

OPEN SPACE LEARNING PROGRAM (OSLP) EXTENSION 2021 REPORT



REPORT PREPARED

FEBRAURY 2022

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List of Abbreviations.

STAD:	Support Trust for Africa Development.
OSLP:	Open Space Learning Program.
PLE:	Primary Leaving Education.
NFI:	Non-Food Item.
SOPs:	Standard Operating Procedures.
VHT:	Village Health Team.
LCI:	Local Council One.
F&CMO:	Field and Community Mobilization Officer.
AF&CMO:	Assistant Field Community Mobilization Officer.
TOR:	Terms of Reference.
IEC:	Information Education and Communication.
CDO:	Community Development Officer
CEDAW:	Convention on the elimination of all forms Discrimination Against Women.
UDHR:	Universal Declaration of Human Right.
ACHPR:	African Charter on Human and Peoples Right.
DVA:	Domestic Violence Act.
GBV:	Gender Bases Violence.
VAWG:	Violence Against Women and Girls
SOP:	Standard Operating Procedures.

Executive summary

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) tracked impact of Covid-19 on educational globally and reported that schools in Uganda have been closed for more than 77 weeks making Uganda the country with longest schools' closures. Without drastic preventive and supportive responses to counter the impact of the pandemic by individuals and the government at large, communities with less access to basic needs are grossly at high risk and hence the need to assist communities confronted with this situation. This kitchen gardening pilot project was hatched timely when all schools were closed due to the COVID-19 measures.

The kitchen garden pilot project was part of a larger Open Space Learning Program (OSLP) strategically planned to provide the community members with some practical skills and knowledge in farming by setting and implementing the kitchen garden pilot project as part of its educational programs under OSLP. Training the children and community members with improved methods of farming to grow vegetables to supplement their nutrition is in line with STAD motto: **“Give me fish, and I will always depend on you, teach me how to fish and I will be a lesser burden to you.”**

The trainings were organized to suite the agricultural knowledge gap in the community. This includes awareness campaign for sustainable agriculture and 64 were in attendance, 48 farmers were trained on organic manure and on the last day, 37 famers were trained on organic pesticide. Total of 148 farmers were trained. However, issues such as teaching youth skills in laying blocks for housing construction emerged. This was raised by one community member who attested that he and five other community members has the expertise in doing the work of laying blocks.

The beneficiaries with STAD staff executed most of the field tasks that included land preparation, planting, weeding and pest control and a facilitator contracted to facilitate a three (3) days training with clear Terms of Reference (TOR). STAD field team supported the kitchen gardeners with specific knowledge in planting these crops and seeds. The demonstration garden is open to the community to get experience in land preparation, growing, planting, and caring and management of crops, harvesting etc.

This was a great opportunity for improving the skills of the youth who are redundant due to COVID-19 pandemic lockdowns measures. The community members acknowledged the importance of the Open Space Learning Program (OSLP) in Ayimini Village. One member was able to testify that, due to the intervention by STAD through the OSLP, his child scored second grade in the Primary Leaving Examination (PLE).

Project back ground.

Support Trust for Africa Development (STAD) received funds from Haella Foundation, ETWA for extension of its Open Space Learning Program (OSLP) in Ayimini village Degiba parish Midia sub county Koboko district, due to the closure of all the schools from March 2020 until January 2022, making Uganda the World's longest COVID school closures. Though about 15 million students could go back to schools, in January 2022, nevertheless, damage done to these students' education is irreparable.

To give hope to Ayimini village and surrounding communities, STAD shifted its focus temporarily from literacy to providing the community members with some practical skills and knowledge in farming by setting and implementing the kitchen garden pilot project as part of its educational programs under OSLP. Training the children and community members with improved methods of farming to grow vegetables to supplement their nutrition is in line with STAD motto: **“Give me fish, and I will always depend on you, teach me how to fish and I will be a lesser burden to you.”** Ayimini community faces lots of challenges due to limited social services including developmental agricultural interventions by the government and or humanitarian organizations. This has affected the livelihoods and or food baskets of the area. STAD strives to strengthen the capacities of these communities with some practical skills through establishing a learning/ demonstration kitchen garden to provide practical farming skills that might prove useful when the children grow up coupled

by awareness raising on peace building activities for peaceful co-existences and distribution of some food and non-food materials/items.

