed for photo in the school compound after they received sanitary towels.



Adolescent girls in Manyatta Arab Primary School also posed for photo in the school compound after they received sanitary towels.

4.1.2. Kick and Chat Club

Objective: To mentor 200 adolescent boys through collective responsibility into responsible future adults



Paul Tieng'o during boys' mentorship session in Obinju Kanyakwar Primary School

Our Adolescent Boys Mentor (Paul Tieng'o) also continued mentorship sessions for adolescent boys across our partner schools- Obinju Kanyakwar, Ngege, Sinyolo, Oluowa and Kambudi Primary Schools after schools reopened on 12th October 2020. From the sessions we found out that adolescent boys suffer from negative peer influence which has made some of them to get involved in drug abuse, premarital sex, loitering in the streets of the towns. There also appears to be more pressure from the families on adolescent boys to go out and work or look for income. In fact some of them are doing manual labor work in order to get food for their families- COVID-19 period. Some of them are also losing their focus on learning and this means that some might not go back to school when the schools will be reopened in January 2021. There are also reports of increase in domestic violence at home, family breakups most of which are occasioned by tough economic situation caused by COVID-19. The mentorship sessions for adolescent boys will be continued in our partner schools in the next quarter (January – March 2021).

WONESU will work closely with stakeholders on back to school campaigns for adolescent boys when schools reopen in January 2021. This will be to make sure that the most vulnerable adolescent boys return to and stay in school and that COVID-19 does not lead to irreversible outcomes for adolescent's boys in Kenya for decades to come.



Adolescent boys in Oluowa Primary School during mentorship session in their school



Ngege Primary School adolescent boys in past mentorship session in their classroom. Paul Tieng'o led the sessions.



Paul Tieng'o in a past mentorship session with adolescent boys in Sinyolo Primary School compound. In attendance were also male teachers from the school.



Adolescent boys in Kambudi Primary School posed for photo outside their classroom after mentorship session.

5.0. TEAM DIMA GLOBAL ACTIVITIES

5.1. School Feeding

Objective: To improve quality of education through provision of nutritive food supplements to over 500 vulnerable children in Oluowa Primary School.



Paul Tiengo and children in Oluowa Primary School posed for photo after they received feeding program materials.

In Kenya, all learning institutions were initially closed as part of the measures to mitigate spread of COVID-19. The closure of institutions brought forth numerous economic and social issues. They included interrupted/ loss of learning, education exclusion, homelessness, economic crisis, childcare challenges/ increase sexual exploitation- teenage pregnancy cases and financial cost implication to households amongst others. The effects have been more severe for the underprivileged children and their households from the urban poor and rural communities.

However, The Ministry of Education partially reopened schools for candidate's classes- (class four and eight for primary schools) on 12th October 2020. WONESU distributed feeding materials to Oluowa Primary School. Feeding program provides both educational and health benefits for the most vulnerable children thereby increasing enrolment rates, reducing absenteeism and improving food security at the household levels. We also continued our discussions with Team Dima Global on interventions to support children in Oluowa Primary School in 2021.



Berlyne Ndolo, Mary Amonde and Christine Onyango served porridge to children in Oluowa Primary School compound.



Paul Tiengo served porridge to children in Oluowa Primary School



Children in Oluowa Primary School as they enjoyed cup of porridge in their school compound

6.0. WONESU INTERNAL AFFAIRS

6.1. Our Staff



*Our staff members in the front row; from left- Mary Amonde and Paul Tieng'o
Next row, from left- Berlyne Ndolo, Bernard Mboga, Molline Akinyi and Christine Onyango*

*Report Compiled by Berlyne Ndolo
For WONESU*