

ACTIVITY REPORT FOR THE COMMUNITY CLEAN UP AT KIREKA MARKET IN KAMPALA UGANDA

7TH SEPTEMBER 2022

BACKGROUND

The Uganda Malaria Youth Army (UMYA) is a Youth End Malaria initiative by the African Leaders Malaria Alliance (ALMA) presided over by H.E. President Uhuru Kenyatta of Kenya and overseen by the ALMA Youth Advisory Council, the ALMA Youth Engagement Office together with the Uganda Ministry of Health National Malaria Control Department. The UMYA was established in 2021 and comprises of Malaria Youth Army Champions countrywide who also serve as the Universal Health Coverage (UHC) ambassadors in Uganda.

ACTIVITY OBJECTIVE

The Uganda Malaria Youth Army collaborated with Give Hope Uganda, Uganda Youth Biodiversity Network (A group of young inspiring people creating positive impact at national and sub-national levels to conserve and protect biodiversity) and LEAP Africa (A non-profit organization committed to developing dynamic, innovative and principled African leaders) in a community call to clean up Kireka Farmer's Market with utmost focus on garbage collection points and drainage systems which are known to be breeding sites for mosquitoes which spread Malaria. We were as well joined by students of Environmental Engineering from Kyambogo University who also taught the market vendors various environmental conservation practices such as differentiating between biodegradable and non biodegradable waste and the importance of separating the two forms of waste in regard to malaria spread.

INPUTS

- Human Resource
- Time
- Uganda Malaria Youth Army Banner

• Transport

OUTPUTS

- A clean market with a health surrounding.
- A community of market vendors who understand the importance of proper market sanitation and what health (malaria related) consequences could erupt from not cleaning the Market place.
- Knowledge acquired by market vendors on the importance of sleeping under insecticide treated mosquito nets.
- Uganda Malaria Youth Army visibility enhanced.
- Malaria social behavioral change communication video recording yet to be published.
- Robust working relationship in terms of collaboration between the UMYA and other civil society organizations like Give Hope Uganda, Uganda Youth Biodiversity Network, and LEAP Africa.

LESSON LEARNT

- The Uganda Malaria Youth Army learnt that Malaria sensitization is a sustainable strategy that we can focus on in combating Malaria as we strive to reach the 2030 target. We observed that the public lacks knowledge on why breeding sites need to be attended to.
- We learnt that Markets are places that need special attention as regards to malaria prevention efforts given the big numbers of people that they bring together but also due to the poor disposal of waste that act as breeding hubs for mosquitoes.

CHALLENGES

- The Youth Champions lacked UMYA branded T-shirts, field coats & a pull-up banner, which contributed to reduced visibility during the activity.
- The champions lacked transport facilitation support to and from the activity venue, this contributed to the low turn up of members for the activity.
- There was no live media coverage to publicize the ongoing activity to the entire nation.

RECOMMENDATIONS

• We recommend that more publicity and branding materials for the UMYA be procured to increase visibility in such activities. The materials include T-shirts, flyers, banners, pull-ups, caps etc.

- The UMYA should make pre-activity mobilization for similar activities to further alert and prepare the public in advance. This can be made through use of mass media such as radios and public address systems drives prior the activity.
- The UMYA needs to laisse with media partners so that there is media coverage for such activities. This will not only have an impact on increased visibility but also help to spread social behavioral change communication messages to a wider audience.
- We also recommend that resources be lobbied to facilitate the youth champions in terms of transport and incidental allowances for such activities. This will increase turn up of these volunteers for similar activities.

END

COMPILED BY.

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