



MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

It is our pleasure that we share with you Good Hope Foundation for Rural Development annual report for 2015. In this report; you will read more about how we collectively reached more people during our implementation.

As we celebrate the end of 2015 and welcome 2016, I wish to extend my sincere appreciation to RWECO consortium members, partners, friends and well-wishers for the job well done more especially in supporting Good Hope Foundation for Rural Development's efforts in the fight against community challenges.

Years come and end, but the challenges in our communities like violence against children and women, poverty, food insecurity; climate change related problems among others have remained endless.

Therefore, my call is to re-strengthen multi-sectoral approach in tackling the above challenges

I acknowledge and appreciate all the support (financial, technical & material) from HIVOS-EU, East Africa Child Fund under RWECO Consortium, WWF Country office, and the different District Local governments in Rwenzori region especially Kasese and Bundibugyo.

I appeal to all those who feel can do anything to reverse the above mentioned challenges to join Good Hope Foundation for Rural Development in 2016 and do the needful.

I end by thanking both staff, RWECO consortium members, our donors, board and all leadership of the different local governments where Good Hope Foundation for Rural Development has operations for the supportive efforts and request for more and continued commitment as we implement our programs in 2016 and beyond.

KAMUNDU MOSES
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Introduction

This report documents the progress and achievements in the implementation of Good Hope Foundation programmes during the year 2015. The report is centred on the direction Good Hope Foundation is taking in response to the expectations of our various stakeholders and with close reference to the organisation strategic plan that was developed in 2015. It also brings out governance and institutional developments Good Hope Foundation has effected in the year 2015.

What is elaborated in this report has been possible because of the support of various stakeholders, members of staff, donors and other valuable members of the community we serve.

It is therefore prudent to pay tribute to all the actors for the faith and trust they have continued to have in Good Hope Foundation which gives us the zeal to sustain our key programmes mandate.

Who we are?

Good Hope Foundation for Rural Development (GHFRD) is a local non-governmental organization operating in four Districts of the Rwenzori region in Western Uganda.

The organization was first registered locally at the district level in 1996. It is currently registered by the Uganda NGO board as a Non-Governmental Organization, under the Non-Governmental Organization statute, reg. number S 5914 / 5232.

In 2015, Good Hope Foundation developed a comprehensive M&E framework, a strategic plan and the Advocacy strategy for her programme work. In addition to the above, Good Hope Foundation implemented the following projects,

- **Community-led mechanisms to prevent violence against children and adolescents in Kasese District, Rwenzori Region,**
- **Strengthening Community Structures to Enhance Civic Competence and Social Accountability in the Rwenzori Region,**
- **Community actions to prevent and manage conflicts and human rights violations in Ruwenzori Region of Uganda**

Good Hope Foundation developed a new strategic plan for 2015- 2020. There has been an urgent need to develop a new strategic plan for 2015-2020 where livelihood and natural resource management can be incorporated.

Good Hope Foundation hired a consultant who guided the stakeholders of Good Hope Foundation in the development of a new strategic plan. This began with the analysis of the present activities of Good Hope Foundation by key stakeholders, the historical profile of Good Hope Foundation where the vision, mission, objectives and goal were discussed.

Good Hope Foundation also hired a consultant to develop an M&E frame work which had never been developed since her establishment in 1996. The consultant guided staff and board of directors in the development of an M&E frame work for Good Hope Foundation. This begun with the development of the logical framework of the entire organisation planned programmes. These two documents are important for guiding the management of Good Hope Foundation to greater heights.

Good Hope Foundation has developed an Advocacy strategy the first of its kind. Good Hope Foundation hired a consultant who guided Board and staff of Good Hope Foundation in the development of an Advocacy strategy. This began with the analysis of the present activities of Good Hope Foundation by both Board and staff, where the vision, mission, objectives and goal were discussed.

This document is important for guiding the management of Good Hope Foundation in the development of advocacy strategies for the different projects.

