

WORLD NETWORK FOR SUSTAINABLE CHANGE (WONESU)



PROGRESS REPORT: JANUARY – APRIL 2021

COMPILED BY BERLYNE NDOLO

FOR WONESU

FOREWORD

Happy New Year! We have come to the end of this period- January- April 2021 and thank God Almighty for His guidance, care and protection. We also thank our donors *Foerdereverein 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 six 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

Schools reopened on 4th January 2020, WONESU provided school feeding materials to our eight partner schools. This ensured over 4000 children fed on nutritious porridge through financial support from BdP, Team Dima Global and Foerderverein Afrikas starke Kinder e.V. Our adolescent boys and girls aged 9-17 year olds mentorship sessions also continued in Ngege and Obinju Kanyakwar Primary Schools. We also extended our meetings with adolescent girls and boys across more partner schools- Manyatta Arab, Ogango, Oluowa, Wachara and Kambudi Primary Schools. This was to monitor and address outcomes of prolonged COVID-19 break (nine months children stay at home) on adolescent girls and boys from slums and rural areas. Mentorship sessions provide avenues for adolescent girls and boys to identify / discuss problems they faced in their day to day lives. They also provided inborn and own grown solutions to their problems hence informed decisions on matters their lives/ parents/ guardians/ teachers and society in general. We also distributed six hundred (600) packets of disposable sanitary towels to adolescent girls in Manyatta Arab, Ogango, Kodiaga and Obinju Kanyakwar Primary Schools.

Our nursery art sessions with children in Obinju Kanyakwar and Manyatta Arab Nursery School sections also continued. Christine Onyango engaged the children in drawing, coloring, mosaic, playing with toys, songs and tales. As reported by the teachers' art sessions of drawing, coloring, molding and mosaic enables children focus, think right and also develop their brains.

Molline Akinyi – (Our production officer) also continued production of reusable sanitary towels in our back office space. We therefore distributed after sensitization on use, hygiene and storage methods to 43 adolescent girls in Wachara Primary School. The project aims to ensure adolescent girls easily access menstrual hygiene management products with longer utility period. 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”. Molline Akinyi also sewed school uniforms (in our back office space) to seventy eight (78) children from Ngege and Kodiaga Primary School. The uniforms will be distributed to the children when schools reopen in May 2021.

In Agriculture Program we continued our support to Korando beneficiary groups- Korando A, B1, B2, C and D. We also expanded our interventions to Lela potential Farmers group and therefore continued production of livestock; goats, rabbits, dairy cows and chicken. Our farmers also produced vegetables of pumpkins, spinach, kales, black night shade in their kitchen gardens for sale and families consumption. Production of fruits of passion fruits, grafted mangoes, bananas and paw paws also continued in various beneficiaries' farms. In fact fruits of passion fruits, paw paws and bananas that matured were harvested for sale and families consumption. We held one day training on livestock and crops production to our farmers in Lela area.

Finally, WONESU also engaged Khoya &Co. who conducted audit of our financial accounts for 2020 period. In compliance with regulations governing operations of Non-Governmental Organizations in Kenya we also submitted audited report of our accounts to NGO Board office in Kisumu.

2. GERMAN REGIONAL SCOUTS ASSOCIATION- (B-d-P) ACTIVITIES

2.1. School Feeding

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

Our partnership with schools; Manyatta Arab, Ogango, Kodiaga, Usoma, Nyaduong and Ngege Primary Schools continued and we distributed feeding materials. These in turn ensured 3760 children fed on enriched/ nutritious porridge on daily basis. 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. In fact reports by teachers from our partner schools have attributed remarkable performance improvement in Kenya Certificate of Primary (KCPE) examinations done in March 2021 to our school feeding program.



Jamila Idi -cook served porridge to children in Usoma Primary School compound



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



Adelite Abuto- school cook served children porridge in Manyatta Arab Primary School compound.



Children in Nyaduong Primary School served porridge in their school compound by the cook- Janet Akinyi.

2.2. Adolescents Girls: Menstrual Hygiene Management

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



Berlyne Ndolo and Molline Akinyi during a follow up meeting with adolescent girls aged 12 – 17 year olds in Kambudi Primary School.