The project was designed to serve two purposes:

- 1) kitchen gardening to provide knowledge and improved methods of farming
- 2) Training and awareness raising on sustainable agricultural practices using local manure etc.
3. awareness raising/campaign on Sexual and Gender Based & Domestic Violence (S&GBDV) in Ayimini village Degiba parish Midia sub county and beyond in Koboko District.

STAD received funding from Haella foundation and ETWA and some individuals to implement both the kitchen gardening pilot project and the campaign on sexual and gender-based violence (S&GBV) respectively

Project specific objectives.

- To establish kitchen gardening farm used to demonstrate/train the farmers with the most sustainable farming practices.
- To raise awareness on mindset, change and sustainable agricultural practices
- To train 150 farmers on making organic manure and pesticide.
- Provide the elderly, widows, people with disabilities (PWDs), teenage single mothers with some food and non-food items
- Support the communities with tools to grow some vegetables to supplement their nutrition and earn some income for basic needs.
- To empower, raise awareness and decimate information to the community about Sexual and Gender and Domestic based violence against women and girls in and beyond Ayimini Village, Midia sub-county, Koboko District.

(1) Part One of the project: The Kitchen Gardening Pilot Project (KGPP).

1.1 Awareness building meeting.

Meetings were organized in various locations within Ayimini (project location) with the community, LC1 offices of Ayimini and Bongo Villages. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic restriction, about 23 members attended. Present were the Village Health Team (VHT), Local Council One (LC1), elders, and community members. During the consultation meetings, the main aim and specific objectives of the kitchen gardening pilot project were clearly explained to the community members to ensure sustainability of farming knowledge, skills and practices and procedures. About 20 beneficiaries were unanimously selected. It was resolved a beneficiary must be willing to participate in trainings, learning and adopting improved farming practices.



The community members and STAD team attending the awareness meeting.

1.2 Procurement of gardening tools and items.

To progress to the practical stage of the program, farm tools were purchased. These tools were purchased at different stages involves at the field. First, tools like hoes, slashers, pangas, forked hoes, watering cane, spraying pump. Protective gears like gumboots, masks, hand sanitizers during meetings, hand gloves. These tools greatly helped in site clearance, cultivation, watering, spraying of the crops.



Gardening tools and items.

1.3 Primary land tillage.

This phase entails mainly digging, and shaping the land for planting. The selected participants for the project turned up overwhelmingly to dig the land and carry second digging. This was a clear indication that the community took the positively. After cultivation, the garden was allowed to ferment for 2 weeks before secondary tillage.



The project beneficiaries tilling or digging the land (first stage).

1.4 Secondary land tillage.

In this stage, work was basically on the primary land already dug. Focus was on reducing clod size, weed control, leveling soil surface etc. which is a prerequisite before planting. This helped in mixing the upper fertile soil profile with the lower profile which influenced soil organic carbon and distribution of water and aeration in the soil profile hence manipulating weed residue and later controls/ removes unwanted plant growth-leaving the garden in a suitable condition for planting seeds and seedlings.



The ideal piece of garden ready for plantation

1.5 Purchase of seeds and seedlings.

The strength of agriculture lies in the quality and variety of seeds and seedlings. We purchased high- quality and sustainable seeds and seedlings in order to sustain the production of this project. This helped in reducing seed dormancy hence mitigating losses. The variety of crop seeds include; maize, okra, cow-peace and groundnuts and seedlings include egg-plant, garden-egg and potato vines. In addition to that, the community and the STAD field team were engaged in peeling the groundnuts.



