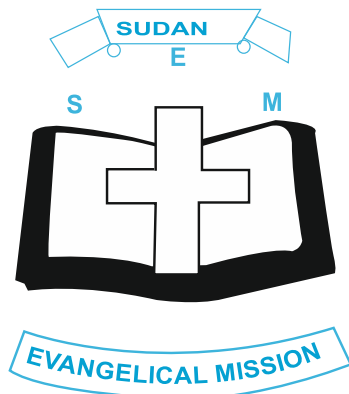


CBR GUIDELINES, A BRIDGE TO INCLUSIVE SOCIETY IN MUNDRI COMMUNITY, SOUTH SUDAN

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BACKGROUND OF SEM

- Sudan Evangelical Mission (SEM) is a Christian-based, National Non-Governmental Organization (NNGO) established in 1998 with the aim of responding to the increased suffering of the marginalized and disadvantaged people among the communities in the counties of Mundri West, Mundri East , Mvolo and Maridi (in Western Equatoria State); and Wau (in Western Bahr el Ghazel State) in South Sudan.
- SEM has 3 core programmes; HIV/AIDS program, Adult Literacy integrated with peace building program and persons with disabilities capacity building program.

PURPOSE

- The purpose of this presentation is to show the experiences that SEM has had since it adopted and utilized CBR guidelines in 2010.
- The synergy of inclusion created from the linkages within the various components has also been reflected in this presentation.

HEALTH

- CBR workers participate in raising awareness to the community on prevention and health promotion e.g. preventing river blindness.
- Community Health Workers have been trained by SEM on disability issues to foster positive attitudes, improve their understanding on challenges and needs of PWD`S and ensure the entire community has equal access and receive same quality of services.

- The CBR program collaborates with the County Health Department and partners to refer children with severe cases for management.
- CBR workers mobilize the community to attend outreach health services offered in their location by team from Mundri Primary Health Care Centre Eye team.

- Family members are involved in the rehabilitation process and helps build a support system that expands to the community.
- The most significant challenge we face is from nodding syndrome and epilepsy that has affected many children. There is a severe shortage of medication in health facilities, and so far the cause remains a mystery, transmission, treatment and prognosis remain unclear.



EDUCATION

- After rehabilitation of children at home, the CBR workers then refer them to mainstream primary schools.
- The concept of having all children go to mainstream schools is then supported by school environment adaptations, teacher trainings on skills like inclusive education, and classroom management that benefits all children in learning.

- To promote inclusion of children in schools and outside school, awareness raising among the children is done through songs, drama, and poems.
- School clubs have also been formed and all children are encouraged to join where they have activities like songs, drama and games while they are in school to give all children a chance to learn, understand, and interact with each other.

- The community has been encouraged to be part of the inclusion process. During school environment adaptations in some areas, they has been contributing bricks, sand, water, labor.



LIVELIHOOD

- For adult PWD`S, SEM has mobilized and trained them on business planning, business management and enterprise selection.
- After the training of business skills, many PWD`S managed to set up their small self employed ventures like rearing goats, and chicken, planting food crops like cassava, groundnuts , growing vegetables and small retail trade.

- SEM has previous experience with revolving loans that did not work well.
- SEM adopted another strategy in 2013, the Village Savings and Loans Association (VSLA).
- The groups are open to all community members where they save, then they are able to access loans for business start up or for growing their business or meeting some household needs.

EMPOWERMENT

- The CBR program was able to raise awareness to PWD`S on the importance of participating in political events like the referendum for South Sudan, general elections and give their opinion on constitutional amendments when the team visited the counties.
- Some PWD`S were clerks and observers in the process.
- The community also elected county councillors who are PWD`S for the first time.

- SEM CBR program managed to stimulate the formation of DPO`S, where few run with minimal support from the CBR program.
- One of the DPO`S has representation in County Headquarters and participates in County planning and decision making.
- During advocacy on issues affecting the community, parents groups and DPO`S are very instrumental. A good example is the way groups of parents were able to meet County Education Department to have school fees waived for CWD`S, and the fees were finally waived.

SOCIAL

- Youth groups and associations participate in drama and other art events. Usually the drama is done during public rallies, and important community celebrations. Some PWD`S are members of these youth associations that do the dramas. Notably, one group in Mundri is directed by a youth who is physically disabled.

- Community awareness on rights of PWD`S and child rights to make everyone aware on rights.
- In some areas we have PWD`S as leaders e.g. chiefs, village head men and one as a local judiciary officer.
- Local leaders have been given skills on how to identify cases of child abuse, respond and channels of looking for assistance to the children who need help for the best interest of all children in the community. This is through partnership with Gender and Social Welfare Department.



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THANK YOU

