

Name: Panda Initiatives
Country: United Republic of Tanzania
Project Title: Kivule Integrated Child Health and Education Project
Theme: Building the Foundation of Human Capital.
Subtheme:

- Childhood Education Health and Nutrition

Project Outline

Background

KICHEP is an integrated child development program that targets poor and marginalized children from zero to six years and their mothers. The aim of the program is to promote the health and nutrition of women and young children in Kivule, and increase access to quality pre-school education to ensure that all children have the opportunity to reach their full potential. The objectives of the program includes among other things advocating for children’s rights, mobilizing community members to participate in early childhood development through village door-to-door campaigns, providing information to mothers and parents in health and early childhood development, mobilizing resources and building networks to strengthen support of the program.

Problem Definition.

The advancement of human capital depends on two main drivers: i) the quality of investment in the early years – covering childhood education, health and nutrition; and ii) maximizing the accumulation of skills, knowledge, and well-being throughout people’ life cycle. Optimal early childhood development requires children to have access to: appropriate, affordable, diverse and nutrient-rich food, appropriate maternal and child care, a safe, nurturing environment and opportunities to learn and play, adequate health services and a healthy environment including safe water, sanitation and good hygiene.

Tanzania has made significant progress in improving the nutrition of children with notable reduction of childhood stunting from 42 per cent in 2010 to 34 per cent in 2015/16 (TDHS¹), but remains a major concern, with more than 2.7 million children affected by stunting every year. Although severe acute malnutrition has a low prevalence (1%) but affects over 100,000 children every year, putting them at high risk of dying. Poor dietary diversity is one of the main determinants of child undernutrition, only 9% of children under five receive a minimum acceptable diet. Utilization of nutrition services is also low. According to the last bottleneck analysis of specific nutrition interventions for 2016/17, only 18% of caregivers of young children received nutrition counselling, only 10% of children with severe acute malnutrition were treated, and only 21% of pregnant women consumed iron-folic acid supplements during last pregnancy, only 42 percent children of 0-5 months exclusively breastfed. Among

This project will contribute to the following SDG targets:

Target 1.3: Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable

Target 2.1: By 2030, ensure access by all people, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food

Target 2.2 by 2030 end all forms of malnutrition, including achieving by 2025 the internationally agreed targets on stunting and wasting in children under 5 years of age, and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women, and older persons

Target 3.2: By 2030, end preventable deaths of newborns and children under 5 years of age, with all countries aiming to reduce neonatal mortality to at least as low as 12 per 1,000 live births and under-5 mortality to at least as low as 25 per 1,000 live births

¹ Tanzania Demographic Health Survey 2015/16

the main determinants of these bottlenecks is the lack of quality community health and nutrition services provided by trained community health workers. Rural areas showing poor results compared to urban areas.

Concerning education, Primary School Net Enrollment Ratio (NER) declined from 97% in 2007 to 85.6 per cent in 2016 (BEST²). Only 47 per cent of all 5-year-olds are enrolled at the pre-primary school level in 2015. This ranges from 26.7 per cent in Dar Es Salaam to 79.8% in Mara region. Primary school-aged children from the poorest families are three times less likely to attend school than those from the wealthiest households. Investment in good quality early childhood education services prior to entering school improves learning outcomes for children. It also enhances the efficiency of the school system by reducing repetition and drop-out and improves achievement, especially among girls and marginalized groups.

Violence is one of the factors that prevent children from achieving better health, learning and social development outcomes. Violence against children includes physical violence, psychological violence such as insults and humiliation, discrimination, neglect and maltreatment. While some violence is unexpected and isolated, most violent acts against children are carried out by people they know and should be able to trust. In Tanzania, one in three girls and one out of seven boys experience some form of sexual violence before turning 18 (VAC study³). Most children do not report their experience, few seek services, and even fewer receive any care, treatment, or support if they do report. Rates of physical and emotional violence are high: among girls, 72% experience some form of physical violence, while for boys the figure is 71%. Emotional violence affects approximately one quarter of boys and girls. Tanzania has reviewed its legal framework and developed national plans of action to address violence against children more effectively. However, putting these laws into practice remains a challenge. Advocacy, awareness-raising and training have helped increase understanding of violence against children. Programmes to support parents and develop their parenting skills play a vital role in protecting children, and young people themselves are active in many ways in preventing and responding to violence.

Proposed Innovative Solution

General Goal

Promote equitable access to quality basic early childhood education, health and nutrition in order to improve wellbeing of children in Tanzania

1. Improve health and nutrition of young children and their mothers in Kivule ward
2. Increase access to quality pre-school education to ensure that all children have the opportunity to reach their full potential
3. Promote children rights and protect them from all forms of violence.

