LWENGO RURAL DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT ORGANIZATION – UGANDA

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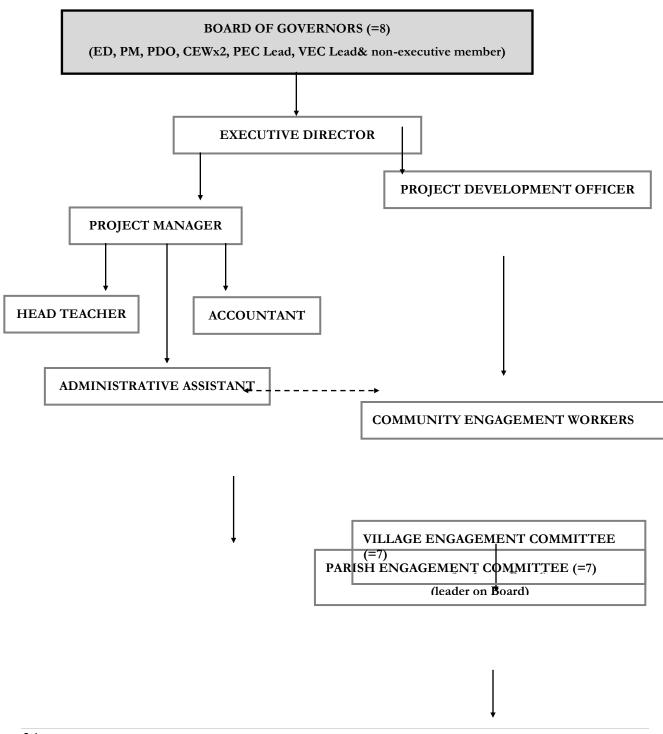
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ANNUAL REPORT 2018



WHO WE ARE

LWERUDESO is a community based organization registered with Lwengo district under SNCD/LDLG/1555 with staff base of 40 highly skilled Ugandans. LWERUDESO implements projects through a well organized participatory structure from the community to the board of governors as elaborated below.



The above gear towards improving livelihood of communities more especially for the children and the vulnerable population.

LWENGO COMMUNITY most

The priority areas include:

- Increasing accessibility of safe and clean water
- Improved family food security and income.
- Increasing awareness, care and support for the infected and affected people with HIV/AIDS.
- Improving preventive health care services.
- Improving literacy levels of OVCs.

Our vision:

Sustainable transformation for a health and wealthy society.

Our mission:

To improve the health and economic status of vulnerable population through provision of health, education, agriculture and income generational services.

Our core values:

- Net working and partnership.
- Accountability and transparency.
- Effectiveness and efficiency.

EDUCATION SECTOR

Education is one of the strategic sectors of reducing inequalities in the country, as it addresses the strategic needs of both men and women through education and training. LWERUDESO is expanding and improving comprehensive early childhood care and education especially for the most vulnerable and disadvantaged children in Lwengo community. It's a process by which children grow and thrive physically, socially, emotionally and cognitively. For a child to develop and learn in a healthy and normal way it's important not only to meet the basic needs for

protection, food and health but also to meet the need for interaction and stimulation, affection, security and learning through exploration and discovery.

This year of 2018, LWERUDESO primary school had an enrollment of 512 OVCs.



The school has boarding section which has 139 students and 26 qualified teachers who are well equipped to assist learners to develop not only fluency but also competencies and life skills as a result of instruction in their own local language.



We managed to equip skills and competence to primary seven students 2017. They sat for primary leaving examinations and of 27 students, 15 got first grades and 12 got second grade.



We highly appreciate all supporting partners for the technical support, supervision and local contribution which has enabled our vulnerable children to successfully receive good grades which will enable them to compete in future world.

This year we have gone ahead to register the school in the ministry. This means we have our own sitting centre and registration number for the first time and we can therefore sit exams at our school. This is a great achievement this far and we hope to do even better academically. Our centre number is 102088.

Electricity.

The school still faces the challenge of light and other service limitations like stationary which need electricity. With support from UBUNTU we managed to do the wiring process in all blocks at school.

Due to the high costs to extend electricity from the main centre to the school, we still have no power yet. The project is working around the corner to gather funds to extend electricity to the school by 2019. Although this project is geared by the school, all community members are to benefit since it becomes easier for them to extend the wires into their houses.

Great thanks go to partners who have supported this project.

Sports and music

LWERUDESO primary school encourages and promotes children's gifts and talents varying on their endowments. This year we had sports competitions between houses of the school. Sports included soccer, athletics, bottle filling, and sack racing among others. These help children realize what they are best at.

This was combined with top class graduation as we respect all levels of education. Every year we organize a special graduation for nursery candidates as they move to primary level. This year we had 37 pupils graduate to primary.

Feeding of children

Generally, the feeding at LWERUDESO is improving as we serve at least a meal for day scholars and 3 meals for boarding children. This has kept children healthy and strong ready for their daily studies.

In addition to the above, every year parents visit their children 4 times in three terms and

children have a change to talk to parents and also eat special meals.

Children are also trained practical skills in agriculture like gardening and produce what can be consumed to empower them since we live in an agricultural economy.