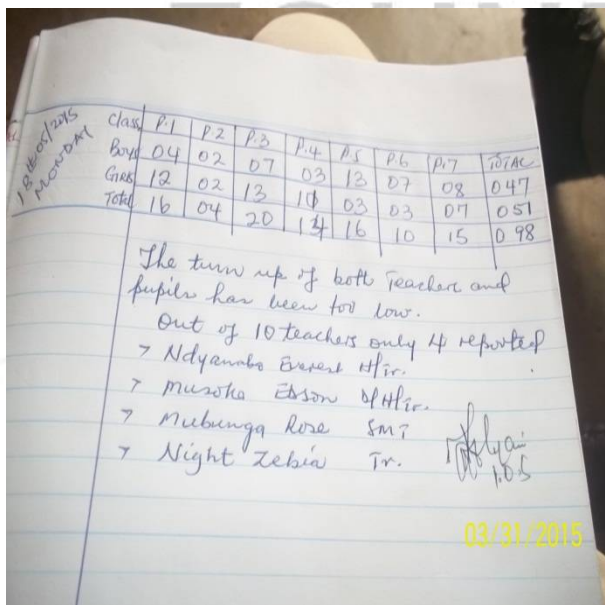
This activity was attended by WWF Advocacy and capacity building officer.



Participants during the development of the Strategic plan and the M&E Frame work

SUPPORTED GRASSROOTS CITIZENS INITIATIVES ON MONITORING, DOCUMENTING AND REPORTING.

Conducted a Four days District joint tracking survey to monitor and document the status of service delivery in Education sector in Bundibugyo District. The sub counties reached include; Bukonzo, Ngamba, Bubukwanga, Ntotoro, Nyahuka town council and Ndugutu. We also consulted the secondary data from the D.E.Os office to compare both findings which gave us a stand on District performance and NGOS' contribution.



REPORT ON NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS, NO OF LEADERS, ISSUES RAISED ACTION TAKEN

Supported eight District leaders (8; 5 males, 3 females) and 5 CPFs (4 males, 1 female) to track the academic performance of Bundibugyo District since 2010, and general Education sector status in the District. Some of the leaders engaged included; D.I.S, LCV V/P, DCDO, ACAO, secretary for social services and other political leaders.

ISSUES RAISED/FINDINGS

There has been a general academic improvement attributed to the following reasons;

- The 256 DIV.1 (2014) candidates in private schools is attributed to Boarding program in some schools, heavy financial contribution of parents and strict supervision by head teachers.
- Support from NGOs and other stakeholders in monitoring, reporting and financial support.
- Good use of increased funding for inspection and D.E.O'S facilitation
- Team work and collaboration among stakeholders, like Good Hope Foundation facilitating joint monitoring, occasionally.
- Political support and supervision
- School feeding program in some schools
- Increased mobilization of communities to support education through meetings and the media.

However, there is still a need of capacity building SMCS in most schools. As a sustainability strategy of the effective continuous monitoring, Committees in almost all schools need to be refreshed on their roles and responsibilities and where need be, any relevant support be given for them to effect their work.

ACTIONS TAKEN

- Organized a District feedback meeting to report the joint tracking survey findings to the District stakeholders and further deliberate on sustaining the achievements already registered in the Education sector, since 2010.
- Making a verbal agreement with the Bundibugyo District leaders on continuous Joint monitoring exercise funded by the CAO's office where Good Hope foundation shall always be engaged.

Monitors in Bubukwanga and Nyahuka Town council organized feedback sessions to citizens in form of NAs to share on key findings with their local leaders and suggest possible community based solutions to some outstanding challenges.

Achievements

- Local governments. This is justified by the District increased funding to the inspectorate department who engage some of our monitors in some schools.
- Increased academic performance of the District is an achievement we have a share on. In 2010 when we started our civic competence project in Bundibugyo District, The whole District scored only sixty eight (68) grade ones. In 2014, the score stood at Three hundred forty eight (348) grade ones-115% increase.

Improved citizens' skill in packaging information on service delivery for action by leaders. A citizenry prepared petition was for example presented to the Bundibugyo District leaders by Monitors, about improving Health standards as a cross cutting issue in sustaining academic improvement. This justifies improved skills. *Petition attached*

RWECO STAFF TO FOLLOW UP ON CPF REPORTS WITH THE LOCAL LEADERSHIP AT SUB COUNTY LEVEL

Conducted seven (7) follow-up visits with Monitors to sub county headquarters of; Nyahuka town council, Ndugutu, Bubukwanga, Bukonzo and Bubandi in Bundibugyo District, and Maliba and Kyabarungira sub counties in Kasese District focusing on service delivery gaps identified during the routine monitors' monitoring and engagements with local service providers. The visits specifically aimed at finding out the actions taken by sub county leaderships on addressing service delivery gaps in the education and Health sectors.

