

BWAISE COMMUNITY BASED REHABILITATION PROJECT

ADF REPORT

GRANT NO. 1089 UGA

REPORTING PERIOD: *January – March 2001.*

REPORTED BY:

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

This is the last ADF quarterly report for the Bwaise CBR Project following a six months extension of the project October 2000 – March 2001.

This reporting quarter, all the activities focussed on preparing BDEA to take full charge of the project activities as COMBRA phases out.

The older persons of Bwaise participated in the development of a health policy for older persons in Uganda.

This reporting quarter the Bwaise CBR Project also received auditors from ADF.

2.0 PROJECT ACTIVITIES

2.1 Meetings

A number of meetings were held as COMBRA prepared for phasing out of Bwaise. The meetings focussed on: -

Plans for the Bwaise CBR project to continue running in the absence of COMBRA and emphasis was put on: -

- selecting a new executive committee
- loan repayments
- volunteers welfare
- records and reporting systems

2.2 Cerebral Palsy (CP) Training videos

During this reporting quarter, the lengthy process of developing CP training videos was finally completed. COMBRA staff and BDEA members worked with a technical person in developing the training videos from the Uganda Institution of Special Education (UNISE). The process consisted of: -

- A number of meetings to agree with the script and scenes to be covered.
- Days for actual shooting in various places which included; homes, Mengo Hospital Cerebral Palsy clinic, Bwaise Day Care, Kawempe health centre and Kampala school for children with physical disabilities.
- Thorough editing of the Videos.

The videotapes are titled: -

- 1. Our children with cerebral palsy*
- 2. Caring for children with cerebral palsy*

A programme to inaugurate the tapes was run on the national television and the tapes were run to sensitize Ugandans about cerebral palsy.

2.3 Out-reach Clinic

Although the new coordinator has taken over, the Community Physiotherapist continued to monitor the progress of the of the out-reach clinic. She has worked with the coordinator and the volunteers to up date necessary drug books and improve systems for recording drugs purchased and given out. The volunteers continued to treat simple ailments and referred all complicated clients appropriately to hospitals.

Table 1: Flow of income for the outreach clinic this quarter

Month (2001)	Amount (Shs)
January	98,350
February	76,500
March	83,850
Total	258,700

2.4 Provision of Appliances

This reporting quarter, various assistive aids/appliances were purchased to equip the day care centre i.e. wheel chairs, walking frames, and mattresses. Other assistive aids received by clients were made by COMBRA students from the appropriate technology workshop.

Clients who received appliances from Orthopaedic workshops were encouraged to contribute. An amount of one hundred and eighty thousand Uganda shillings (180,000) was contributed by clients.

2.5 Day Care

The day care continued to be an active activity of the Bwaise CBR project. It gave parents an opportunity to share experiences in looking after their children with disabilities. Most parents noted that their children have shown remarkable improvement since they started attending the day care.

Table 2: Monthly day care attendance this quarter

Month (2001)	No. of Children
January	15
February	17
March	13
Total	45

2.6 Home Programmes

The volunteers have continued to have home programmes under the direct supervision of the BDEA co-ordinator.

Table 3: Distribution of clients according to project activities

Activity	No./Frequency of clients
Identification	2
Assessment	6
Home programmes	254
Out-reach	421
Referral	8
Assistive aids	30
Day Care	45
Total	766

2.7 Income generating activities

2.7.1 BDEA Facility

Income from the hire of the community facility has been low. This reporting quarter, most community members were involved in campaign rallies for both presidential and parliamentary elections. This led to fewer workshops being held within the community and therefore low business for the BDEA centre. The co-ordinator has been encouraged to put in more effort to market the facility.

Table 4: Income generated from hire of BDEA facility

Hire of the community facility	Amount
Amount B/F from	1,069,900
Previous quarter	-
This reporting quarter	10,000
Total	1,079,000

2.7.2 Credit and Savings

Summary of Loan repayments

Table 5: Amount of money loaned to members

PERIOD	PRINCIPLE LOAN (UG. SHS)	INTEREST (UG. SHS.)	TOTAL LOAN (UG. SHS)
May 1999	2,850,000=	285,000=	3,135,000=
October 1999	3,950,000=	395,000=	4,345,000=
December 1999	1,000,000=	100,000=	1,100,000=
September 2000	1,950,000=	195,000=	2,145,000=
December 2000	1,660,000=	166,000=	1,826,000=
TOTAL	11,410,000=	1,141,000=	12,540,000=

Table 6: Distribution of different loan schedules reflecting the balance of the last two reporting quarters.