In this period, our team (Berlyne Ndolo and Molline Akinyi) did follow up visits and meetings with adolescent girls in Kambudi and Wachara Primary Schools. The meeting was organized for purposes of assessing the impact of *hope* pads-(reusable sanitary towels) previously distributed to them in the last quarter of year 2020.

Our production officer- (Molline Akinyi) also continued production of more reusable sanitary (*Hope*) towels. We then distributed *Hope* sanitary towels to forty three (43) adolescent girls in Wachara Primary School after sensitization on use/ storage. We shall continue follow up visits and distribution of hope pads adolescent girls in our partner schools in the next period- May-August 2021.



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



Mercy Anyango- An adolescent girl also demonstrated steps to follow in washing hope pads in Wachara Primary School.



Adolescent girls in Wachara Primary School posed for photo after they received packs of hope pads in their school compound.

WONESU previous application to Kenya Youth Empowerment & Opportunities Project (KYEOP) and National Industrial Training Authority (NITA) in Kisumu to be contracted as “Master Craftsmen”- to offer tailoring and dressmaking course was received. We submitted more relevant documents as per their request in this period and wait for further directions. In the next period- (May- August 2021) we shall also mobilize young mothers within our target area and sensitize them on use, re-use and storage of hope pads. In our meetings with them we shall also find young mothers interested in taking up training in tailoring and dressmaking and together design methodology for their enrolment, trainings in our office space and final examinations at NITA.

2.3. School Uniforms

Objective: To increase enrolment and retention rates of school children in Kodiaga and Ngege Primary Schools.

WONESU team in this period visited Kodiaga and Ngege Primary Schools and together with the teachers identified needy children for school uniform distribution. The children were then fitted for school uniforms distribution. Molline Akinyi (our production staff and Victor Noi-also tailor specialized in male garments production) sew seventy eight (78) uniforms in our back office space. The uniforms will be delivered to the children when schools reopen in May 2021.



Molline Akinyi fitted for school tunic a pupil in Kodiaga Primary School



Molline Akinyi sews school uniforms for identified children from Ngege and Kodiaga Primary Schools in our back office.

2.4. Agriculture Program

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

2.4.1 Goats Production



Toggenburg doe in Jacob Juma-.Lela Potential Farmers group member's homestead.

Our farmer groups in Lela and Korando areas continued production of goats- local does, F1, F2, F3, Toggenburg and sannen generations of goats and practice livestock management skills they have acquired through training/ exchange visits. These include weekly spraying, quarterly deworming, hooves trimming, construction of units and feeds / feeding goats on recommended fodder plants on their farms and natural fodder growing in the surrounding environment. Our farmers also use goats' wastes as manure for production of local vegetables and other grains across their farms in both Korando and Lela areas. Consistency in adhering to good animal husbandry ensured reduction on overall cost of production. There is also increased crops production through improved soil structure and fertility through addition of microorganisms from animal wastes.



Monica Atieno- Lela Potential Farmers group member also posed for photo with her flock of goats during a follow up visit.

As the project progress, our farmer groups in Korando area dispose buck kids of F1, F2 generations of goats in their farms. This is to control breeding and also ensure additional income to our farmers. From their reports the proceeds from sale of bucks has been used to pay school levies (in primary, secondary and colleges) and purchase food items for their families. To effectively achieve our objective our farmers also employ their skills on early detection of signs/ symptoms of common goats diseases for immediate treatment by our consultant veterinary officer based in Kodiaga Prison. We also engage the consultant veterinary officer for routine checks to monitor health of the goats and sick goats are immediately treated in both Korando and Lela areas. This has ensured reduced mortality rate among our project goats in both areas.