REPORT ON NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS, NO OF LEADERS, ISSUES RAISED ACTION TAKEN

Fifteen (15; 10 males, 5 females) people participated in the follow-up visits and of these, Eight were leaders (Politicians and civil servants).

ISSUES RAISED

- Existence of unfunctional Health unit management committees is attributed to poor selection and political influence .The Butama HCIII HUMC in Ndugutu sub-county is for example not yet fully constituted, other members left and political influence is still eminent at Nyahuka HCIV.
- Inadequate staff at some schools like Mundimulinga P/s in Nyahuka Town council, the teacher pupil ratio is above 1:65. The National and District teachers' ceiling is beyond sub county authority hence such gaps are hard to be filled at sub county level.
- In collaboration with the Kasese District leadership, delivery of drugs to health centers in Kyabarungira and Maliba had been improved tremendously case of; Rwesande HCIV and Maliba integrated HCIII. This is attributed to continuous reports from citizens to their leaders about scarcity of essential drugs.
- Health centers still lack adequate staff houses. This according to sub county leaders is beyond their financial capacity where they only make reports to the District for action. In Bundibugyo District, Nyahuka HCV with over 35 staff members, only 6 staff members are adequately accommodated, and in Kasese District, Maliba integrated HCIII also lack adequate staff houses.
- Most Health centers visited have HUMCs and in Bundibugyo, the DHO'S office supplied them with standard literature on their roles and responsibilities. This was resolved in the 2014 District feedback meeting. In Kasese District however, HUMCs still lack adequate knowledge on their roles and responsibilities and other committees are not fully constituted like Maliba integrated HCIII.

Recommendations

- The follow-up team agreed that district feedback meetings be organized to share the findings with District stakeholders and come up with concrete way forward.
- The Maliba sub county promised to incorporate HUMCs refresher trainings in their quarterly budget where technical support will be sought from Good hope foundation.

- Participants also suggested that a Press briefing be organized at the end of every follow-up activity to communicate to the citizens the status of service delivery. They suggested that a radio talk show should always be organized for political and civil servants who participated in the activity to pass a service delivery status message to the citizens. This suggestion was popularly raised in Bundibugyo District.
- Refresher trainings for Health unit management committees on their roles and responsibilities need consideration by all local governments. These will assist in supervising the health workers which will finally improve their services.
- Government should provide drugs according to the common health problems in different communities, for instance more of malaria drugs are supplied than any other, leaving out drugs for anti- conversant and hypertensive. These diseases are common at Nyahuka HCIV, but inadequate drugs for the same are supplied.
- There is also need for improved investment in building health workers' staff houses. This will improve their commitment and performance at workplace.
- There is need for the districts to sensitize communities on UPE and USE. Most parents still perceive the government programs as education for free. This if not made clear to everyone will affect the quality of education. People are interested in Politicians to pass the right message about the above programs.
- Early child hood development centers are vital for the good foundation of school going children. The leaders engaged in the exercise were giving experiences about how their generation literally performed better than the current generation simply because of the Nursery school foundation.

A strategy should be developed of feeding all school children at school either by their parents or Government. Students are deteriorating in academic performance because of spending days on empty stomachs.

Achievements

- Attributed to our monitors' work, there has been a consistent improvement of timely delivery of drugs to health centers especially in Kasese District.
- There has been a strengthened relationship between sub county local governments and our community monitors. Out of the seven sub counties visited for example, five officially invited our CPFs to represent the monitors in the launch of 2015/2016 sub county budgets conferences.

There have also been reduced cases of drug theft attributed to citizens' vigilance that are frequently mobilized by the monitors. The sub county leaders especially the political wing also started engaging monitors as watch dogs at Health centers. A case of Ndugutu, Bukonzo and Bubukwanga sub counties in Bundibugyo District

Lesson learnt

- Involving a variety of stakeholders like sub county leaders in project implementation is pertinent in closing the gap between them and social accountability project team as well as limiting doubts on findings.
- If CPFs are adequately facilitated, many community issues and project results will clearly be reported on. Motivation makes them to work harder.

Sub county service providers are becoming more receptive to CSOs and willing to work together to close service delivery gaps.

