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ADRA Rwanda Monthly Newsletter

Number 7

ADRA RWANDA IN ACTION FOR SOCIAL CHANGE PROGRAM REGIONAL MEETING

By Cinthia Vallejos in coordination with Patrick Mphaka

The Action for Social Change (ASC) Networking Committee comprising ASC representatives from ADRA Rwanda, ADRA Uganda, and ADRA Malawi met in Kigali for their second regional networking meeting from 17th to 20th of October 2011.

Working with a vision of having a well-coordinated and effective Civil Society that identifies and implements their own development agenda at the local and higher levels, the Networking Committee discussed and reviewed each ASC country's progress, monitoring and evaluation tools implemented, capacity building needs and advocacy, among others. The committee also shared innovations and discussed how to work with community volunteers. The members finally scheduled for a field visit to the ASC Rwanda Program operation area in Western Province.



A REFLECT class in Session at Mwendo Baptist Church

During the closed doors meeting, the members discussed how they can strategize on trainings so that their contents also may include issues of networking and advocacy, specially because conducting these training, workshops in isolation renders the results a bit far-fetched and rather meaningless since these are new concepts.

As such, it was shared that it would be meaningful that during trainings of other substantive topics such as farming, HIV/AIDS, education, or businesses, issues that could prevent a smooth achievement of the set out goals and objectives, should be relooked in the light of how



A REFLECT class in Session at Mwendo Baptist Church

to solve them through advocacy or networking, or any other relevant and applicable strategy.

Once these strategies have been identified, it is possible to motivate the participants to draw-up an action plan with dates and responsibilities on how their groups will employ networking or advocacy to solve the identified problems. Members agreed that such an approach would, in a productive way, serve in a better way than training groups in advocacy or networking in isolation.

In regard to field visit, participants had an opportunity to observe a spectrum of components ASC Rwanda is working on. These include Livelihood and food security CBGs (Garukurebe, Abadacogora ku mahoro, Umucyo and Abakundamurimo); and Education CBG (Mwendo 9 Years Basic Education PTA, and a REFLECT Circle in session).

The story of one model farmer, who is deaf, speaks much louder and wider because after he was trained by those who attended the ASC Training, he went ahead to implement the strategies and has now surpassed those who attended the training. He is now preparing to buy a cow, which will be providing him with manure for his plot.

The Parents-Teachers Associations are active as was observed by the Headmaster of Mwendo 9

Years-Basic-Education. The REFLECT circle at the Baptist Church of Mwendo was a great place to observe adults learn how to read and write. What was interesting is the fact that they were learning literacy and numeracy related to their everyday



The deaf model farmer (in the middle in Blue coat) giving his farming lessons

life; and it was also observed that cooperatives learnt and practiced knowledge got from training.

The meeting ended on Thursday, October 20; with a debriefing meeting chaired by the networking committee chairperson – the Program Manager for ASC Uganda, Laban Rutareberwa, attended by the ADRA Rwanda strategic staff. The ADRA Rwanda Country Director, Jefferson Kern, facilitated the closure of the meeting.

Action for Social Change is a DANIDA-funded initiative through ADRA Denmark Program. It is to be funded in three phases of three years each. All the countries are still in the first phase with Uganda implementing it for two years, Malawi for one year and Rwanda for one and a half years.



EFFORT OF PUPILS ARE REWARDED FROM SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

By Cinthia Vallejos in coordination with Aurea Kagwesage



Kagasunzu Primary School

ADRA Rwanda through its Sponsorship Program, is working since 2007 in the Kagasunzu Adventist Primary School. At this school are 490 students being 138 children sponsored. However, the Program encourages the performance of the school at District Level benefiting everyone.

Thanks to the partners (Reach Italia, Bimbo and UNHCR), children can continue studying and having hope for their future.

"I am very happy to continue studying and in the future, I want to be a doctor". Elysee Niyomugaba, P6a - Kagasunzu Primary School



Elysee and Jacques with Aurea Kagwesawe, Sponsorship Coordinator

"I like mathematics, I am very happy to study. I want to be an engineer." Jacque Ishimwe, P6b - Kagasunzu Primary School.

ADRA Rwanda is promoting education through its Sponsorship. The program sponsors 1368 children (Reach Italia: 374 children. Bimbo: 460 children and UNHCR: 534 children in urban areas) encouraging them to continue studying and developing the knowledge of each student and helping them to grow harmoniously physically, mentally and the spiritually.

One of the ways to encourage students is to reward them to create a competitive education spirit.

On Friday 28th of October 2011, the Program rewarded 120 students, at Kagasunzu Primary School. The rewards were given to the 10 best pupils of their classes (from P1 to P6) and 63 Nursery pupils.

Sponsorship Program is primarily focused on social well-being of OVCs (Orphan Vulnerable Children) supporting them by providing school fees, medical insurance, psychological support and schools materials (pens, notebooks, books) for students and reference books for teachers.

This approach helps to maintain



Delivering materials to teachers

among students, positive perceptions of competence and the establishment of realistic goals and eventually enhance their success throughout the school year.

Kagasunzu Adventist Primary School is actually ranked among the best schools in Kigali, in 2009 their success rate was 32%, in this year 2011 it increased to 60% and is expected that the growth in quality would continue.