Desmodium plantation-fodder crops on Wilkister Anyango- Korando A members farm in Korando area

WONESU organized one day training on poultry and crops production for *Lela Potential Farmers* group members. The trainings were facilitated by officer from Ministry of Agriculture- Kisumu County and International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology- ICIPE. From the trainings several areas of crops management practices were addressed. They included need to consider seed type, seeds viability, seeds suitability to Lela area, appropriate time for planting, weeding, manure application to the farms and post-harvest management among others. As regards poultry production the training focused on the needs of the farmers that included – types/ varieties of poultry- their adaptability to different areas, management of one day to six months old chicken, construction of standard units, hygiene/ sanitation of units, signs/ symptoms of common poultry diseases and management, sorting of eggs/ management and marketing of poultry products. WONESU and our facilitators planned for joint follow up visits to our farmers after the training to monitor progress and continue imparting advising our farmers on best crops and animal husbandry.



Our farmer group in Lela- Potential Farmers Self Help Group during training organized in Dickson Odhiambo's (also group member) homestead.



Lillian Ogola- Ministry of Livestock Kisumu County trained on poultry production in Lela

2.4.2 Poultry Production



Magdalene Okore- Korando A member posed for photo in front of the poultry unit under construction in her homestead.

In Korando and Lela areas our farmers also produce local, improved and pure breeds of chicken on their farms. They employ relevant skills and good management practices like provision of standard housing, feeds/ feeding, maintaining hygiene and administer all required vaccines to their flock to boost production of chicken. This has in turn reduced losses of poultry stocks to infectious diseases such as Newcastle, Gumboro and fowl typhoid amongst others very common in the areas. From their reports when schools reopened in January 2021 they sold mature chicken at their farm gates, nearby markets and used proceeds to supplement education needs of their children. Some of the farmers also used the proceeds to meet costs of ploughing their farms for production of grains – (January to June period). Production of rainbow roosters' breed of chicken among our farmers in Korando area was however affected by down turn in businesses caused by measures put in place by Ministry of Health to mitigate spread of COVID-19. Our farmers therefore lost their other business sources and experienced challenges to adequately provide recommended commercial feeds that boost growth and increase weight of chicken. This in turn slowed growth thereby leading to extended period of production. The chickens are disposed in phases and will clear the stock by end of May 2021.



Local chicken flock in Jecinter Atieno- Lela farmers homestead



Part of improved breed of chicken in Jane Omuodo- Korando A member chicken unit



Musa Awuor – Lela farmer posed for photo in front of the newly constructed chicken unit in his homestead.

2.4.3 Rabbits Production



Rabbit' feeding on vegetables leaves in the unit in Olivia Achieng- Korando A member

WONESU farmer also produce rabbits in their farms. They also use the rich in nitrogen and potassium rabbits waste as manure for production of local vegetables and other crops alongside the rabbit's urine as insecticide for controlling aphids. The rabbits kidded sixteen (16) rabbits across our farmers units in this period. More rabbits are expectant and are expected to kid by the month of June 2021. To improve productivity we plan to replace buck rabbits among the first distributed flock since they have grown old and now experiencing decline in productivity. We also plan to expand production of rabbits through distribution (pass on model) to more farmers by June 2021.



Part of rabbit's sun basking in Jared Ouma- Korando A members home as others stayed in their units.

2.4.4 Production of Cows

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. They also produce crossbreeds of local and pure breeds of cows on their farms. The farmers also 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 fodder to the dairy cows in her homestead.



Korando B1 groups heifer in the caretaker's compound in Korando area.

2.4.5 Crops Production

2.4.5.1 Banana production

Our farmers in Korando and Lela areas planted more plantations of bananas across their farms in this period. Mature banana suckers are also harvested on weekly basis ripened and consumed in their families. Averagely banana harvests' by our farmers has now exceeded family consumption limits. Farmers therefore sell bananas to retailers at farm gates and in the nearby markets- Lela, Otonglo and Prison warders' quarters. Banana production in both areas continues to boost income for our farmers who 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 and medication expenses of the children under their care. We also introduced a new banana variety of "Ngombe" specie- equally high yielding, adoptable to weather changes and also resistant to banana diseases like banana wilt to our farmers in Korando area. This specie is from our neighboring county of Kisii. Banana suckers will be passed on to farmers within their respective groups.



Elizabeth Oliech- Korando B2 member also posed for photo by the banana plantation on her farm during follow up visit.