SUPPORT THE CPFs AND GRASSROOTS MONITORS TO CONDUCT AND DOCUMENT CITIZENS CONCERNS ON SERVICE DELIVERY AND PRESENT THEM TO LOCAL LEADERS

Organized 1 district feedback meeting about the joint tracking survey findings in Bundibugyo. 39(29 males, 10 females) participants attended, 21 leaders including LCV V/C/P Hon.Kamabu Blasio, CAO and his Deputy Mr. Hood, DNC Mr. Kisembo Light Godfrey, Senior inspector of schools Mr.Maate Charles, CDO Mr. Olega Caesar, District health officer Dr. BagonzaMajid, sub county councilors, LCIII C/Ps from Bukonzo, Bubukwanga, Ngamba, Ntotoro, Nyahuka Town council, Media from VOB and Development FM, and Monitors.

Issues Raised

- Academic performance improvement is progressively being witnessed and for the first time, the D.E.O's office was publicly congratulated.
- Late turn up for beginning of terms by pupils is still happening in some schools.
- Information gaps about delivery of services in the District where most local people still lack adequate information on the roles of their local governments in delivering development services.
- The number of population and area served by Nyahuka Health center is beyond the jurisdiction of a Health Centre IV.
- Unfunctionality of most SMCs in the District.

Actions suggested

- Emphasis on Schools to begin setting beginning of terms exams, whose results shall always account for end of term exam results. DEO made communication to all head teachers.

District to organize independent joint monitoring activities, at least quarterly

- Cutting across all sectors and Sub counties.
 - Emphasis made on Putting in place Bundibugyo District service delivery monitoring team that should continuously be fully financed by CAO's Office to conduct joint monitoring with relevant CSOs Operating in the District.
- All SMCs in the District to be availed literature about their roles and responsibilities by the District inspector of schools, whereby all head teachers will be instructed to cause SMCs' meetings and refresh members on their roles and responsibilities.

Achievements

- The District chairperson and DHO's offices made an official follow-up in July, 2015 to Ministry of Health about elevating Nyahuka HCIV to a hospital status and the current feedback is that they are now more than 60% hopeful of success.
- The District inspector of schools sent literature about Roles and responsibilities of SMCs to all schools and by the third week of third term, 2015, all head teachers shall have met their committees as planned.

Political leaders have started educating their electorate on the roles of local governments in development. This is being done through our established NAs in Nyahuka town council, Bubukwanga and Ndugutu sub counties

Lessons learnt

Most local government leaders only work best if pressurized by Citizens. For example, the Nyahuka HCIV elevation campaign to a hospital status started late 2012, but visible action has been witnessed from October 2014 after consistent pressure from citizens led by community monitors in Nyahuka Town council.

District feedback meetings are a strategic platform to raise issues that can lead to immediate actions because they are attended by most decision makers in the District.

Two sensitization sessions for women and youth groups including local leaders on prevention of violence against children were conducted by Good Hope Foundation for Rural development in two subcounties of Kisinga and Karusandara all in Kasese district at the groups' head offices, with the main objective of strengthening the capacity of communities leaving within the school environment to prevention of violence against children. 80 people participated in these meetings (37 males and 43 females).

Key areas of discussion were on the rights of children and on their roles in ending violence against children and adolescents in communities, forms and effects of VAC, tracking and reporting cases of violence against children. Among those who attended included the local leaders, members from the four groups which Good Hope assessed and these included; Karusandara HIV AIDs United Group, Kanamba Youth Action for Child right Improvement, St. Lucy women group, and Rural youth Initiative for Development, CDOs and secretary for social services for the two sub counties.

Key Comments by Participants

- Members had to comment on the issue of facilitating these activities where they requested Good Hope Foundation to be facilitating the groups with small money to conduct these activities.
- Members also requested for materials on violence against children and adolescents and also the continuous support visits by Good Hope Foundation.
- The CDOs requested members to always use the OVC management information system tools in reporting services offered on preventing violence against children and adolescents.
- Members were also called upon to work with the police, local and religious leaders in preventing violence against children and adolescents.
- The CDOs also requested women to be role models right from their families by creating families free, from violence against children.

Key Outputs from sensitization meetings of local leaders, women and youth groups

- Discussing Partnership MOUs with the groups sensitized
- Capturing Participants comments above that will guide each other in the forthcoming interventions.
- Public pledges made by leaders to maximally cooperate in implementing this project like CDOs and the political leaders.
- Schedules for implementing the forthcoming activities under the project, agreed upon between the groups and Good Hope Foundation.

