

**Progress Trash Report for November and December 2022**

**PROMOTING A CLEAN ENVIRONMENT THROUGH ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AND GARBAGE COLLECTION IN LUSALIRA TRADING CENTRE -MUBENDE DISTRICT**

**<Progress of each activity>**

**Activity 1.2 Thirty (30) minutes’ environmental education talks conducted for 10 months**

In respect to the above activity, 6 radio talk shows were conducted by the Project Officer on 14 November 2022 and 04, 06, 08, 10, and 12 December 2022 which ran for 30 minutes at Luna FM Kibalinga.

These were intended to create more awareness about the use of the proper garbage disposal and sorting of garbage. It was also intended to sensitize the community about Ebola pandemic as poor hygiene also increases the disease. In addition, these were intended to conclude the project as well as emphasizing to the listeners the need and importance of keeping community clean.

The community was also thanked for keeping and maintaining a clean environment in Lusalira trading Centre. Two persons (1 female and 1 male) called in during the talk show and thanked SORAK and GBN for the project and for having promoted a clean environment in Lusalira trading Centre.

	
<p>Project Officer educating the community about proper garbage management at Luna FM</p>	<p>Project Officer sensitizing the community about the importance of garbage sorting and Ebola disease</p>

**Activity 1.3 An environmental education and awareness raising jingle/spot message aired 5 times a day**

Airing of spot messages on Luna Fm radio in Kibalinga to create awareness about proper garbage management in the community thus improving sanitation and hygiene. These messages are aired 5 times a day to ensure that people acquire basic information about garbage.

**<Spot Messages>**

*Fellow Ugandans, did you know that poor garbage disposal negatively affects both an individual and the entire community in households and in the community. Poor garbage disposal can cause dangerous diseases like Cholera and Diarrhea that are harmful to our lives. Burning of garbage anyhow can lead to environmental degradation.*

*Therefore, SORAK has come out to provide support by engaging in sensitization of community members about proper garbage management, through providing containers where garbage is disposed, a vehicle collects garbage to the collection points where sorting and recycling of garbage aimed to keep the environment clean is conducted from.*

*Therefore, it is advised that we work together in this call to improve sanitation and hygiene in Lusalira community.*

*This message is brought to you by SORAK together with Global Bridge Network-Japan*

**Activity 2.1 Ten (10) garbage containers/skips procured and stationed at 5 different places to encourage and support garbage sorting, recycling and safe disposal.**

Garbage is sorted accordingly as the ones that decompose like food peelings are separated from the ones that do not decompose like plastic bottles. Decomposed garbage is taken by currently 3 farmers and used in their gardens as fertilizers which has greatly improved the quality of crops and plants.



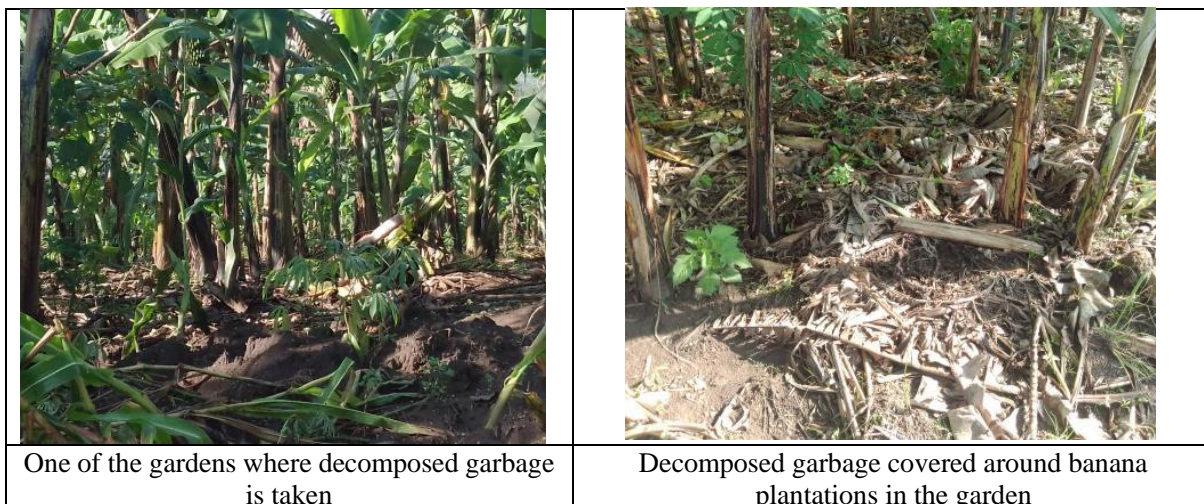
Plastics and bottles sorted and packed ready for transportation to Kampala



Decomposed garbage at the collection point and sorted from the non-decomposed ones



Decomposed garbage covered to decompose and be taken to the gardens



**Activity 3.1 A community based environmental protection monitoring group established and it is active in monitoring and reporting safe garbage disposal and sorting in Lusalira trading Centre.**

This project has thanked for having established an environmental protection and monitoring group of 12 members. It is composed of; local women and men involved in petty trade, village leaders and subcounty leaders. This group was started way back in March-April 2022 in the earlier months of the project. It has been maintained and continues to operate as earlier planned. This group will maintain the project activities of cleaning Lusalira trading Centre even after December 2022 when the project ends. Every Thursday of a week has been earmarked as community cleaning/ monitoring day. This and the follow-up is being done by the local village local government while SORAK participates to provide a backstopping role.