SPONSORSHIP PROJECT

Lwerudeso started a sponsorship project that is intended to help children from most vulnerable to also access equal education rights with other children. This project is funded by two Dutch projects that's Lwengo Kids Foundation and Children of Uganda which both have over 180 sponsored children. This project shares responsibility with parent where a parent is only required to buy requirements only while school fees are paid by the project.

A number of children have gone through this project till secondary school and others technical.

Muzeeyi Tonny.

Tonny and the brothers; Kyadondo and Senvuma were the pioneers of the sponsorship program. They were once homeless, vulnerable, and used to sleep under the shades. to amake matters worse, their parents were HIV positive which led to te death of their father leaving them with their poor and vulnerable mother. during all this period, these children have been under the sponsorship program of Children Of Uganda project undergoing rehabilitation, guidance and couseling, education, nutrition, accommodation.

currently their health and general life has greatly improved with high hopes better livelihood in the future.

we thank their sponsors who are annualy contributing to this cause.

Mulindwa Willy.

after the death of Willy's mother, he remained with his aged father who can nolonger do any activitry for himself. He had to drop out school due to lack of school fees and other scholastic materials, it was due to these challenges that the sponsorship program took over and took him back to school though he was above primary school age.

Currently at the age of 17, he has complted the primary education at Lwerudeso primary school and awaits for his Primary Leaving examinations results by january and willing to join secondary education or skills training. In skills training, his major interest is in motor vehicle mechanics.

school sustainability strategy 2019-2020

a. Goat And Piggery Project

Lwengo Kids Foundation came up with a strategy to help parents continue providing fro their children and also save for future school needs. in a meeting that was held in october 2018, parents agreed to rear pigs and goats, multiply sell and save for their children. this will be supported by the sponsors who agreed to give each family a goat or a pig depending on their choice, this will help parents themselves get more income for other basics at home. This project has already started with construction while rearing is commencing 2019 by march when the sty is ready.

Savings And Loans

LWERUDESO as a way to improve the financial literacy of both employees and children has designed a SACCO that will encourage saving of every member of the project children inclusive. Children are to be taught the saving process and every child will have a personal account to save the upkeep while employees also will have saving accounts which will also enable them to buy shares for profit making and loan access.

The by-laws have been set already to guide the operation of the SACCO though every other member of Lwengo community is legible to join as long as the by-laws are clearly understood.

CHILD HEALTH CARE

Realizing child health involves medical practice with a focus on providing holistic care to infants, children and adolescents; there is a strong relationship between child's health and his or her performance in school. Though we still experience a lot of malaria and typhoid cases due to lack of enough safe and clean water supply at LWERUDESO primary school, we struggle so much to ensure good health improvement and sanitation in partnership with nearby health centers which provide our OVCs with treatment.

Peace Corps in fight against malaria carried out malaria prevention training with the children at school. They also provided the school with 123 mosquito nets to help in prevention of malaria.

Lwengo Kids Foundation in partnership with LWERUDESO is constructing a health centre II that intends to provide accessible health care services to the children and the neighboring

community members. Construction started already and is in progress and by the end of 2018; the foundation phase will be completed.

Pupil latrine stance ratio

The quality and average number of pupils sharing a latrine in school is vital however we still experience a challenge with children with disabilities. Schools with disability responsive latrines motivate children with different abilities to stay in school and complete school. We have a total number of 512 students sharing 16 stances translating into pupil latrine stance ratio of 32: 1. However all latrines are not disability friendly.

THE SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN

LWERUDESO runs an inclusive education of children with special needs addressing their individual differences. Common disabilities are hearing problems (deaf), physical and mental.

These children are supported physically, psychosocially and

academically to fit in the general community. The special needs building was finished and is now being used. We thank Children of Uganda and well-wishers

for the endless work. We thank

bought special seats for the big impact is being realized in life, and more is expected as we



support put on this well wishers who disabled children. A these children's' social go forward with them.

Most of them can now use the toilet, feed themselves, read and write, play with friends which was not the case before.

the major challenge we are facing now is that we have no separate toilet facility for the disabled but we believe to improve on the toilet status for special needs children. The building that has three class rooms and two office rooms was fully completed through the suport of Children Of Uganda sponsorship project in Netherlands. These children are 19 in total with 6 girls and 13 boys.

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM AND INTERNSHIP

We have continuously hosted international volunteers who have played a key role in community development through participating in community activities, contribution and giving technical

support. Some also come to learn and practice what they know through internship to improve on their skills.



These have also helped so much in improving reading skills of our vulnerable children and helping teachers to develop learning aids of these children for easy learning.



The volunteers also have helped so much to prepare the young vulnerable children for education mostly those who live near their residence. These are taught how to read and write.





In addition to volunteers, we have managed to host 4 mapping groups from **Holland** exchanging ideas and discovering learning improvement of our students.



So far 70% of our students can read and interpret English and 90% can pass simple numeracy. These independent initiatives work together like a family to gather and share evidence about children's actual competence in literacy and numeracy. The information is shared with citizens, local and national governments and other important organizations around the world interested in improving children's learning. Other activities involved fencing of school, school painting, tree pruning and conducting reading club as teaching is lead.