PERIOD	BALANCE B/F (Ug. Shs.)	AMOUNT PAID (Ug. Shs)	BALANCE (Ug. Shs)
LOAN D(May 1999) Last quarter Total + Interest	302,000/=	127,000/=	175,000/=
Reporting Quarter	175,000/=	17000/=	158,000/=
LOAN E (Oct. 1999) Last Quarter Principle + Interest	1,979,000/=	281,500/=	1,697,000/=
Reporting Quarter	1,697,500/=	20500/=	1,677,000/=
LOAN F (Dec 1999) Last Quarter Principle + Interest	129,000/=	39,000/=	90,000/=
Reporting Quarter	90,000/=	10,000/=	80,000/=
LOAN G (Sept 2000) Principle + Interest	1,826,000/=	290,000/=	1,878,000/=
Reporting Quarter	1,878,000/=	290,000/=	1,588,000/=
LOAN H(Dec 2000) Principle + Interest	1,826,000/=	250,000/=	1,576,500/=
Reporting Quarter	1,576,500/=	360,000/=	1,216,500/=

Total balance of Loan + Interest = 4,719,500/=

Total balance of Loan - Interest = 3,578,500/=

2.8 Auditing of the Bwaise CBR project

This reporting quarter the Bwaise CBR project received auditors from ADF and the process ended successfully. The audit report was received and was approved by both COMBRA and BDEA.

As noted from the auditors' report the BDEA account from Commercial Micro Finance Ltd. formerly Uganda Cooperative Bank has been closed and money transferred to the BDEA account with Uganda Commercial Bank Ltd. Wandegeya branch.

2.9 Health Policy for Older Persons

The Ministry of Health Disability and Rehabilitation Section is in the process of developing a Health policy for older persons. Among the methods used to develop the policy were focus group discussions and key informant interviews. This reporting quarter older persons of the Bwaise CBR project and some COMBRA staff participated in these interviews and focus group discussions.

One of the issues emphasised by the Community physiotherapist during the interview was the importance of promoting Community Based Health Care so that health issues and problems of older persons are handled within their communities. Thus, the need to develop Health and Day care centres for older persons. The older persons of Bwaise stressed the need for special clinics for older persons in the hospitals as they suffer a lot queuing for treatment with the youth.

The visiting team admired and appreciated the confidence and reasoning of the older persons in Bwaise as they responded to the questions. They commented that *"Indeed this is a sensitised group of older persons."*

3.0 TRAINING

3.1 COMBRA Students

COMBRA students continued to come to Bwaise for field placement and were attached to families of PWDs particularly children. They worked with the families with support from the Community Physiotherapist and the volunteers. The students also produced assistive aids for their clients with technical support from the Occupational therapist and the parents have appreciated these.

3.2 Student from Makerere University

The volunteers spent some days working with a student from Makerere University who was doing a research on income generating activities within Bwaise. They assisted her to understand the Bwaise CBR project credit and saving scheme and she was able to interview clients who had received loans.

4.0 WORKSHOP ON AGEING AND DISABILITY

During the last week of March the Community physiotherapist attended a workshop on *Ageing and Disability* on 19th- 23rd March 2001 at *Pan Africa Hotel Nairobi Kenya*. It was organised by Disabled Initiative Services (DIS) based in Zimbabwe.

Key issues noted were:

Some of the problems facing older persons with disabilities:-

- Loss of independence.
- Rejection by members of the family and hence, loneliness.
- The older persons with disabilities are looked at as hopeless and a burden.

- They have serious financial difficulties and hence, live in abject poverty.
- They experience physical and emotional abuse.
- Loss of right to poverty.
- Double discrimination on the grounds of disability and then aging.
- Ageing is an impairing process, thus to persons with disabilities the impact is more pronounced.
- Women with disability suffer compound problems in old age, firstly, as women, secondly, as people with disabilities and thirdly as old disabled women.

Lessons learnt from the workshop

- Ageing is a natural process which individuals and the society must be prepared to deal with.
- Ageing though a natural process affects more women than men with disabilities.
- Ageing as a process comes about with disabling conditions such as eye, ear, back, toothlessness, bones, and memory problems.
- The older persons with disabilities need; love, care, good health facilities, good food, guidance etc.
- The older persons with disabilities need programmes in which they are actively involved.
- There is no available research material or data in the area of older persons with disabilities that could bring about meaningful planning.
- The older persons with disabilities are a valuable resource to both persons with disabilities' Organisation (DPOs) and communities.
- The older persons with disabilities are part of the existing and active population that should not be ignored.
- The older persons with disabilities too are affected directly or indirectly by HIV/AIDS.
- Older persons with disabilities are more disadvantaged as compared to older persons without disabilities.
- The older persons in general and the old people with disabilities in particular are vulnerable to all forms of abuse arising from close family members, relatives, and friends' etc.
- There is no policy by our Government that adequately addresses the needs of the older persons with disabilities.
- Populations of older persons with disabilities are increasing.

Way forward for COMBRA on aging and disability

- COMBRA has incorporated a component on disability and ageing in the CBR course curriculum.
- Emphasis will be put on considering the needs of older persons with disabilities in all the community projects.

5.0 WAY FORWARD

- Although BDEA is to manage the project independently, they will continue sending monthly reports to COMBRA.

- COMBRA will remain mandatory signatory to BDEA account for a period of one year to ensure financial control.
- COMBRA will continue giving technical support to BDEA whenever necessary.

6.0 CONCLUSION

COMBRA and BDEA acknowledge and appreciate the support from ADF. The technical support from the Country liaison office has been key in all the achievements of the Bwaise CBR project.

With BDEA's financial and institutional capacity built, record keeping and reporting systems improved and the way forward set, there is no doubt that the programme will continue to grow to even greater heights.

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Date: Friday, June 29, 2001.