



SORAK Development Agency
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NPO法人グローバルブリッジネットワーク
Global Bridge Network

“Improvement of school environment to combat Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) challenges to Stop Adolescent Girls’ School Dropouts in Uganda”

Project Period: July to December, 2019

Activity Title: Train 40 communities based volunteers in reusable sanitary pad making and develop linkages and supply for SORAK Happy pad reusable sanitary pads

Date and Location:

No	Date	Location
1	July 10 th 2019	Kasaana C/U P/S

Introduction:

The activity kicked off with the mobilization of 40 community based volunteers who were trained to learn and develop linkages for SORAK Happy pad reusable sanitary pads in the communities of Mubende District in the projected area.

Purpose/ Objective of training/ activity:

- The purpose of this activity/ training was to develop linkages and supply of SORAK Happy pad reusable sanitary pads.
- To create room for community ownership and sustainability of Happy pad reusable sanitary pads.

Participants:

Location	Male/others	Female/others	Total
Kasaana C/U P/S	1	39	40

Facilitators:

- 1.Nalwanga Shamim Ggombe:SORAK Project coordinator
- 2.Babirye Maria Gorret:Tailor & Project Assistant

Activities:

Participants were taken through the following procedures;

- Assembling of materials and taking measurements
- Asking individuals to come forward and participate in active observation, measurements and sowing
- Explaining and describing the systematic steps of making reusable sanitary pad.



Babirye assembling materials



Babirye showing how measurements are made



Representatives from each group take note



Participants try out measurements



One participant Beatrice –starts sewing



participants participate in sewing one at a go the training



Members finishing up the trial pad



Provide questions to the SORAK trainers

Outcomes:

1. Participants discovered this new innovation and agreed to work with SORAK in creating more awareness about reusable sanitary pads. This would happen concurrently with them making more to supplement SORAK effort. The women are making more pads to enable other girls and women learn with the intention of creating more menstrual hygiene free community in Kasaana.
2. SORAK identified women who expressed willingness to partner and receive happy pads on a regulate basis and later supply them. The participants supply these pads on market days as well as selling them in their respective women group meetings. They also supply them to the shops within their locality which has enabled the sale of Happy pads reusable sanitary pads on a wider market.

Major challenges:

1. Some community members want SORAK to continuously purchase for them materials in the making of reusable sanitary pads
2. Some community members are still shy about menstruation and fear to discuss it in public.
3. Some parents and schools don't give comfortable environments for children in their menstruation for example washrooms and soap provision to wash reusable sanitary pads according to the findings during the training of women which creates stigma and school drop outs.
4. Interested trained groups have an idea of taking reusable sanitary pads as a project but don't have financial capability to take it up.

Recommendations:

1. We recommend that seed grants be given to those interested groups who would like to take an extra step and do business in reusable sanitary pad making after the training in communities.
2. More awareness on menstrual hygiene management should be done both in school and out of school.
3. SORAK recommends room for expansion such that more beneficiaries arise out of MHM Project.

Conclusion:

In summary, the community based volunteers trained showed high level of positive responsiveness and ability to act as active SORAK community based agents. They also appreciated SORAK Development Agency for the great work done towards impacting the lives of the most at risk and vulnerable girls who in particular used to miss school whenever they are experiencing their menstrual periods. This is in line with this project aim of fighting girl child drop out from school due to menstrual hygiene challenges. In this regard, SORAK and the communities extend their warmly appreciation to Global Bridge Network for the financial support rendered to enable the activeness of the MHM project.