The photograph above shows the community based environmental protection and promotion group of Lusalira trading Centre established by this project.

**Activity 3.1.2 Engagement meeting with selected monitoring committee and local leaders sharing project progress**

A meeting with local leaders that included Police officers, Subcounty Chief, LC1 Chairman, SORAK team and the monitoring committee among others was conducted at Kibalinga Police Station on the 21/11/2022. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the progress of the project and how it will be sustained to keep the community clean. Officer in charge of Kibalinga Police Station and the sub county Chief encouraged the monitoring committee to continue with the

good work and also threw more light about the issue of Ebola in the community. Emphasized that a clean environment can help to reduce and prevent the disease hence encouraged proper garbage disposal.

Each of the above persons has a role contributing to sustainability of the activities. The Subcounty chief supervises, the police handle those faulting on the by-laws, while the local council leaders (LC chairman and team) lead the team on ground. He also leads the weekly cleaning and enforcement days-Thursdays.



**Engagement of community and subcounty leaders 15th December 2022**

SORAK staff continued to engage and conducted a final evaluation and engagement meeting with the subcounty leaders as well as representatives from the community based environmental protection and promotion group of Lusaira trading Centre.

**This meeting discussed what has been achieved including;**

- Maintained cleanliness-this has been due to continued awareness created by the talk shows
- Care of the garbage containers and resolved that these should be under the charge of Local council one leaders.
- Proper sorting of garbage- where it was agreed that it was good for the farmers to take the decomposing ones while the waste dealers would continue collecting plastics on their own and take them for sale. Farmers freely come to collection sites and take away decomposable garbage with their own means. The recyclable materials are also taken away by individuals to take the advantage of finding them sorted. This system was preferred because it makes garbage management easy since collectors who take and sale are self-motivated. The committee role ends at ensuring a clean environment and that all garbage is taken out of the Trading Centre.

**The meeting also discussed challenges including;**

- The generation of too much waste that now needs bigger garbage skips (containers) than the containers supplied by this project. In future the subcounty would introduce bigger skips and thanks to SORAK and GBN for having introduced the idea of sorting and collection of garbage in containers.



Last engagement meeting with subcounty and environmental monitoring group leaders

### **Activity 3.2 Safe garbage disposal by-laws are made and enforced.**

All the way from inception activities, this project engaged leaders and residents to make safe garbage disposal by-laws. As a result, the following were made and are being enforced.

1. A penalty of 50,000# will be opposed to those caught mishandling garbage
2. Children above 2 years will be left home. Mothers in the markets were advised by their fellow vendors that children of the mentioned age should be left at home since they congest the market area and dispose waste anyhow
3. Anyone caught mishandling containers will be obliged to buy two containers and failure to do so will call for arrest of the victim
4. Anyone caught with a hip of garbage at his/her place will also be punished to ensure they dispose garbage in the containers that will be provided

### **Positive influences**

- Local leaders thanked SORAK for the wonderful project during the engagement meeting that the hygiene has greatly changed in the area and requested for more of such projects in their community that improve the community wellbeing
- Listeners appreciated the radio talk shows that aim at promoting hygiene and sanitation in the community. They also appreciated the information provided about Ebola and thanked SORAK for such wonderful information
- Farmers were so grateful as the decomposed garbage helped them in improving soil fertility which provides them with high quality crops and plants. By December 3 banana farmers have been actively involved in collecting and taking sorted decomposable garbage to their gardens
- Community members happily engaged in garbage sorting because they sell the non-decomposed garbage like plastics. These include mostly youth (6) who were formerly unemployed. They appreciated SORAK for allowing them sell them hence rise some income which help them sustain some of their needs. It is estimated that individual plastic waste dealers earn an average of 30\$ per month.

### **Challenges faced during the activity**

- Increased generation of plastic waste and sometimes community members send children to the garbage containers who end up mixing both decomposable and non-decomposable. The

continued monitoring and awareness via spot messages have helped a lot in addressing this challenge. SORAK plans to continue having spot messages and radio talk shows due to the fact that SORAK wishes to sustain her name and the set clean environment standards.

- Restriction of movement due to Ebola virus disease outbreak and associated lockdown for 63 days covering the entire district. This limited the monitoring group movements especially checking on the community members whether they were dumping trash where it was supposed to be dumped -in containers. There was thus some littering of trash. This has been however solved after the lifting of the lock down. Also talk shows encouraged people to dump waste in time before the curfew time.

### **Lessons learnt**

- It was learnt that the project greatly benefited the community as its aim and objectives was achieved.