Magret Ogola- Korando B2 member posed for photo inside banana plantation in her farm



Wilkister Anyango- Korando A member also posed for photo shortly after she harvested banana suck from her plantation.



Banana plantation on Josephine Anyango – Korando A member's farm

2.4.5.2 Production of Orchards

Orchards production of grafted mangoes, avocados, bananas, tree tomatoes, passion fruits and paw paws seeks to: provide gathered space for abundant harvesting, ensure continuous production- once a fruit is established it provides a large yield with little human input, conducive to healthy, diverse and resilient systems while reducing impact on climate change and environmental degradation, fruit trees will also provide both food and nutrition security to households. Our farmers harvested mature banana sucks and paw paws from their orchards for their families' consumption and surplus sold to the nearby markets. Other fruits of avocados, grafted mangoes, passion fruits and tree tomatoes' are at their vegetative growth stages of development across our members' orchard farms. We plan to plant more orchards across our members' farms by mid of this year (2021).



Patrick Nyakwaka- Korando C member after he harvested mature paw paw fruit from his orchards.



Jecinter Okongo' – Korando C member inside orchards farm

2.4.5.3 Production of Local Vegetables

Our farmers also produce fast maturing, highly nutritious and highly demandable local vegetables of amaranthas, black night shade, spider plant, spinach, kales and cow peas on their farms. They produce local vegetables for their families' consumption- (vegetables meals) and for sale to individuals at the farm gates- (in their neighborhoods) and vegetable vendors from local markets- for income generation. To improve productivity crops management practices are also employed by our farmers like spraying against aphids, diseases- (vegetables blight), addition of manure to provide more nutrients, timely weeding to get rid of unwanted plants that host pests / compete for nutrients\ lower productivity. As a result our farmers sell local vegetables on weekly basis to nearby markets, vendors and individual's at farm gates. As reported by our farmers proceeds from sale of vegetables are used to purchase food items for their families and pay school levies for children under their care. We also distributed seeds of these local vegetables for production in through the next period.



Kitchen garden –spinach vegetables on Franscisca Ogonyo- Korando B2 member's farm



Kales vegetables planted on Joshua Onoka- Korando C member's farm.



Jared Ouma- Korando A member inside his kitchen garden of tomatoes and kales



Musa Awuor- Lela Potential farmers- group member harvested vegetables during follow up visit on his farm.

2.4.5.4. Passion fruits production



Passion fruit plant on Joshua Onoka- Korando C member's farm

The rains continue to pour in this period and passion fruits plants regenerated their vegetative growth, some passion fruit plants flowered in readiness for fruiting and mature ones were harvested for families' consumption. Our farmers also used rails and strings to twin the plant to grow to desired direction and also prevent rotting of fruits. We also sprayed the plants during flowering stages for production of more flowers and hence more fruiting. We plan to introduce purple fruits passion fruit specie within lower parts of Korando area and Lela areas by June 2021.

2.4.5.5. Tree Tomato Production

WONESU piloted production of tree tomatoes with selected farmers in Lela and Korando areas. Continues trainings on best crops management practices that included 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 and follow up visits with our farmers ensured the tree tomatoes established. In Korando area the tree tomatoes experienced stunted growth and yellowish leaves as others dried up. This is attributed to soil type that hindered their growth. However, in Lela the tree tomatoes established, developed high vegetative growth, generated more flowers and fruits. The farmers in Lela harvested mature fruits and consumed in their families. We therefore plan to distribute more seedlings of tree tomatoes to our farmers in Lela area by June 2021.



Tree tomatoe plants in Charles Akinyi farm in Lela area



Tree tomatoes on Benson farm in Lela area

2.4.5.6. Paw Paw Fruits Production



Jecinter Okongo- Korando C member posed for photo by the paw paw plant on her farm

WONESU farmers also continue production of hybrid variety of paw paw fruits on their farms. Therefore there are hundreds of paw paw fruit trees that have been planted with some at vegetative growth stage, flowering / fruiting and maturity stages on our members' farms. In this period, our farmers harvested paw paw fruits on weekly basis for their families' consumption. The surplus harvests of paw paw fruits were sold to the neighbors, at gate farms and markets and proceeds used to purchase basic food items like sugar, flour, cooking oil e.t.c for their families. Our farmers will plant more paw paw seeds (preserved from previous harvests) by June 2021-(this is to allow the rains to subside).