Good Hope Foundation also organized three (3) sensitization meetings for the stakeholders on dangers of violence against children in two subcounties of Kisinga and Karusandara all in Kasese district targeting the 4 schools which included; Kiburara primary school, Kisinga Vocation Secondary school, Karusandara SDA and Kenyange primary school. The sensitization meeting was to strengthen the capacity of school management committees to mitigate violence against children and adolescents. The meeting focussed on sharing the proposal document among the school committee while highlighting the activities that will be implemented with the school, sensitizing the members on issues of VAC and then sharing and discussing the guidelines produced by the ministry of education on reducing violence against children in schools.

The meeting was attended by the school management committee members, the PTA members, local leaders and some civil servants. 86 people participated in these sensitization meetings were 58 males and 28 females.

Among the issues raised by the participants during the discussions that increases violence against children and adolescents in schools included; the mishandling of cases by the local leaders and the police due to corruption, also the tendency of the members to protect their relationships with the community members which makes people to fear reporting the perpetrators, the culture parents not attending parent's meeting which is the only platform parents and teachers can discuss the welfare of the learners.



PTA and SMC meeting at Kisinga vocation ss



PTA and SCM meeting for Kenyange muslim and karusandara SDA p/s



PTA and SMC meeting at Kiburara P/S

Outputs from the sensitization meetings of key stakeholders on dangers of violence against children and adolescents

- The management to come up with by-laws that hold parents responsible to attend the parents meetings.

- Local leaders together with the management to do massive mobilization in the community to build school ownership among the community members.
- The management and parents also to assist the teaching staff in tracking, reporting and following up cases of violence against children in schools and in the community.
- The management also suggested that the head teacher should always give a written report on the affairs of the children in school to the management and parents.
- PTA and SMC to ensure that guidelines on preventing VAC in the school are implemented by all stakeholders of the school.
- In the meeting, members pledged to do massive advocacy at school and community level on prevention of VAC while educating the community and the children on the importance of education and raising awareness on the roles and responsibilities of teachers, children and parents in ensuring that children in school are free from violence.
- The management and the teaching staff to ensure that children are tested for HIV/AIDS and pregnancies at least once a term.
- Members had to suggest that for any VAC related case within the school, they should be engaging non-governmental organizations to assist in following-up the cases as this will reduce the chances of cases being mishandled.
- The management appreciated the intervention in their schools and promised to the implementing organization that the school and the management will give them full support to ensure that the school is a safe environment for the children to grow and attain good education. Members committed themselves to own the project to ensure that their schools are free from VAC.

Good Hope Foundation for Rural Development is also working with both the religious and cultural leaders as stakeholders in preventing violence against children and adolescents in Kasese district. It is working with the Obusinga Bwa Rwenzururu as the reorganized cultural institution in the district. Good Hope Foundation together with the rest of RWECO members had a meeting with the queen mother (Nyabahole) of Rwenzururu Kingdom to share and discuss how they can work together in preventing violence against children in Kasese district and also to share and identify some areas of support during the Embale Ya Nyabaghole which Good Hope Foundation and other RWECO members joined to train the young girls in re-usable sanitary pads for purposes

of helping the young girls to access and utilize sanitary pads to eliminate challenges they go through during their menstrual periods such as miss of classes, school dropout etc because of failure to access the pads. The event which was officiated by the Queen mother was attended by over 400 people and among those who attended included the officials from the Cultural institution, local leaders and religious leaders, young girls and youths. Key issues cited by the Queen mother was on how children can handle themselves in the community and how they can participate in developing the kingdom especially through embracing Education and stopping bad behaviors that can put them into trouble.



The queen of Rwenzururu Kingdom addressing Good hope Foundation staff and other RWEKO members in her Office during Embale ya Nyabaghole planning meeting.

Out puts from working with religious and cultural leaders

- The queen mother committed to the members that the institution through the Nyabaghole Foundation will cooperate with the organization in ending violence against children and adolescents.
- The cultural institution committed to work with other stakeholders including teachers and the government to improve the quality of lives of children.

