

VAD & AIDLINK PARTNERSHIP

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Presentation Highlights:- on Water

- Brief introduction about VAD, Myself and My Role
- Our Partnership: VAD & Aidlink
- Focus on the value of water;-Targeted communities of Apeitolim, Napak of Karamoja
- Challenges of accessing clean safe water
- Distance, who is responsible for water collection
- Impact of Covid19 on Apeitolim communities and on schools
- VAD plans for the future?

About VAD, Myself and My Role

- VAD is a registered local NGO in Uganda
- Started 1996
- Vision: a healthy and vibrant self-reliant community
- Mission: a developing Organisation that empowers rural communities to be self-reliant through health, education, livelihood and advocacy interventions.
- Targeted Areas: Central & North Eastern Region(Amuria, Kaperebyong & Napak-Karamoja)
- Myself- I work as a Programmes Manager & my major role is to oversee and coordinate all programmes implemented in VAD. I hold a masters degree in Development Studies.

Our Partnership with Aidlink

This Partnership has been in existence since 2002 where we implemented WASH & livelihood projects and we impacted to over 170,000 people with improved livelihoods in Wakiso District in central Uganda.

Because of a good continued partnership & mutual understanding with Aidlink, VAD has grown into a strong and Nationally recognized Organisation in WASH

Until 2017, VAD & Aidlink decided to extend her wings in North Eastern region in Napak District; Karamoja.

So far 2 sub counties have been targeted: Apeitolim and Poron in Napak District

Value of water: justification



- **Global & National key legislation & policies in support of WASH:**
- **SDG 6-Clean water & sanitation for All**
- -The Constitution of the Republic of Uganda- *right to a clean & healthy environment*
- -The Water Act 1999- *promote the provision of clean, safe & adequate supply of water*
- -The National Environmental Health Policy 2005- *clean & healthy living environm't for all citizens in both rural & urban areas*

Challenges of accessing clean safe water in Napak; Karamoja

- High poverty levels:
 - 81% of the population earning below 100,000UGX per month (that's €23 per month).
 - 89% are subsistence farmers.
- High disease burden.
 - 40% of household incomes are spent on medication.
 - Most of the diseases are a result of poor hygiene and unsafe water.
- Lack of safe clean water.
 - 74% of people access water from swamps and open wells.
- Long distances to access water.
 - 60% of people walk more than 3km;
 - 65% take more than 1 hour.
- Women and children take a lead role/burden of accessing water

Continuation:

- Very low sanitation coverage:
3% in remote villages; 38% in trading centres.
Open defecation is very high thus making the communities very prone to diseases
- The area is very prone to long droughts which makes the challenges to accessing water even bigger.
Being a pastoralist community, animals very important and the herdsmen have to migrate to neighbouring Districts in search for pasture and water.
- Women and adolescent girls face big challenges in managing their menstruation periods.
They mostly use old clothes/rags, leaves, papers etc... they cannot afford the disposable pads that cost 4000UGX per month (about €0.90).

VAD's Intervention Approach

**Consultative & planning meeting
with local leaders**



**Baseline survey; pupils are
learning under the trees**



Baseline findings

Accessing water from unprotected ponds



Girls walk long distances of 6km while access to clean safe water



Sensitization & Trainings

School pupils trained in hygiene & sanitation best practices



Trained Community Monitoring teams in promotion of hygiene



Training of Adolescent girls in Menstrual Hygiene Management

Training in Making reusable sanitary pads

Trained pupils of Lomokori Primary school with self-made reusable sanitary pads



The change & Successes since 2017 in Apeitolim & Poron

12 deep boreholes constructed

to the targeted communities of
Poron & Apeitolim-Karamoja



Bore holes constructed in Apeitolim

Newly constructed



Women & girls are responsible for water collection



Constructed semi-permanent classroom buildings and latrines

12 semi-permanent classroom structures constructed

12 latrines of 3 stances each constructed in 13 schools



Commemoration of International WASH Days with communities

This was 2018 WWD commemorations in Poron ; Karamoja



Use of IEC to disseminate WASH messages to the wider communities



Impact on COVID-19 on schools

- COVID19 impacted all sectors but the Education was most affected
 - 15 m out of 40 million Ugandans are children and youths.
- Children have over stayed at home for almost a year until schools re-opened recently.

children faced with a lot of challenges related to child abuse, domestic violence

Some had started loosing hope of coming back to school thinking they have outgrown it!

- LC111 Chairperson of Napak District reporting
 - 63 girls aged 12-15 years in Apeitolim Sub County got pregnant while schools were closed and most of them seem to have lost hope of coming back to school.

In Napak District, early marriages have reached 14% and underage pregnancies rose to 25% from 20%

Cont;

- Boys too have resorted to grazing the cattle, vending small items (roasted maize etc) for income, and so their expectations of going back to school lessened
- Schools have faced with challenges of putting in place all the required Standard Operating Practices

very expensive for them especially with the rural schools in Napak yet they have inadequate funding

Aidlink's Response to C19

Hand washing campaign to minimize C19 in Apeitolim

A total of 25 HWFs of 135 liters each were distributed in concentrated areas



VAD's plans for the future

- Continue Implementation of WASH activities in the New parishes of Napak District.
- Capacity building
- More Resource mobilization

- **End of Presentation (I Appreciate everyone's attention)**