

Update on Masaki

This is an update about life in the area of Masaki, as seen through the eyes of the children and families who live there. Masaki is made up of various communities and the situation and the activities described are representative of the area as a whole.

Our area faces several challenges which include an insufficient number of classrooms, desks, textbooks, sports equipments, limited access to safe drinking water and school latrines. To tackle some of these issues, various activities and projects have been carried out over the last year and we, the children of Masaki's area are happy to provide to you an update on the progress.

Improvement in education



Saidi Yusufu Saudi from Chanzige secondary school receiving the exercise books by Plan support.

The textbook we received are very supportive to us, as we are no longer chased out of school due to insufficient textbook. Plan also supported us with school fee, which was the serious problem before.

Plan in collaboration with Kisarawe district council, managed to increase number of classrooms and conducted new curriculum training to primary school teachers, which contributed to increased number of students attending the secondary school.



I am Msiba and I am 13 years old. Plan has helped us to train Masaki communities on HIV and Aids. This has helped in reducing the number of death to pregnant women and children younger than five years old.

Improving healthcare

With Plan's support, we organized several training and awareness sessions for community health workers on health issues around children. Communities have been trained on protecting families from the spread of HIV and AIDS and malaria prevention. Also three of our schools have now reservoir water tanks, which help us to get drinking water at the near places and allow us to do some other home errand and school homework. Government offices, Plan and community health workers conducted national vaccination campaign for all children of age less than five years old in order to prevent from diseases attack.

Other achievements arising from Plan's support

With the support of Plan our communities have been educated about birth registration. This has improved the level of registration of children and adult in our area. In addition we children were educated on children rights. We continue to advocate for our right and one of the ways were by drawing different pictures which transmitted the message of stopping the child cruelty.

Also Plan supported us on doing a survey on dam construction which we expect that early next year our area to benefit from it. Also through Community Lead Total Sanitation project, introduced by Plan, our parents managed to construct toilets in our schools. Generally, there is improved sanitation in our schooling environment.



Child effective media

Plan has introduced the "voice of children" project where we children are given the opportunity to express what we think and provide solution for the problems we are facing. The "Child Effective Media" project has raised our ability to participate in discussions and decision-making on matters affecting our area.

The day of African child is also an effective platform where we children also air our views. Through this project our skills on communication and photographing are enhanced. Also we have learnt that involvement of children in different development projects in our society is our right.

We also have learnt how to operate media equipment and prepare artistic drawings that carry different messages so that our voices can be heard to other people. This helps us in self-expression and self-recognition in our society. We also get taught about children's rights and gender relations.

Also we have been trained to be communicators of our society and we are advocating to various children associations that exist in our area.



Key priorities for the coming year

Improving the learning environment for children

Developing Early Child Hood Care and Development centres in our area so that children can get familiar of education before joining primary school.

Improving the health of families at Masaki

- Conducting awareness on family planning to Community Based Distributor
- Conducting training on nutrition food to mothers and care givers so that they can understand it important of giving their children.
- Increased knowledge on safe mothers/ family planning and HIV and AIDS to Traditional Birth Attendants and communities.

Promoting children's rights

- Holding awareness raising seminars to the families of Masaki on the importance of the registration of newly born babies.
- Continue working with children both in schools and out of schools to advocate children's rights.

This document was reviewed and edited by Plan's staff