

## JICA Monthly Report August 2022

### IMPROVING SCHOOL'S EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT FOR ADOLESCENT GIRLS BY ADDRESSING MENSTRUAL HYGIENE CHALLENGES

#### <Activities conducted>




- 1-Monitoring visit to respective JICA project schools
- 2-Visit to Nansana municipality in Wakiso
- 3-Visit to Butambala District Headquarters
- 4-Visit to Ministry of Health and Education and Sports in Kampala
- 5- Monitoring visit to Happy-pad Promotion Centre
- 6- Air Spot Messages to raise awareness on support for girls' education and increase on reusable sanitary pad users
- 7- Selection of tailors in Butambala
- 8- Visit to community radio in Butambala

#### 1. Monitoring visit to respective JICA project schools

GBN team arrived in Uganda on 30/07. On 01/08, the team first of all visited SORAK offices for a meeting to plan the days' activities.

- In Mubende, six project schools and two past (funded by Lush Japan) project schools were visited on 01/08 and 02/08.
- In Wakiso, four project schools were visited on 05/08.
- In Butambala, ten project schools were visited on 08/08 to 09/08.

#### Mubende





		
<p>H/M gives his remarks about the progress of the project at Kiyita P/S</p>	<p>GBN team monitor the status of the changing room and washroom facility at St. Mary's Gwanika P/S</p>	<p>Meeting with the MHM club members at Kasasa P/S</p>

		
<p>Meeting with the MHM club members at Lwawuna P/S</p>	<p>The status of the wash room and the changing room at CAWODISA P/S</p>	<p>GBN team after the monitoring visit at Kibalinga primary school</p>
		
<p>GBN team in a group photo with Kabowa primary school MHM club during monitoring visit.</p>	<p>GBN and SORAK ED in a group photo with MHM club of Dyangoma Primary school.</p>	



**Wakiso**

			
<p>The team checks the gutters that were fixed at Kanyange Mixed P/S</p>	<p>Meeting with the MHM club members at Kirolo UMEA P/S</p>	<p>Meeting with the MHM club members at Kitanda C/U P/S</p>	<p>Group photo after the monitoring exercise at Kitungwa C/U P/S</p>

**Butambala**

			
<p>MHM club and Learners' engagement at Ntolomwe P/S</p>	<p>MHM club and Learners' engagement at Nawango P/S</p>	<p>Engagement of MHM club and teachers at Bule P/S</p>	<p>Spacious Washroom at Nkokoma P/S</p>

			
Interaction with Kitagobwa P/S Teachers	Changing room at Lwamasaka P/S	Interaction with MHM Club members at Kiwala P/S	Interaction with MHM club members at Butalunga P/S

	
Roofed changing room at Butende P/S	GBN and VOTU addresses assembly at Kanyenje P/S

### 2-Visit to Nansana municipality in Wakiso

GBN and SORAK team held a meeting with Mr. Lwanga the Municipal Education Officer (MEO) at his office at Nansana Municipal Council. The objective of the meeting was to get feedback from the MEO regarding the project and to inform him about the field monitoring visit to the four project schools.

		
At Nansana municipality meeting with MEO	During the meeting with the MEO	Group photo with the MEO after the meeting

### 3- Visit to Butambala District Headquarters

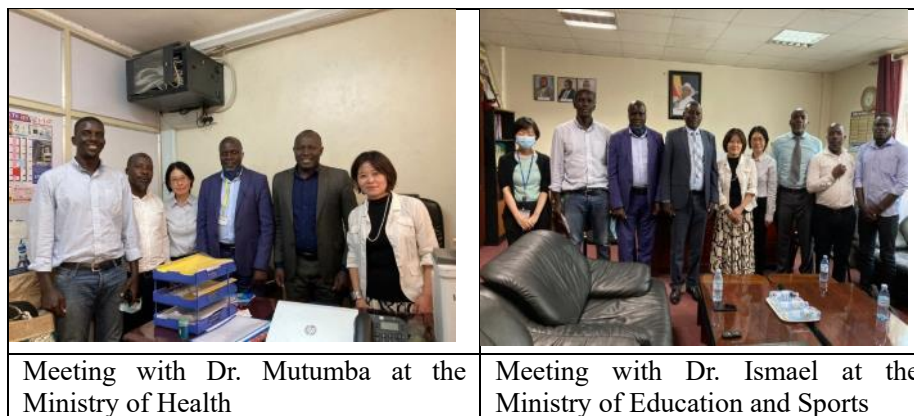
On 08/08/2022, GBN and VOTU team visited the district headquarters. They met the D.E.O (District Education Officer), C.A.O (Chief Administration Officer), DISO (District Internal Security Officer) and the RDC (Residential District Commissioner) to discuss about the impact of the project.