² Basic Education Statistics in Tanzania (BEST), 2016

³ Violence Against Children Study 2011

1. Improve health and nutrition of young children and their mothers in Kivule ward

Investment in early childhood development lays the foundation for a prosperous and sustainable society. KICHEP will mobilize and sensitize the women in the community to help each other. They will receive basic training on nutrition, importance of attending ante natal and post-natal clinics on time, importance of immunization and breastfeeding to infants and early health seeking practice. They will then establish support group through which they will help each other to improve Maternal dietary supplementation, boost optimal breastfeeding practices, improve quality, balanced and diversity of a child's diet, improve feeding behaviors and stimulation, use of mosquito nets and hygiene. Special attention will be given to empower women and adolescent girls to break the vicious cycle of malnutrition

2. Increase access to quality pre-school education to ensure that all children have the opportunity to reach their full potential

This project seeks to increase access to quality pre-school education and ensure that all children can be enrolled. KICHEP strives to create a model learning environment where every child has the opportunity for a bright start and grow to their full potential. One kindergarten school will be established for each of 6 villages of Kivule ward. Currently, KICHEP is running one Kindergarten school which has so far enrolled 20 children. However for the past 2years more than 150 children's have benefited from the project. Door to door community mobilization will be done to ensure that all children are brought to our kindergarten school. Our teachers are well trained in ECD, and are constantly upgraded so that they can provide quality education that we strive for the children in our community. Since we are working in the very poor community where parents can't afford to pay full term school fees for their children KICHEP has come up with innovative arrangement where no school fees are charged except a small amount of money, 1000 shillings per day (\$ 0.4) for children's food while at school. These arrangements ensure that in our community, we are "leaving no one behind".

Project Area

The project will be implemented At Kivule ward, in the outskirts of Dar Es Salaam. Most the inhabitants of Kivule are poor and marginalized, depending on petty business and gardening as major sources of income. Although located in Dar Es Salaam, Education sector has categorized it as rural areas. Dar Es salaam is one of the 10 regions with the highest burden in stunting (58%) and in education sector it has the poorest pre- primary school enrollment with only 25.7%

Project primary Beneficiaries

- Children aged 0-6 years
- Secondary beneficiaries:
- Mothers of children aged 0-6
 - Youths and women

Objective 3. Promote children rights and protect them from all forms of violence.

Protecting young children from violence and abuse is not only a human rights obligation; but the foundation from which children, can develop to their fullest potential and achieve better health, learning and social development outcomes. This program will sensitize the community on children rights and create awareness on VAC law. To ensure that violence cases happening in the community are reported and dealt with, reporting mechanism will be established through 'Best Yangu' women groups in the community. Children will be supported to ensure that they all get birth registration certificates. Classes will be conducted on parenting skills to parents of children enrolled in kindergarten schools. Parents in the marginalized communities with poor or no community recreation and play grounds are faced with the problem of places to take their children during weekends. These children are forced to play in unsafe places increasing the chances of being abused or even abducted. Cases of children abduction is on increase in Dar es Salaam, and Kivule ward is one of the areas affected. KICHEP will provide solution for this problem by establishing Community Children Library and conduct weekly sports bonanza for children.

Implementation of the Solution

Proposed Activities

Objective 1: Improve health and nutrition of young children and their mothers in Kivule ward

Activity 1.1. *Sensitize the community on the importance of proper nutrition, health and ensure that Children, adolescents and women of child bearing age consume adequate micronutrients*

Activity 1.2 *Establish “Besti Yangu” women groups for community door to door campaign and support*

Activity 1.3 *Support Adolescents, pregnant women and mothers/care givers of children under five years to practice optimal nutrition and health promotion behaviors*

Activity 1.4 *Support community women groups to establish vegetable garden and preparation of balanced diet using locally available foods in Kivule.*

Objective 2: Increase access to quality pre-school education to ensure that all children can reach their full potential

Activity 2.1 *Conduct door to door campaign to identify school age children and enroll them at the KICHEP pre-school program*

Activity 2.2 *Recruit and train kindergarten teachers on Early Childhood Development*

Activity 2.3 *Support children at the KICHEP Pre-school with books, and scholastic materials*

Activity 2.4 *Equip the KICHEP Pre-School with furniture, sports equipment’s and children games*

Objective 3: Promote children rights and protect them from all forms of violence

Activity 3.1 *Sensitize the community on children rights and create awareness on VAC law*

Activity 3.2 *Established local child-protection reporting mechanism for cases of child abuse and violence in the community*

Activity 3.3 *Support children to get birth registration certificates*

Activity 3.4 *Conduct training on parenting skills to parents/caregivers of children at Kivule ward .*

Activity 3.5 *Establish Community Children Library and conduct weekly sports bonanza for children in Kivule ward*

4. Impact

- Improved health and nutrition situation of children in Kivule ward
- Decreased child mortality
- Increased number of children enrolled in preschool and primary school.
- Improved performance of children in school and increased number of children who transition to higher classes.
- Reduced incidences/case of violence against children.

Indicators and monitoring

	Indicator	Target	Data Source
1	<i># of mothers of child bearing age reached on nutrition sensitive interventions</i>	1000	<i>Project progress and final reports</i>
2	<i>% children (36-59 months) receiving at least one year of a quality pre-primary education program</i>	500	<i>End of the project assessment report</i>
3	<i># of parents trained on parenting skills</i>	700	<i>Training reports.</i>
4	<i>% of children who transitioned to higher class</i>	500	<i>School reports</i>
5	<i>% reduction in number of reported cases of violence against children</i>	100	<i>project reports</i>
5	<i>% of children >5 with stunting</i>	TBD	TDHS