Paw paw fruit plant- sunshine specie on Mary Adede- Korando C member's farm.

2.4.5.7. Pumpkin Production



Pumpkin plantation on Leotine Bodo- korando B1 member's farm in Korando area

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. The previous pumpkin plantations were uprooted after they outgrew therefore experiencing low productivity. As the rains poured in this period our farmers planted seeds preserved from previous harvests which have generated leaves- (vegetative growth stage of development). Our farmers will start harvesting pumpkin leaves for consumption in their families and sell surplus to meet basic family needs from June 2021.

2.4.5.8. Grafted Mangoes Production

In this period, WONESU farmers produce grafted mangoes of *ngowe* and *apple* species. We also monitored our farmers to ensure they employ best farming and crops management practices that also include spraying the plants to initiate and sustain production of flowers and fruits. Some grafted mangoes trees fruited and are expected to mature by July 2021. Our farmers plan to consume at families' levels and sell surplus for additional income.



Apple species of grafted mango tree in Jecinter Okongo – Korando C members farm.



Grafted mangoes tree in Patrick Lumumba's farm in Korando

2.4.6. Savings and Loaning Schemes (Table Banking)

WONESU farmer groups- (Korando area) also renewed their engagements in savings and loaning schemes in their various groups in this period. This is after all groups- shared out in December 2020. They contribute weekly monetary shares, loaning of the shares and repaying back at 10% interest rate over a period of time usually maximum of one month. Our farmer groups are again expected to share out in December 2021.

COVID-19 containment measures initially put in place by Ministry of health did affect their businesses hence their weekly shares contributions. This in turn affected overall member's shares of 2020 period-(sharing out) as some members were not able to repay in time all the monies they borrowed from their groups. However, some of our members reported that they used proceeds to supplement payment of school levies for their children, boost their small scale businesses stocks and purchased food for their families. The sannen pure breed of goat initially purchased from proceeds of loaning and savings scheme by Korando C beneficiary group kidded a buck- now four months old. They plan to sell the kid and purchase another pure doe of sannen breed. Korando C beneficiary group had also purchased plastic chairs for hire at a fee-income generation for the group, as measures to contain spread of novel corona virus were slightly relaxed they are slowly generating income to the group from hire for use in various functions in Korando area. Korando A and Korando C beneficiary groups also received motivation package and ploughed into their savings and loaning schemes (money given to the groups to help them realize further steps in the project). Both groups plan to purchase more plastic chairs after sharing out in December 2021.



Korando C group pure doe and four months old buck kid in Joshua Onoka's homestead. Also with him is Patrick Nyakwaka – group member.

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

3.1. School Feeding

Objective: To improve quality of education through provision of nutritive food supplements to over 200 vulnerable children in Obinju Kanyakwar Primary School.

WONESU did distribute feeding materials to Obinju Kanyakwar Primary School in this period. As reported by schools teachers feeding program provides both educational and health benefits for these most vulnerable children thereby increasing enrolment rates, reducing absenteeism and improving food security at the household levels.



Children in Obinju Kanyakwar Primary School enjoy cup of porridge inside their classroom



A section of children in Obinju Kanyakwar Primary School enjoyed cup of porridge in their classroom.

3.2. Nursery Art

Objective: To promote learning and holistic development of children aged 3-6 year olds in Obinju Kanyakwar and Manyatta Arab Nursery Schools.



Children aged 4-6 year olds engaged in drawing and coloring in Obinju Nursery School section.

