



SUSTAINABLE RURAL
INITIATIVES
(SRI)



QUARTERLY REPORT

January - March 2020



FOREWORD

Sustainable Rural Initiatives (SRI) is a visionary non-governmental organization working in Western Kenya to improve the quality of life for rural communities. The focus of our activities is mainly in Okana Community of Kadibo Division, Kisumu County. We adopted a theory of change that integrates our priority focus areas in our efforts to transform the livelihoods of the community members. This is also guided by the peculiarities of the rural context in which we work. Our program areas include: Agriculture and environment; Education support, Skills and entrepreneurship; Community Health Development and Youths in Action. This report summarizes the main achievements that we have made in these areas in the first quarter of 2020 beginning 1st January 2020 till 31st March 2020. For more details on SRI visit www.srikenya.org

BOARD MEETING

The SRI Management Board met on December 21st 2019 and approved the plans and budgets for 2020. It also received, considered and approved the annual report and financial reports of the year ended 31st December 2019. Among other important matters, the Board considered the key challenges of 2019 and proposed some interventions that could be useful in 2020. The SRI Board meets after every three months. The next meeting was to be held at the end of March 2020 but was interrupted by the onset of COVID-19.



SRI Board members during the planning meeting for 2020



AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT

The main activity during this period was land preparation in readiness for the planting season. Vegetable nurseries were also prepared for various vegetables that were to be planted at the onset of the long rains. Over one hundred and fifty (1500) fruit trees were planted in the SRI garden and are doing well. The fruits in the demonstration plot were also doing well as shown in the pictures below. The fruit farm was also fenced to hold away animals and children who could harvest the fruits before maturity. The oranges and guavas in the demonstration plots are doing quite well.



Mr. George Ochuka and Bryan fencing demonstration plots



SRI staff, Mr. Oluoch visiting a neighbours passion fruit garden



Farm attendant Bryan Onyango working on the paddocks



Bamboo trees growing on Sri community sace

The poultry project was re-started with twenty (20) new chicken. This was to be increased to seventy by April 2020 to 70 chicken then to 100 by June 2020. The flock is mainly improved *Kienyeji*.



The new poultry project at SRI



Students of Vispa Secondary School at the SRI library

EDUCATION, SKILLS DEVELOPMENT & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

At the beginning of the year, the students sponsored by the SRI Scholarship program were supported to get back to school. With the funds raised in December 2019 additional two students were brought into the program bringing the total to eleven (11) in secondary schools and three (3) in tertiary learning institutions.



Kennedy Omondi (SRI in Green) in a group photo with Visper secondary school student

The outbreak of the Covid-19 led to the closure of schools and most institutions. This has meant that the sponsored students return home. A number of programs in education such as the scheduled joint exams between partner schools and dialogue sessions have been therefore been brought to a halt. The library was also closed due to the pandemic. However in the early parts of the year, Vispa Secondary school showed strong commitment in the use of the library. This also increased membership to the library. They would resume participation when the library reopens.

Secondary school	Student by gender			School Fee paid
	Boys	Girls	Total	
Masogo mixed	4	3	7	71,828.00
Onjiko boys	1	0	1	20,000.00
Lwak girls	0	1	1	20,000.00
Rang'ala girls	0	1	1	20,268.00
Lela mixed	0	1	1	4,500.00
Kabarak University	0	1	1	60,000.00
Total	5	7	12	196,596.00

TRAININGS & SEMINARS

During this first quarter of the year, SRI hosted and participated in a number of trainings and seminars which included staff and other stakeholders. One of the trainings was that of Amref Y-Act training on Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning which was held at Ibis Styles Nairobi from 14TH to 24TH January 2020. SRI staff also attended KANSEB open day at The Kisumu National Polytechnic. The event which was to mark the 50th anniversary of KASNEB was themed “KASNEB @50 Shaping the Future by Empowering Professionals Globally”



Clayton Opiyo from Amref facilitating the MEL training



Michael Nduri (Amref) training on financial management in Kisumu



SRI team and other participants during the Y-ACT training in Nairobi

In March 2020, the SRI staff again attended the Amref Y-Act Training in Kisumu whose aim was to build the capacities of the implementing partners in key reporting areas i.e. Amref Financial Management systems and Monitoring and Evaluation tools. The two days training was held at Kenya Progressive Youth centre.



SRI staff James Ogutu and Archilles Nyakwaka with the Y-ACT trainees during the training in Kisumu

CAFETERIA & BAKERY

Cafeteria has been in operation close to one year since its re-operationalization. In this quarter, the department did not do well since it could not meet most of its target as expected. The Board of Management in their last meeting directed that the department could diversify its production by try to bake sweet potatoes' bread, Crisp among other fries. This was intended to ensure that the income generating units remain financially independent and subsidize administrative recurrent expenditure, but this was not met as the personnel lacked the special baking technics.

SRI SKILLS TRAINING TO BE REGISTERED BY TVETA

Since the beginning of the year, SRI has been pursuing registration with Technical and Vocational Education and Training Authority (TVETA) to become an accredited and recognized training centre in different technical and vocational education areas. Consequently, officials from TVETA visited SRI on 4th of April 2020.to evaluate SRIs application. The evaluation was generally positive. The programs considered positively during the visit included carpentry, tailoring and computer proficiency. To offer these programs SRI has acquired accredited Competency Based Curricula (CBC) for the CDACC programs. SRI will strive towards having its other programs approved. While the tailoring and carpentry workshops are already well equipped with the requisite equipment, SRI had to enhance the capacity of the ICT centre with an additional 20 computers that had come from Tools to Work, Netherlands.



ICT volunteer Kennedy Omondi and George Ochuka in the SRI ICT Centre

CONTACTS

Sustainable Rural Initiatives (SRI)

P.O Box 266-40101, Ahero, Kenya

Email: sec@srikenya.org
owitiverah@srikenya.org

Website: www.srikenya.org

Phone: +254 710761718
+254 715748884

