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Well, that flew by fast. How did you spend your May?

"Menstrual hygiene management is not just a women's issue; it's a matter of dignity, health, and equality.

RHRN II Linking & Learning



The Annual Linking and Learning Event brought together country coalition partners from Ethiopia, Kenya, and Uganda as part of the RHRN programme in the Anglophone region. During the forum, representatives from these three countries formed planning committees, actively engaging in activities and discussions revolving around the daily themes of MIYP, sustainability, and effective advocacy and opposition. RHRN2 Kenya played a crucial role in the planning committees during the initial three days, facilitating sessions and serving as panelists. Furthermore, the countries implementing RHRN in the anglophone regions shared their sustainability approaches, focusing on long-term outcomes, SRHR, capacity strengthening, and financial stability. As the forum concluded, coalition members from Ethiopia, Uganda, and Kenya came together to share their learnings, discuss common challenges, and exchange valuable experiences on effectively addressing opposition.

SHE SOARS Bondo



Through the SHE SOARS project, we conducted open-ended interviews to explore areas of change in the lives of direct participants and intermediaries and within the community. Through careful analysis of these interviews, we comprehensively understood how the project contributes to positive and negative changes. The discussions were instrumental in assessing the impact and effectiveness of our interventions while also uncovering any unintended consequences that may have arisen. In addition, our team actively participated in a Gender Responsive Budgeting (GRB) orientation workshop at Care International Kenya offices in Nairobi. The training aimed to equip a team of Trainers (TOTs) to lead gender- and youth-responsive planning and budgeting training for Technical Working Groups (TWGs). By promoting gender equality and inclusivity in the planning and budgeting processes, we aim to ensure that the rights and needs of all individuals, especially in the field of adolescent sexual and reproductive health and rights (ASRHR), are effectively addressed.

Furthermore, our social analysis and action efforts focused on developing actionable plans to challenge specific social norms that negatively impact ASRHR within our communities. Through targeted interventions, we strive to create an enabling environment that empowers individuals to make informed decisions about their sexual and reproductive health. By fostering collaboration and collective action, we are working towards sustainable changes and promoting overall well-being among adolescents.

Strengthening Media and Information Literacy



Nairobits, one of RHRN 2 partners, held a capacity-strengthening training to tap into the ever-evolving space of digitization for a more significant impact. Despite the strides made, present and imminent challenges and risks still exist, including fake news, misinformation, and cyber-bullying, which hinder progress and roll back the gains made. During the Capacity strengthening, participants took masterclasses on fake news, misinformation, creating a perfect pitch, and storytelling.

The main objective of the capacity strengthening was to expose the participants to a mass of information and media literacy practices, concepts, and tools used to ensure that RHRN2 and its partners attain success in their targeted communication but also that it remains relevant in doing so. The workshop exposed participants to new trends in communication that is to be passed on to relevant audiences effectively, efficiently, and sustainably.

Choice Connectors week



The week was filled with engaging activities and informative sessions focused on promoting the meaningful involvement of young people and advancing sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR). Participants actively participated in various activities, gaining valuable insights and experiences. Advocacy in local and regional spaces took center stage, with participants showcasing demonstrations and sharing strategies from their countries. Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) focusing on disability inclusion was a standout session, encouraging participants to reflect on the inclusivity of CSE models in their respective countries. The discussions also delved into developing pitches and messages for pleasure-positive and risk-based approaches to SRHR. The 'Emanzi Model' provided a fresh perspective on engaging boys and men in SRHR and CSE. Exploring youth-adult partnerships and youth-led organizations further enhanced the learning experience. Notably, RHRN2 Kenya organized a marketplace to highlight exemplary practices of meaningful involvement of young people and a dedicated session on self-care and well-being. The week was a testament to the commitment and enthusiasm of participants in shaping a brighter future for SRHR and youth empowerment.

Food & Service Relief in Kilifi Households



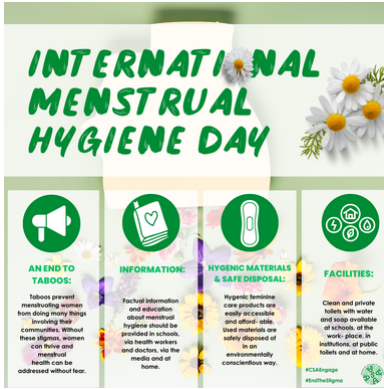
In collaboration with WWF under the DFPA SRHR CC Triple Benefits program, CSA supported an activity to address vulnerable households' immediate needs and provide crucial SRHR and health services in Ganze Sub-County. The objectives were to provide food aid to households facing food insecurity in Ganze, Dungicha, Palakumi, and Bamba wards and to offer essential health services such as immunization, Covid-19 vaccination, growth monitoring/CWC, and curative services. A total of 450 households were reached through the food distribution drive, where packages containing rice, beans, maize flour, cooking oil, and fortified food products were distributed. Additionally, 256 individuals benefited from the health outreach services delivered through temporary clinics established in Dungicha and Bamba wards.

The Self help Group Project



Earlier this month, we held a training that empowers SHG members to set and achieve personal and family development goals. During the training, participants gained clarity on their desired outcomes and made progress by setting SMART goals through various context-based activities.

On the Socials



Engage men, boys, and community leaders in conversations about menstruation.

Menstrual hygiene management is not just a women's issue; it's a matter of dignity, health, and equality.

Improving menstrual hygiene management requires a multi-dimensional approach. We need policies and legislation that promote access to affordable, adequate sanitation facilities and comprehensive menstrual education.

#CSAEngage #MenstrualHygieneDay #EndStigma

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