In this period (January–April 2021) our Nursery Art Facilitator (Christine Onyango) also held meetings with over 170 children aged 3-6 year olds in both Manyatta Arab and Obinju Kanyakwar Nursery School sections. Our children engaged in sessions of drawing, coloring, mosaic, playing with toys, songs and tales. In drawing and coloring children did images of cars, dolls, flowers and pots. Tales sessions introduce children to wonderful ideas, places, and creatures they haven't encountered before. Children are able to learn more about life, the world, and also help in cultural understanding as telling tales allows pupils to experience different worlds, countries, and traditions. Tales has been proven to help develop a sense of empathy as children are encouraged to put themselves in the position of the story's character to consider their actions and reactions. Additionally, curiosity, imagination and communication are more encountered when telling tales to children. Tales increases children willingness to express themselves and communicate their thoughts and feelings.

The baby class children also enjoyed sessions for playing with toys in both partner schools. As reported by the teachers our art activities promote school attendance, enables children focus, think right and promote physical and mental development.



Obinju Kanyakwar Nursery school children in drawing and coloring in their classroom during art session, in the photo below children then showcased their drawings after the art sessions.



Children in Obinju Kanyakwar Nursery School section showcased drawings in their classroom.



Children in Manyatta Arab Nursery School section also enjoyed sessions of drawing and coloring in their classrooms.



Manyatta Arab Nursery School section showcased their drawings inside their classroom



Baby class children in Obinju Kanyakwar Nursery section played with toys in their classroom.

3.3. Adolescent's Mentorship Program

3.3.1. Knit and Chat Club.

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



Berlyne Ndolo was joined by Madam Benter Awimbo (teacher) during mentorship session with adolescent girls aged (13-17 year olds) in Ogango Primary School.

Our Adolescent Girls Mentor (Berlyne Ndolo) continued mentorship sessions after schools reopened (in January 2021) in our partner schools- Obinju Kanyakwar and Ngege Primary Schools. We also extended our meetings with adolescent girls across more partner schools- Mayatta Arab, Ogango, Oluowa, Wachara and Kambudi Primary Schools in our target areas- Kisumu East, Kisumu Central and Kisumu West Sub Counties. This was to monitor and address outcomes of prolonged COVID-19 break (nine months children stay at home) on adolescent girls from slums and rural areas.

Over the years, we established that poverty push adolescent girls from slums / rural areas into activities that expose them to sexual exploitation - having sex in exchange for money and food. In such situations, adolescent girls are often at risk of teenage pregnancy, sexually transmitted infections, including HIV/ Aids and violence such as rape. The situation was compounded by closure of schools as one of the measures put in place to control spread of COVID-19. According to Kenya Health Information System (KHIS) over three thousand (3,500) school girls were impregnated during COVID-19 lockdowns in Kisumu County. In fact in our meetings with adolescent girls through visits to partner schools, we confirmed several cases of teenage mothers/ pupils and pregnant adolescent girls-as young as 12 year olds who are back in school to pursue their dreams. From the adolescent girls reports the high number of teenage pregnancy was attributed to lack of food at home, lack of sanitary towels and negative peer influence among adolescents. Together with teachers in the schools we offered counseling services to teenage mothers/ pupils. We also visited their homes for psychological support to also their parents'- particularly mothers.

However, in Ngege and Obinju Kanyakwar Primary Schools (where we hold several mentorship sessions) did not register any cases of teenage pregnancy. This as reported by the school teachers is attributed to one of the impact of WONESU mentorship sessions that provide forum to adolescent girls to share their challenges as well as solutions to their problems. 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 and basic supplies like sanitary towels.



Berlyne Ndolo in mentorship session with adolescent girls aged 12-17 year olds in Obinju Kanyakwar Primary School.



Adolescent girls aged 12- 17 year olds in a past mentorship session with Berlyne Ndolo in Wachara Primary School compound.



Manyatta Arab Primary School adolescent girls in a mentorship session in their school compound.



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



Manyatta Arab Primary School adolescent girls posed for photo after they received sanitary towels in their school compound.



Adolscent girls in Obinju Kanyakwar Primary School also posed for photo after they received sanitary towels.

WONESU in collaboration with other stakeholders – Area Advisory Council Kisumu West Sub County, also participated in planning campaigns through local administration meetings –locally referred to as “*chiefs’ baraza*” usually held at location levels, primarily to sensitize the community on the need to ensure all adolescent girls report back to school. The campaigns also seek to sensitize the parents on their roles in molding and upbringing responsible future adults. However, the plans/Campaigns were suspended by Ministry of Health after we suffered the third wave of COVID-19 in Kenya. The plans will be implemented as soon as the situation eases.