Children being rewarded

ADRA RWANDA AT THE PEAK IN HIV/AIDS PREVENTION

By Cinthia Vallejos in coordination with Reuben Muvunyi

ADRA Rwanda with funding from Global Fund SSF/Ministry of Health (MOH) is implementing a two-year HIV prevention program in all the 30 districts and in 416 sectors including all the 14 prisons and 3 refugee camps in Rwanda.

So far, the program has achieved the following visible initiatives:

1. Fight against stigma and

discrimination, with statistics in regard to training standing at 1,541 TOTs among PLWHAS and OVCs.

2. Installed 1,844 Community Based Condom Outlets and distributed condom dispensers in 205 sectors in 16 districts. This program as intended will serve a double purpose of HIV prevention and family planning. Other implausible activities realized

by the program include: general HIV prevention sensitization in 3 refugee camps (Nyabiheke, Kiziba and Gihembe), male circumcision campaigns in prisons and refugee camps, setting up Corners of Life Information, Education and Communication (IEC) Centres and evaluation of Income Generating Activities (IGAs).

Mission

ADRA works with people in poverty and distress to create just and positive change through empowering partnerships and responsible action.

Vision

ADRA is a professional, learning and efficient network that embodies integrity and transparency. ADRA reaches across boundaries empowering and speaking out for the at-risk and forgotten to achieve measurable, documented and durable changes in lives and society.

ADRA POLAND COUNTRY DIRECTOR VISITS ADRA RWANDA

By Cinthia Vallejos in coordination with Esther Nandudu

ADRA Rwanda hosted the ADRA Poland Country director who visited the country in a bid to witness the progress of the components of special needs project that is sponsored by Polish Aid through ADRA Poland.

The visiting Director Piotr Nowacki, made his debut tour from Wednesday 19th to Tuesday 24th of October.



Piotr Nowacki, ADRA Poland Country Director, Esther Nandudu, SNE Project Manager and the Head Manager of Nyagasambu School

During his visit, Mr. Nowacki, made courtesy visits to some schools where ramps were constructed and other facilities including latrines in completion for students with special needs.

He also delivered a white cane, Braille materials and magnifying sheet to Shyanda Primary School in the Eastern Province to facilitate reading for children with low vision.

Twigishe Abana Batabona (TAB) is a component project of SNE and is working with 25 inclusive schools.

Also in action is Ubuzima Kuribose



ADRA team in Nyagasambu Primary School



Muhembere, blind student, receiving a white cane from ADRA team

(UKB), another component project working on 3 schools geared at constructing latrines that serve all children including those with disabilities.

The Projects are implemented in the Eastern Province and have improving school facilities for special needs students in the top of the agenda.

Tububakire constructed the 71 ramps in different schools in East Rwanda and were fully completed in 2010. This project was also exclusively supported by Polish Aid through ADRA Poland.

ADRA Poland is an agency linking Polish Aid with ADRA Rwanda to implement part of the SNE Project.



Latrines construction at Janjhiro Primary School



ADRA team in Janjigiro Primary School

IBINTU BYACU

ADRA Rwanda

Working all over Rwanda with different programs and projects, we let you know what the agency has for this month:

- Visitors from: Bugema University (Kampala Campus) on Wednesday 2nd and Thursday 3rd.
 - REPWCBL with a consultant from the Tuesday 8th and the Programs assitant from ADRA UK will monitor the project from the 3rd.
 - General Staff Meeting on Monday 7th.
 - ASC, a Mid-term Review of the program from Wednesday 9th to Sunday 20th.
 - Program Planning Meeting on the 28th.
 - Board Meeting on the 28th.
- Our projects on the field continue their activities on the field (trainings, advocacy, among others)

BIRTHDAYS - NOVEMBER -

Administration

- 18th Cinthia Vallejos
- 26th Rutazigwa Martin

Action for Social Change - ASC

- 11th Sendagive Sadi
- 25th Magezi Diana
- 27th Vianney Bagabo

UNHCR Logistics Base

- 1st Simpunga Emmanuel
- 22th Mutoni Joyce

For more information or comments, please visit our webpage: www.adra.org.rw

Key Values
ADRA Rwanda
 Respect
 Integrity
 Compassion
 Honesty

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SUCCESS STORY

By Joseph Ntabyubu

On October 2011, in Rwamugombwa Village, Makera Cellule, Cyeza Sector of Muhanga District Dushyigikiruburezi and Abanyamurava youth group members (8 male and 16 female) started supporting Gwiza Madeleine one of the widows living in the village by cultivating cassava garden valuable at 50.000 Rwandan francs.

Gwiza Madeleine was born in 1930. She lives with her 17 years old granddaughter who helps her in daily activities. At the end of the activities, Madeleine was happy for the work done by youth and encouraged them to continue having supportive culture to vulnerable people. Even though Madeleine is considered as a vulnerable widow, with exalted happiness she promised her support with trees to youth for finishing goat shelter after long discussion they had (Madeleine and youth) about what youth are preoccupied in this period.



Makera Executive Secretary Muzungu Elam, appreciated the initiative ADRA Rwanda is doing in the community especially in its cellule. *"You have realized this activity because of advice and different training provided by ADRA Rwanda. We cannot consider this activity as such but we should emphasize on peace and reconciliation process targeting to support vulnerable people."* Makera Executive Secretary said.

Joseph Ntabyubu
Field Coordinator - Youth For Unity Project



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