

Existing¹ Good Practice Case -1:

SCHOOL QUARTERLY MEETINGS IN DZAIFI PRIMARY SCHOOL

A case of Dzaifi primary school

Background

Dzaifi primary school is located in Dzaifi central village, Dzaifi Sub County, Adjumani district. It is 20 kilometres from Adjumani town. Dzaifi primary school was established in 1945. The school is a mixed (boys and girls) day school. The school has an enrolment of about 510 pupils of which are 249 girls and 261 boys.

Promoting good governance

The school organizes quarterly meetings where teachers educate pupils about their health, general school sanitation and hygiene and their roles and responsibilities in promoting health. The teachers also receive feedback from pupils about the school sanitation situation.

School quarterly meetings are held once in a term, health parades are done once a week and a daily health inspection of personal hygiene of pupils.

Activities performed during quarterly meetings

Activities during the school quarterly meetings include: health education, which is majorly done by teachers on duty; health inspection; routine cleaning and general cleaning of the compound, tanks and boreholes. These quarterly activities are done under supervision of prefects and teachers. The senior woman teacher also supplies sanitary pads to girls.

All these sanitation activities are overseen by the *School Health Club*, which comprises of sanitation teacher, senior female teacher, health prefects and several pupils.

Participants in the school quarterly meetings

These quarterly meetings are attended by the Head teacher, Deputy head teacher, Health prefect, Health teacher, Senior woman teacher and all the pupils in the school.

Achievements of school quarterly meetings

The school identified the following achievements resulting from these quarterly meetings:

- Cleanliness of the compound
- Increased awareness on sanitation issues
- Talk shows held for health education
- School Health and Sanitation Committee.

- Routine latrine cleaning.

Success factors on these achievements

There is good commitment amongst several groups in and around the school. This includes the School Management Committee, Parents Teachers Association, Sub-county officials such as the Health Assistants and the Officer in-charge of Dzaifi Sub-county Health Centre. The sub-county and health centre officials show a keen interest on issues around school sanitation and hygiene. That gives a good moral support to the school.

The teaching staff and pupils always fully participated in the school quarterly meetings.

The school made sure that there was ample availability of cleaning equipment and outfit such as brooms, brushes, grass slashers, hoes, pangas and gumboots.

Lessons learnt

Communication and education on health issues including sanitation and hygiene should be carried out more with visual and practical means and methods than verbal and theoretical ways. In that way the pupils get interested and appreciate more the objectives, results and outcomes.

School quarterly meeting should be done more consistently so that good hygienic practices do not slip away but get fully adopted in the daily practice of teachers, pupils and the school at large.

Challenges to address

- Inadequate funds to buy necessary hygiene and sanitation equipment and properly maintain the sanitation and hand washing facilities.
- Brief records of the school quarterly meetings including participation, activities and results should be kept for future use and sharing.

Contacts and information

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¹ Existing means that it was reported a good case in the first Dialogue by the participants