- Areas of support during the Embale ya nyabaghole identified and mechanisms of addressing them was identified.
- 110 young girls trained in re-usable sanitary pads with the main goal of empowering school girls through the provision of skills on re-usable sanitary pads, capacity building on menstrual hygiene, Management and reproductive health education for improved performance and self esteem.
- Young girls and youths advised by the Queen Mother to demonstrate good behaviors in their families, community and at schools for them to be free from violence and to succeed in life.

Good Hope foundation facilitated Kisinga social forum and Karusandara social forum to conduct a neighborhood assembly session. The Neighborhood assembly was attended by various categories of people including the elected leaders, district representatives, civil servants, religious leaders, members from the media house, opinion leaders/community elders, sub county CDO, and the CFPU. Over 400 people attended the neighborhood assembly who were first sensitized on the concept of violence against children and thereafter were engaged in a discussion to share and discuss key issues undermining children's development in the community as cited in the clerk to council presentation and how best they can be addressed. Failure to supply required necessities, defilement, negligence, beating, threatening violence in families, parental hood denial and failure to pay medical bills were among the cases of VAC that are highly reported which members said are mainly brought about by the increase in large families, economic empowerment of women, disrespect among children, alcoholism and drug abuse, poverty lack of awareness on policies and laws that protect children among others.



The Ass. CDO Kisinga S/C giving his communication on the prevalence of VAC in the sub county



The CFPU Kisinga S/County responding to questions from the audience



A member giving his opinion on how violence against children can be prevented

Output from the neighborhood assemblies

Action plans and recommendations were developed by the members in order to prevent violence against children in the communities and below are the action points;

- Sensitizing community members on relevant laws and policies concerning, domestic violence, children and adolescents by the police, CDO and Good Hope Foundation.
- Sensitizing women on their family roles despite them engaging in various businesses by Good Hope Foundation, CDO, and group leaders.
- Engaging religious leaders in popularizing the district children ordinance and also giving them copies of ordinance by Good Hope Foundation and CDO.
- Mobilizing children and adolescents in the sub county and engaging them international child rights days by Good Hope Foundation and the sub county leadership.
- Local leaders and community members to take action on alcoholism and drug abuse
- The Sub county CFPU to strengthen community policing mainly sensitizing community members on the rights of children
- Community members to be monitors and they called upon parents and care givers to be role models to the children and this will be ensured by the NA leadership and the group members.

- Members also requested the community members to embrace the Embale ya nyabaghole and requested that it should be extended at village levels and be conducted quarterly
- Sensitizing children on their roles and responsibilities towards their parents/families and this will be done by Good Hope Foundation, religious leaders and the senior woman and man teachers.
- Members also suggested that parents should always have enough time to talk to their children for example as mentioned by the head teacher who was on the NA he said averagely parents in the sub county spent only 37 minutes in a day talking to their children and part of these minutes are as well used in abusing them which members said it is a worrying culture in the families.

Challenges during implementation of Projects

- As we had planned, some of the top elected leaders did not turn up because of being in election campaigns which made us to miss their opinion on prevention of violence against children in the sub county.
- Time management by the participants which affect the activity implementation time.
District feedback meetings are a strategic platform to raise issues that can lead to immediate actions because they are attended by most decision makers in the District meeting than planned.
- Local leader's interference in the selection of the groups by negotiating for their own groups and groups from their own areas. This was however handled professionally with the CDOs.
- Hoarding of some facts about service delivery by some sub county leaders especially if the follow-up issue was political/ or against the sitting government like corruption cases and delays to sort out Nyahuka HCIV issues.
- With draw of some hard working monitors from the structures brought in new monitors who lack monitoring skills. This was common in Maliba and made the follow-up of issues limited
- Continuous financial expectation by most participants in our meetings above (at schools) is a challenge that continues to be experienced.
- Inadequate professional skills in monitoring service delivery by most political leaders (councilors).

- Change is a process and if given time, it is witnessed. In 2010, it was very hard to convince the Bundibugyo local governments to plan for adequate funding of the inspectorate work. They thought civil society will always be there to support that activity. The perception is however changing and they have started planning for its funding, although still inadequate.
- Raising voices against poor service delivery in away changes attitude and creates fear to service providers to act carefully. Teachers now fear and know everyone is there to check their actions hence slowly improving their commitment on teaching.

If timely refresher trainings of SMCs in the District are conducted, effective monitoring of the education sector performance at service point level will be maintained supported by wide media campaigns and sensitization. This will sustain our five years' work in the District.



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