



The Republic of Uganda

MINISTRY OF GENDER, LABOUR AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

**REPORT ON RESETTLEMENT & MANAGEMENT OF STREET CHILDREN AT KOBULIN YOUTH
SKILLS TRAINING CENTRE**

BY:

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JULY 2018 TO JUNE 2019

1. Introduction:

This is the summary report for management and resettlement of street children from Kampala transiting through Kobulin Youth Skills Training Centre-Napak, Karamoja sub region. The returnees' children were received at Kobulin and then taken through life skills and elementary education, registration and medical screening. The team at Kobulin headed by the Principal of Kobulin and 8 Social workers from C&D –Moroto district always receive the children

2. Specific objectives:

- To rehabilitate, trace and re unite the children with their families /community and schools.
- To provide welfare, protection, psychosocial services for vulnerable children through integration and reduction of outward migration of children and youth out of Karamoja.
- To provide tailored skills training and socio-economic support to the vulnerable young people and women.

3. ACHIEVEMENTS

- Repatriation of 149 children were successfully returned to Karamoja for onward management, the Ministry Coaster was used in the transportation of children from Mpigi to Napak and within Wakiso also, 149 children were returned from Kampala streets 121 females and 28 males,
- Mentorship of social workers in Karamoja was done by the Ministry to build a work force of volunteers' social workers for any emergency rehabilitation and resettlement programme in the region. A total of over 40 social workers were trained in child protection skills and care and protection.
- A total of 20 returnees / children were intercepted at Kireka on their way from Moroto to Kampala and brought to Kobulin for rehabilitation and resettlement by Police in Napak, who were worked closely with Napak district.
- Registration, this is critical activity at the facility: On arrival these children were registered by our social workers to ascertain their homes and other details for tracing and resettlement.
- Medical screening: In partnership with nearby health facility we facilitated medical screening and treatment to the 149 children who were received by the social workers at the centre with support from Lorengechora health center staff. The 149 children were screened for malaria, tuberculosis, syphilis and HIV/AIDS. Those who were found sick were put on treatment by the health workers.

- Surveillance on high way: A total of 20 females who were intercepted on their way to Teso for casual work and successfully rehabilitated and resettled to their homes.
- Psychosocial support: All the 149 children were provided with psychosocial support both at the centre and during resettlement with their parents and care givers. This includes life skills training, group counselling and guidance, elementary education.
- Apprenticeship and entrepreneurship skills training: A total of 40 (23 girls and 17 boys) were enrolled for skills training at the center in different skills trades in 2018 to 2019 at Kobulin.
- Re-integration: A total of 149 children were successfully rehabilitated, their homes traced and re-integrated as planned.
- Sports and recreation: We provided comprehensive package of sports and games activities (football, netball, volleyball, ludo, draughts, chess, skipping ropes) were provided to children to strengthen their resilience, but also coping mechanism.
- Guidance and counselling: on daily basis, morning and evening individual and group counseling was conducted to prepare children for life at home, school and skills training.
- Children were also introduced to prayers both morning and evening by one of social workers who is reverend to help them understand the danger of reckless life on the streets.
- Resettlement package: As part of the resettlement package, all children were provided with second hand clothes on arrival for decency while at the center, but also to prepare them for reunion with parents and guardians.
- First aid: In a bid to avert any emergency sickness, children were provided with first aid kits (assorted drugs to handle minor illness, serious cases were referred to nearby health facilities).

Total of children /returnees re-integrated in Karamoja for 2018 to 2019

Time frame	Male	Female	Total
November 2018	21	57	78
Feb to March 2019	7	44	51
April to June 2019	00	20	20
	28	121	149

LESSONS LEARNT

- Out of the 149 children resettled in 2018 to 2019, 51 of them were from Lopeei sub- County, Napak district alone.
- Most of the children returned from Kampala streets were not willing to enroll for the skills training instead wanted government to open for them businesses to manage.
- Most of them did not want to go back to school due to lack of scholastic materials and opted to only go to schools with boarding section.

- A majority of the children returned from Kampala streets were girls.
- For the first time, we have received and resettled children from (2 from Moroto District 1 from Kaabong District).

CHALLENGES.

- The road to Kobulin Youth skills and training centre is impassable during rainy seasons and this makes activities and movements very difficult.
- Parents who could by chance come to the centre to look for and identify their children; sometimes make children emotional.
- Some children are already at school but have no scholastic materials, school fees, uniformed.
- Kobulin youth skills and training centre does not have social workers to base at the centre so as to be able to receive children and fully attend to them without any hindrances.

Action points and follows up plan.

- Some of the recently resettled children have already gone to school.
- Follow up visits will be conducted on monthly basis for both those at school and those at homes.
- The HIV positive returnee continue to pose a challenge, as Kobulin Grand ma and relatives had to approach us for feeding every three months for posho and beans.
- Packaged of Posho, Rice, Beans, Cooking oil and Sugar was delivered to HIV/AIDS infected boy's family for start up.
- The HIV/AIDS infected boy was referred to Lorengicora Health Centre III for on ward follow up and ART

Conclusions:

Kobulin Youth Skills Centre has absorbed over 51 youth willing to attend skills training at Kobulin. Among the returnees' resettled, some were called back for skills training as part of re integration into community life. The component of follow up and surveillance needs to strengthen and also livelihood package be provided to returnees for longtime sustainability.

Talk to children by visiting C&D team.



Team from District and social workers welcoming the children from Kampala



Children ready for resettlement.



Joy of returning home