

FUTURE IN OUR HANDS THE GAMBIA

NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2021



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Education For All Through Community Development

A 5 DAY TRAINING ON NUTRITION & CHILD CARE WRAPS UP



A five day training on nutrition, child care and hygiene has been simultaneously held in Maria and Samba Nyado and Kerr Ardo villages. The training targeted lactating mothers, pregnant women and children under five years as well as fathers. Mr Jawo, a facilitator from the National Nutrition Agency reminded participants that “exclusive Breastfeeding is a benchmark in ensuring healthy growth of children”. He urged participants to take breastfeeding seriously and dispel the myth about exclusive breastfeeding.

According to Mariama Gaye, a participant, "the myth that breastfeeding your children exclusively affect their cognitive development...has been affecting their efforts to breastfed their children exclusively". She called for concerted efforts to dispel the myth. Another participant, Kebba Touray, lamented the lack of active male participation in childcare. He called on his fellow men to take a more active role in child care, adding that it should not be left to women alone.

Meanwhile, the communities benefitted from a grinder which would serve as a labour saving device and a source of income for the villages. Our Programme officer reported that the materials will go a long way in assisting the communities in their efforts to promote nutrition, child care and hygiene. The Alkalos and the Village Development Committee Chairpersons who received the materials on behalf of the communities, expressed delights for the gesture.



GCCA+ PROJECT TEAM CONDUCTS TRAINING ON CLIMATE CHANGE



A training on Climate Change Mitigation, Adaptation, and Disaster Preparedness targeting farmers, women and youth has been concluded in the Central River Region North. During the training, participants reflected on the causes of climate change and what everyone, from the individual, households to the government should do.

Lamin Jobe, a participant argued that: “climate change is everyone's responsibility in the Gambia but the government through the Department of Forestry should bear the greatest responsibility of the deteriorated conditions of our fragile ecosystem...If government is calling for tree planting then they should make seedlings available to the communities on time”.

Hassin Sedibeh, another participant said that “inequalities in accessing employment opportunities between those in the urban and rural parts of the Gambia has a major influence on environmental depletion”. He pointed out that the sources of their livelihoods is very limited compared to those in the urban areas and for that reason they venture into livelihoods activities such as firewood fetching, charcoal production, amongst others which have negative impacts on our environment.

Samba Wann, also a participant pointed out that indiscriminate cutting down of trees in their forest has a major impact on environmental depletion. To substantiate his argument, he made reference to how they deliberately cut down more trees for roofing or fencing than the quantities needed for a particular time. Another participant lamented how there seems to be grabbing of communal forests by certain individuals who would sell big trees for logging. He called for a communal effort to preserve the environment, trees in particular. While the causes of climate change are varied and complex, FIOHTG is glad that people are looking at individual efforts that can protect the environment.

FIOHTG AWARDS CONTRACT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SMART AGRICULTURAL CENTER IN PRINCE, UPPER NIUMI



Future In Our Hands The Gambia has awarded a contract to Jalakolong Trading Enterprise for the construction of a climate smart agricultural production center in Prince village in the Upper Nuimi District of the North Bank Region. The project is part of the GCCA+ Project fund under the Gambia -EU Cooperation for Climate Change Mitigation, Adaptation and Disaster preparedness. It is expected that the agricultural production center when completed will contribute to the community's food sovereignty goal.

SENSITISATION ON GBV & VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN CONCLUDED



A sensitization on gender based violence and violence against children was concluded in Dalaba. The training which covered Ballanghar, Kaur, Fass, Jareng, Kerr Mamut, Babou Jobe was meant to familiarize communities with the Code of Conduct and safety checklist as required by the World Bank in the construction of schools under the Bank's funds. The Individual code of conduct and check list have also been administered to establish whether any violations has taken place reported Mrs. Marong, the focal person of FIOHTG on gender based violence and violence against children.



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