3.3.2. Kick and Chat Club

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



Paul Tiengo during mentorship session with adolescent boys in Obinju Kanyakwar Primary School

The Ministry of Education reopened schools after nine months of children stay at home as part of the measures put in place by Ministry of Health to control spread of COVID- 19 in Kenya. Our Adolescent Boys Mentor (Paul Tieng'o) continued mentorship sessions for adolescent boys in our partner schools- Obinju Kanyakwar and Ngege Primary Schools. We also extended our meetings with adolescent boys across more partner schools- Mayatta Arab, Ogango, Oluowa, Wachara and Kambudi Primary Schools in our target areas- Kisumu East, Kisumu Central and Kisumu West Sub Counties. This was to monitor and address outcomes of prolonged COVID-19 break (nine months children stay at home) on adolescent boys from slums and rural areas.

In the sessions adolescent boys reported challenges like negative peer influence which made some of them to get involved in drug abuse, premarital sex, loitering in the streets of the towns to collect scrap metals for sale. The adolescent boys also confirmed that there was more pressure on them from their families to go out and work or look for income. As such they engaged in menial labor in order to get food for their families- (during COVID-19 break). Some partner schools teachers reported cases of adolescent boys' exhibiting characters of unruliness towards their teachers/ other children in their schools. Also confirmed in the sessions were reports of increase in domestic violence at their homes, family breakups occasioned by tough economic situation caused by COVID-19 containment measures. Paul Tieng'o engaged the adolescent boys in discussions on different topics outlined in WONESU Mentorship Curriculum. He also shared his past life experiences to inspire the boys.



Adolescent boys in a mentorship session in Wachara Primary School compound, the session was guided by Paul Tiengo.



Manyatta Arab Primary School adolescent boys also during past mentorship session in their school compound guided by Paul Tiengo



Kambudi Primary School adolescent boys during mentorship session in their school compound



Adolescent boys in Ngege Primary School also engaged in mentorship sessions in their school compound.



Paul Tieng'o also held mentorship sessions with adolescent boys in Ogango Primary School

WONESU in collaboration with other stakeholders – Area Advisory Council Kisumu West Sub County, also participated in planning campaigns through local administration meetings –locally referred to as “chiefs’ baraza” usually held at location levels, primarily to sensitize the community on the need to ensure all adolescent boys report back to school. The campaigns also seek to sensitize the parents on their roles in molding and upbringing responsible adults. However, the plans/Campaigns were suspended by Ministry of Health after we suffered the third wave of COVID-19 in Kenya. The plans will be implemented as soon as the situation eases.

4.0. TEAM DIMA GLOBAL ACTIVITIES

4.1. School Feeding

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

WONESU distributed feeding materials to Oluowa Primary School in this period. As reported by the school teachers, feeding program provides both educational and health benefits for the most vulnerable children thereby increasing enrolment rates, reducing absenteeism and improving performance and food security at the household levels.



Children in Oluowa primary School served porridge in their school compound.



Paul Tiengo – (WONESU staff) assisted the school cook to serve porridge to children in Oluowa Primary School compound.



Children in Oluowa Primary School posed for photo after they served porridge in their school compound. Paul Tieng'o also joined the children.

5.0. WONESU INTERNAL AFFAIRS

5.1. WONESU Financial Management System

In this period, we did discuss and agreed on budgets and work plans 2021 for both BdP and Foerderverein Watoto: Afrikas starke Kinder e.V projects. We also received funds disbursement from both donors. Team Dima Global also sent part of their funds for Oluowa Primary school feeding program in this period. They promised to send in more funds towards the same.

Khoya & Co. (audit firm) was engaged to undertake audit of WONESU financial books of accounts for the period January- December 2020. In compliance with regulations governing operations of Non-Governmental Organizations in Kenya we also submitted audited report of our accounts to NGO Board office.

*Report Compiled by
Berlyne Ndolo*