#### 4-Visit to Ministry of Health and Education and Sports in Kampala

On 11/08/2022, SORAK, VOTU, GBN team members and JICA Project Formulation Advisor from JICA Uganda had a meeting at the Ministry of Health with Dr. Robert Mutumba, the Principal Medical Officer in the reproductive and child health department to introduce the project and implementing partners to the ministry as well as seeking guidance on the training/project materials (baseline survey, MHM Booklet and training guide).

On the same date, the team had a meeting at the Ministry of Education and Sports with Dr. Ismail Mulindwa, the director of basic and secondary education to introduce the project and implementing partners to the ministry as well as seeking guidance on the training/project materials (baseline survey, MHM Booklet and training guide).



#### 5- Happy-pad Promotion Centre

On the 10/08, GBN team along with two intern students, the Executive Director SORAK and the Project Officer Wakiso visited the Happy-Pad Promotion Center at Katalemwa Secondary School. They were welcomed by a team of trainees at the center, the Deputy Head Teacher of the school, trainer and the IT person.

The objective of the visit was to get feedback from the trainer, trainees, IT person and the school regarding the progress of the project and to discuss the way forward regarding the project.

**Action points made at the Promotion Centre;**

- Focus should be on pad making for sale and not on training for school students.
- A professional trainer should be hired to lead the production process and ensure quality. products and this should be by 01/09/2022.
- The center should have 3 sections: production, marketing and training section.
- All furniture should always be inside the promotion center.
- Keep track of the materials used at the center especially the scissors as only 4 were still available of the 16 bought.
- We should set clear targets on the number of pads to make per month, those to be sold and how much money is expected.
- Awareness raising/ advertisement of pads and provision of training at the center is necessary.

In response to the above action points; the following has been put into action as of 15<sup>th</sup> September.

- 1-We have recruited a better tailor called Nakato Mulongo.
- 2-The promotion centre will be directly administered by Meble Nakalembe.
- 3-We have redirected our effort and emphasis to making pads for sale. To this effect we have set a target of making 140 pads per months.
- 4- The newly recruited tailor is making our centre more known for she has make contacts due to her long experience in the field of tailoring.

		
<p>ED giving opening remarks</p>	<p>One of the trainees making a pad</p>	<p>Some of the trainees with GBN team</p>

200 pads were produced and are ready for supply after the packing bags are completed by September 2022.

The total Number of outside learners who had training: 10

- Number of Female outside learners: 6
- Number of Male outside learners: 4

A total of 51 persons visited the centre and expressed interest to start training. These were recorded during the month of August 2022.



**6- Air Spot Messages to raise awareness on support for girls’ education and increase on reusable sanitary pad users**

Spot messages about Menstrual Hygiene Management, girls’ education and reusable sanitary pad are aired as follows;

- Mubende via Luna FM 6 times a day.
- Wakiso via Voice Kiryagonja 2 times a day.
- Butambala via Voice of Butende and Voice of Kimambwe where 10 spot messages are played on a daily basis respectively.

**7- Selection of tailors in Butambala**

By 12<sup>th</sup> August 2022, four of ten project schools had submitted names of community members and teachers with an idea about tailoring. These accepted to participate in a training of trainees for pad making. Six of the remaining schools shall submit names in the second week of September when school activities resume. Training on pad making will commence in the second week of September as well.

**8-Visit to community radio**

One community radio (Voice of Butende) was visited. Both Maiko Ohnishi of GBN and the team leader of VOTU had a 5minute broadcast about the project activities.



### **Positive influence**

- There was participation from the teachers and parents in appreciation of the project.
- Five out of ten schools had MHM trainings on time table. (Butambala)
- All intended target project 10 schools were visited with GBN. (Butambala)
- Washroom hygiene has improved in the schools.
- School boys started to support girls.
- The respective Head Teachers were eager to receive GBN and SORAK team and were ready to give them updates regarding the impact of the project. (Mubende and Wakiso)

### **Challenges**

- Several washrooms inspected were found without a roof yet the wall heights were not tall enough to ensure privacy of the girls. (Butambala)
- Although impact of the project was evident, MHM clubs and teachers needed more awareness.
- Some schools had incomplete facilities for example Kiyita Primary School due to inadequate funds but they promised to complete the facility as soon as schools resume. (Mubende)

### **Lessons learnt**

- It is important to start encouraging beneficiaries to come up with creative solutions to solve some of the prevailing challenges.
- At implementation we have to reference national guidelines as advised by the health and education officials.
- To keep learners fully engaged, there is need for a motivation strategy.