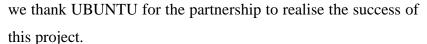
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABILITY.



LWERUDESO works hard through its interventions to conserve the environment. the project has now over 250,000 grown up eucalyptus trees helping to preserve the ecosystem. much firewood is being used in schools and in the community leading to much tree cutting.

this project is also to work as a source of

income for the organisation and employ youth in this community. this year we harvested upto 2000 trees and managed to pay some employees of the organisation.





The project has constructed over thirty wood saving stoves in the community freely to help reduce tree cutting.

our target is to have 500,000 trees in our project.

SANITATION AND HEALTH

As part of safe water education program aimed at reducing sickness and death caused by diarrhea among children under five, interventions have been made targeting families, schools and health centers. The project uses participating community as agents of behavior change within their homes, families and community.



There has been a general concern that most primary school children drop out of school due to lack of nearby sources of safe and clean water. This results into early pregnancies among girls, late coming at school, continuous diseases that result due to use of dirty water and so many others which affect performance, retention and completion of these children.

At family level, with volunteers we managed to provide clean and safe water to the elderly people by fetching and filling mini drums.

LWERUDESO has managed to construct 139 water tanks with capacity of 10,000 liters ever since 2012. Through our monitoring and home visits we realized that there is improvements in sanitation but still more people still fetch water from local water sources which are unhealthy.

The wells are dirty and have disease vectors in them. This year we had a water source cleaning campaign and cleaned one big well in Minyegenyo.





There has been general improvement in performance of children with water tanks at home and family hygiene. More sensitization about use of safe and clean water, boiling water for drinking, using filters if available, cleaning up available water sources and other sanitation programs like washing hands after use of toilet are continuously done by volunteers and community workers to community members to enable us to reach to zero water disease infection in our communities.



There is still a challenge of accessing clean and safe water by the population which did not receive water tanks. They buy dirty well water. LWERUDESO therefore came up with a support project that was named LWERUDESO water. We have a selling point in Nakyenyi trading centre where clean water is provided and people access it a cheaper cost. The money again saved

to cater break down emergence of the water pump at school. This project is run by the children in their free after class time.



Most families in Lwengo community are still marginal that have poor toilet standards and others had no kitchens. Children still go for open bush defecation; mothers cook from outside and other residential houses in a dilapidated status. We therefore intervened and did house renovation, built kitchens, constructed dish racks for some marginal families.

As LWERUDESO we would like to see a big change in health and sanitation of the people of Lwengo community, reduction in disease spread and long life expectancy.





ORGANISATION CURRENT INTERVENTIONS

Piggery

In partnership with the sponsorship project, LWERUDESO has started a community piggery project that will help the earmarked vulnerable families to save for their children. Each family is expected to take a piglet, rear it, reproduce and multiply the project, sell and save the money for the future of the child's education.

Construction of the multiplication centre is underway and expected to be completed by February

2019.





For members who don't rear pigs will be given a goat per family. we hope to see a big impact in the education of our children and the income of the families.

Health centre

A lot of money is spent on medication and treatment of non communicable diseases, this is due to poor sanitation practices among the local population. Many people are not sleeping under mosquito nets which have led to an insidious spread of malaria.

Our people have low income to incur in the treatment with transport costs since the available health centers are a bit far.

Lwengo Kids Foundation and partners with LWERUDESO have started constructing a health centre II to ensure good quality and accessible health services to the people of Lwengo community.

We hope to reduce more on the costs of medication of the children at Lwerudeso Primary school, carry out health education outreaches, and provide all quick available services.



This health centre is being constructed in a way that one time it will expand into a big hospital that can provide comprehensive health services.

We thank all partners, Lwengo Kids Foundation in Particular and well-wishers for the great support being rendered to put this health centre in place and help the people of Lwengo community.

SACCO

LWERUDESO as a way to improve the financial literacy of both employees and children has designed a SACCO that will encourage saving of every member of the project, women and children inclusive. Children are to be taught the saving process and every child will have a personal account to save the upkeep while employees also will have saving accounts which will also enable them to buy shares for profit making and loan access.

LWERUDESO has designed this SACCO in a way that even non organization staff can also benefit from it. The overall objective is to promote the social and economic interests of its members in Lwengo community. The strategy is to encourage members to pool their financial resources for gainful investment, and advance loans to members.

This SACCO has been named "LWERUDESO SAVINGS" and the by-laws have been set already to guide the operation of the SACCO though every other member of Lwengo community is legible to join as long as the by-laws are clearly understood.

CONCLUSION:

Great thanks to Lwengo Kids Foundation, Children of Uganda, Peace Corps, Volunteers, Lwengo Local government, community, well wishers who are enforcing a strategic direction in promoting equal opportunities to the vulnerable children and the marginal families. LWERUDESO provides for promoting and protection of the rights for marginalized groups and vulnerable people. It's commendable as a team have made great effort to attain equalization of opportunities and affirmative action for the marginalized in Lwengo community.

YOURS

JJUUKO ANTHONY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR