

FUTURE IN OUR HANDS THE GAMBIA

NEWSLETTER

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CLIMATE CHANGE SENSITIZATION IN LRR AND URR



FIOHTG has engaged communities in LRR and URR on a ten day training on climate change focusing on the causes and effects. The training was aimed at building the capacity of locals on climate change and its negative impacts on the environment. The communities, however, were exposed to the different mitigation and adaptation measures they can use to reduce the adverse effects of climate change such as harsh climatic conditions, changes in rainfall pattern, lost in soil nutrient, climate refugees, loss of forest cover etc. It is important to note that the targeted communities are farming communities who are primary victims of climate change. Therefore equipping them with the basic knowledge needed to adapt mitigation measures is essential in empowering them.

However, we are aware of the role that big firms and industrialised nations play in greenhouse emission. Yet, we recognize that every small effort matters. And training local communities is of course vital

COMMUNITIES TRAINED ON PROPER WASTE MANAGEMENT



Meanwhile, we have conducted waste management training to address waste issues and promote how to live in a clean environment. During the training, participants were also taught basic health issues and benefits of a clean environment. More emphasis was placed on how to manage and dispose of waste properly within the surroundings to prevent them from contracting certain communicable diseases as a result of unclean environment. These very communities will be able to better organize a series of set-setal either on a monthly or weekly basis.

The unclean environment encourages bad health conditions and it is against this backdrop that FIOHTG deems it necessary to engage selected communities to embark on cleansing exercises in homes, village squares and schools. Aside from the training, FIOHTG supports villages with equipment such as a wheelbarrow, rakes, shovel etc. to help facilitate the cleaning exercise. We believe the adage that a clean environment is a healthy abode and a healthy abode is a wealthy environment.

REFRESHER TRAINING ON PASTRIES



FIOHTG has concluded 5 days training in the communities of Tabajang, Nyawurlung and Maria Samba respectively. The communities have earlier benefited from bakeries and training from FIOHTG. The refresher training on pastries intends to rejuvenate the interest of locals towards pastry service to enhance livelihoods, increase accessibility, raise income level and most importantly ensure food self-sufficiency. The importance attached to the introduction of such an initiative cannot be overemphasised due to the impact it has on the lives and livelihoods of locals. Usually in every community, 10 volunteers out of which 6 are females and 4 are males are selected to operate the bakery. The selection process is entirely under the discretion of the locals themselves to ensure sustainability.

WOMEN & YOUTH FORUMS HELD IN TANDI WOLLOF & DARU IN CRR



Women and youth forums have been organised in Tandi Wolof and Daru villages in Fulladou West District in the Central River Region. This activity was facilitated by Mr. Musa Jarra of the Ministry of Youth and Sports and Mr. Matar Saidikan the URR Gender and Child Welfare focal point of the Gambia police force. The activity funded by the National Endowment for Democracy (NED) and coordinated by Mr. Ebrima Drammeh, program officer of the Community Development Unit of FIOHTG is geared towards creating a forum for youth and women to discuss issues affecting them and forge solutions together. As can be seen, participants were provided with masks and asked to physically distance.

FIOHTG PROVIDES PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN & TEACHERS AMID COVID



The School Development Unit has implemented two significant and timely activities in rural Gambia. The unit provided psychosocial support for school children, teachers and community members (SMC, Parents, Mother clubs, duty bearers & youth) and Career development and human rights training respectively. The surge in Covid-19 has become very alarming in the Gambia especially within local communities. As of 21st September 2020, The Gambia has registered a total of 3542 cases of novel coronavirus disease according to the situational report of the Ministry of Health of the Gambia. Covid-19 has become a challenge and its impact on the socio-economic lives of indigenous people across the nation has affected and interrupted not only individual activities but the economy as well. It is against that backdrop that Future In Our Hands The Gambia as a genuine partner, deemed it necessary to engage students, teachers and the rest of communities from the satellite villages to create awareness about the deadly disease and its preventive measures as directed by the WHO. Most important, as people are glued to the news about the devastating impacts of the virus, children can mentally suffer from panics and phobias. Therefore, it was deemed necessary to prepare the mindset of students to avoid panic which could harm their performance. Essentially, the Unit had encourage children to adhere to regulations prescribed by the school towards the control and spread of COVID-19 and to feel that they will be safe.

MARIA & SAMBA NYADO TO BENEFIT FROM GARDEN



The Helsing garden project in Maria and Samba Nyaado community is progressing. As galvanized fencing wire, galvanized binding wire, paints including red oxide, silver colour and thinner with cash for the skilled, unskilled labour and other material requirements for the construction of the garden fence had been delivered to the community through the VDC. The VDC has been given the responsibility to coordinate all the work and it has consulted with the rest of community to start work. The black pipes and iron rods are also delivered to a Welder in Njabba kunda who is contracted by the VDC to cut the pipes to required size, tack pipes with pieces of iron rods and also do the painting. Mr. Drammeh of FIOHTG thanked the Helsing Group on behalf of the community.



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Do you have a story or an event for the next newsletter?

If so, we would like to hear from YOU!

Thank you for your support!