Green schools for better learning

The project aims at improving and creating conducive environment for children within the refugee hosting areas (host and refugee) in schools within refugee hosting areas in Moyo District, Uganda.

SDG addressed:
The project addresses SDG goal 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.

The project also contributes to SDG 13 on combating climate change and its impacts, and its target 13.3 which aims at improving education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation and adaptation.

The children engage in environmentally friendly practices and green initiatives at their school compounds, such as:
- Tree planting,
- Basic gardening and
- Fruit orchard establishment.

The environmental club members and forums play leading role to develop talents and improve peaceful co-existence for refugees and the host community.

Target group of the intervention:
The project total direct reach is 12,000 children (6,000 girls and 6,000 boys), aged between 6-15 years, in grades 1 to 7 at primary level and grades 1 to 3 at secondary level in 25 schools in 3 sub-counties in Moyo District.

Primary beneficiaries:
The primary beneficiaries to this project are children organised in environment clubs, formed based on gender sensitive grounds, comprising of a minimum of 35 girls and boys mobilised to join voluntarily through interest and concern for the environment.
The project, "Green schools – for better learning”, is designed to introduce and strengthen informal education in sustainable environmental behavior. The project aims at improving and creating a conducive learning environment for children in integrated schools within refugee-hosting areas in Moyo District.

Target group:
The project targets children in grade 1 to 7 at primary level and children in grade 1 to 3 at secondary level, where co-curricular activities are mandatory. A total of 12,000 children, both boys and girls in 25 schools will be mobilized to participate in the project.

Area of operation:
GSL will be implemented through 25 schools in Itula, Moyo and Lefori sub-counties respectively.

The project imparts life skills and environmental literacy to children through formation of vibrant and inclusive environmental clubs and it aims at transforming theoretical knowledge acquired in the environmental club into practice, but also contributing to making the school compound more child-friendly and an attractive environment to reside in.

The children engage in environmentally friendly practices and green initiatives at their school compounds, such as tree planting, basic gardening and fruit orchard establishment. Club members play the leading role and the forums can include:

- Peer to peer trainings
- School assemblies
- Debates and organised competitions (songs, drama and poetry) with environmental topics.

Overall goal
The project aims at improving and creating conducive environment for children within the refugee hosting areas (host and refugee) in schools within refugee hosting areas in Moyo District, Uganda.

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**Primary beneficiaries.**

(Environmental club members)

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**Indirect beneficiaries:**

The project will indirectly reach at least;

- 500 parents or guardians,
- 100 members from School Management Committees,
- Other community and relevant district leaders,
- 500 households through spill over effects of this project.

**Outcome 1:**

Increased life skills and environmental literacy through co-curricular school clubs - minimum of 35 members (girls and boys) per club.

**Activities:**

- Forming strong, vibrant and inclusive Child-led school environmental clubs in 25 schools.
- Environmental literacy. (both theoretical and practical)
Selection criteria:
During selection, a human rights-based approach (HRBA) was used to identify the legal frameworks surrounding support to children in refugees hosting communities. Focus will be on schools that are in the closest proximity to the refugee area with a clear ownership of land on which the school sits. The Core target group will be schools with high enrolment of children both girls and boys from refugees and host communities.

Activities:
- Transforming theoretical knowledge into practice making school compounds more child-friendly and attractive environment to reside in.
- Through organised platforms, learners engage and share their knowledge with other students, parents, teachers and SMCs in favour of environmentally-friendly attitudes and practices.
- The practical sessions include demonstration of tree planting techniques, simple agroforestry and sustainable agricultural techniques, as well as demos of fruit tree orchards for improved nutrition.
- Water harvesting for raising tree seedlings and plants, as well as uphold basic hygiene among its students.
- Appropriate waste disposal (the 3R principle of Reduce, Reuse, Recycle).

Key results

Result 1. 12,000 children (6,000 girls and 6,000 boys) mobilized and sensitised on environmental issues.

Result 2. 25 schools established environmental clubs.

Result 3. 875 children (400 girls, 475 boys) enrolled in environmental clubs.

Result 4. 12,000 children trained on environmentally-friendly practices.

Result 5. 5,000 long-term agroforestry trees planted at each school premises for improved outdoor learning.

Result 6. 600 participants (350 females and 250 males) engaged in at least one forum promoting environmental-friendly practices.

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Other Project Partners Include:
Moyo District local government - education department.
Community Development Department.

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