



KOFUP PROGRESS REPORT



REPORTING PERIOD:

JULY 2014 TO MARCH 2015

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1.0 Background Information

Kenya Orphans Fund and Uganda Project (KOFUP), a UK based Charity is currently supporting 104 orphans and other vulnerable children (OVC) in Kasirawa village, Kobala sub-location, with basic services through community based approach. The support is offered in collaboration with other service providers in the area using Community Health Strategy (the community unit) in service delivery. The intervention through household approach empowers parents to improve on their household income and food security situation to support all the children at household level. The basic need of a child, especially in a condition of poverty and diseases are quality basic Education and Health care support for positive growth.

2.0 Introduction

The KOFUP aims at assisting OVC who due to lack of basic requirements or orphan hood would have missed the opportunity to basic Education. Poverty and rampant diseases have in many cases eroded the bonds of extended family in many parts of Nyanza more so the lake region where Kobala sub-location is located. Among the basic need of a child, especially in a condition of poverty and diseases are quality basic Education and Health care support for positive growth. Omega Foundation (OF) considers education of OVC as the corner stone of any intervention, particularly for children who have lost one or both parents and those affected by poverty.

Omega Foundation successfully changed the approach from centre based to family based, child focused by using the existing community health units in Rachuonyo Sub-County.

3.0 The Project Goal.

The goal of the project is to ensure survival, Education and development of orphans and their caregivers through provision of basic learning requirement, capacity development and support of sustainable household income.

4.0 Specific Objectives

The projects specific objectives include:

- 1 To support 104 needy orphans and vulnerable children with basic scholastic material that facilitates enrollment, retention and completion.
- 2 To increase capacities of identified families caring for orphans and vulnerable children on improved nutrition and livelihoods activities.
- 3 To build capacity for community own resource persons (CORPs) and community leaders on OVC care and support.

5.0 Achievements.

Objective 1: Support 104 needy Orphans and Vulnerable children with basic Scholastic materials that facilitates enrollment, retention and completion.

1.1 Health and Educational Support

All the children learning in Kobala, St. Serfine, Osodo, Lake View, Adita and Happy primary schools received services including scholastic materials (Books, pencils and erasers); Full school uniform including pullovers courtesy of KOFUP through OF.



Figure 1: An OVC receiving scholastic materials

The children also received Mosquitoe nets and deworming tablets through the support of Ministry of Health to protect them from contracting malaria through mosquito bites as well as keep them at bay from helminthec infections and diarrheal diseases. This saw the children remain healthy and also attend school regularly.

Objective 2: To increase capacities of identified families caring for orphans and vulnerable children on improved nutrition and livelihoods activities.

2.1 Business startup capital.

Three guardian groups benefited from business start up grant of Kshs. 60,000/=



Figure 2: An OVC receiving scholastic materials

(£461.54) [each of the three groups got kshs. 20,000/= (£153.85)]. Group A (22 members) and group B 25 members) are engaged in local poultry keeping, while group C (29 members) have invested their money in watermelon farming. The businesses have taken off well and showing good progress. This initiative is aimed at ensuring that OVC households

increase their income hence enabling OVC to attain minimal service care as outlined by Figure 3 (above). An OVC care giver tending to the chicken for her group Childrens department in Kenya National guidelines on Minimal standards of OVC care and child protection.

2.2 Formation of Village Savings and Loaning (VSL) Group.

30 Individuals from Kobala are actively engaged in Village Savings and Loaning (VSL) scheme having been mobilized by OF. This has inculcated and improved a culture of saving among the group members. During the share out of the savings in January 2015, a total Kshs. 120,000/= (£923.08) including individual shares and accrued interest was shared out among the members. The group is going on with the VSL.

Objective 3:To build capacity for community own resource persons (CORPs) and community leaders on OVC care and support.

3.1 Training to CBO leaders, Community Health Volunteers (CHV) and caregivers.

Strengthening the capacity of the CBO leadership through training focused on team building, leadership, business identification and management.

- 14 leaders trained on group dynamics, team building and leadership.
- 76 caregivers trained on business selection, management and marketing in poultry keeping and watermelon farming (agribusiness).



Leadership training to committee



training leaders on group dynamics

7.0 Challenges and mitigation

	Challenge	Mitigation
1.	Table banking money being kept by individual member posing threat of loss of money due to theft.	The group was advised to Keep the table banking money in the Bank and have the treasurer keep the record books.
2.	Fate of children who have graduated to primary school unclear.	Since Early childhood care goes up to class 3, it's expected that the project shall support the same children for a period of three years.

8.0 Future Plans

A review meeting with caregivers was held in March 2015, to discuss and share the project's achievements, challenges, and lessons learned during the 2014 implementation period. The members agreed on the following as main activities to be implemented in the year 2015.

1. Supporting business initiative for the three groups.
2. Provision of scholastic materials for 104 children.
3. Training caregivers on HIV/AIDS care, minimum package for OVC and OVC reporting tools.

9.0 Conclusion

Once again Omega Foundation is pleased to recognize KOFUP Trustees for financial support that has enabled support the project beneficiaries; the community members and Government of Kenya (GOK) line ministries participation cannot be taken for granted, it is through the effort that OF has made a great stride towards achieving the project goal.