The seedlings of garden egg/eggplant and next is the heaps of potato vines.



The STAD volunteers and the community/ participants peeling groundnut pods.



Okra seeds and groundnut pods

1.6 Planting of the seeds and seedlings.

STAD field team supported the kitchen gardeners with specific knowledge in planting these crops and seeds. The demonstration garden is open to the community to get experience in land preparation, growing, planting, and caring and management of crops, harvesting among others. During planting, the community mobilization officer demonstrated to the kitchen gardeners the best practices needed during planting these include; adequate spacing, proper depth, watering among other. However, broad casting method was used for planting cowpeas. The spacing between the crops and rows were as follow;



The Field officer demonstrating to the beneficiaries how to plant. The participants planting.



The project beneficiaries and STAD field team planting groundnuts and okra seeds (see appendix 1).



The field team and beneficiaries making heaps for planting sweet potatoes.

1.7 Distribution of food and Non-Food Items (NFI).

Since this program is volunteer driven, to motivate and appreciate their dedication to learning skills, knowledge and methods for sustainable farming practices, STAD distributed the beneficiaries with some maize flour and soap. Though the distribution of food and NFI was meant for the selected participants for

the pilot kitchen gardening, however, the most needy and vulnerable in the community were given some food items and among whom is one family who are all disabled was supported with maize flour, soap, sugar, tea leave, and matchbox, beans and cooking oil.



The assistant community mobilizer issuing maize flour for the kitchen gardeners after planting.



The assistant field officer delivering food and NFI to a needy family

1.8 Awareness campaign for sustainable agriculture.

This program was deliberately organized to provoke the negative attitude and practices of the community members towards agriculture. Agriculture here has been characterized by poor farming methods (harvest and post-harvest, purely subsistence); the energetic youth have become lazy towards agriculture.

They prefer to stay in urban and semi-urban areas. Most importantly this awareness was designed deliberately to enhance knowledge of the farming community on kitchen gardening and organic agriculture, which offers optional strategies in food production. The area of mind set change on personal development, sustainable agricultural practices, farming as a business, urban farming technologies, addressing youth challenge through agriculture were covered during the awareness.

1.8.1 Training on organic manure.

This training took place on the 12th October 2021. In the training, a total of 64 participants attended as follow: women 28, youth 29 and men 36. The materials used include; Twigs (maize stem), green hairy leaves, ash, water, loam soil, goat droppings, manure stick. And a pit of 60cm wide 100cm long and 60cm dip was dug to fill the materials as arranged in the profile illustration below.

1.8.2 Training methodologies

Given the participant level of literacy, low education and knowledge on the various topics to be presented on improved farming practices, participatory methods including: brainstorming, probing, role plays explanations; testimonies, questions and answers periods were used.



The facilitator giving a presentation and next are the participant having refreshment



A trainee asking a question and is being answered in the next photo by a facilitator



The facilitator giving instructions for the trainees next the trainees doing practical work.



The training forming the different layers of the manure pit.



A general overview of the trainees during the training session

1.8.3 Training on organic pesticide.

The beauty with this training was that it gave each member a room to learn. And these was the procedure; Use of motor, we pounded Pawpaw leaves, Tephrosia leaves, Neem leaves, chili, Garlic separately. These materials are mixed in water at a ratio of 1:3 respectively. We cut the brown soap at match box size and this will mix 20L.



A facilitator giving a demonstration as the participants look on in the next photos.



Trainees pounding chili and Neem and next is squeezing the chilly to make pesticide (see appendix 2).



The various materials made in a liquid form and a group photo after the training

1.8.4 Farm management and maintenance.

After the three days of training, the project participants resorted employing the best practices learnt. Series of activities were done that includes weeding, spraying the crops with the organic pesticide among others. Lunch and breakfast were catered during this exercise.



Beneficiaries weeding groundnuts and next is during weeding of eggplant/ garden egg.



Germinated groundnuts and eggplants after weeding.



A woman cooking food for the project beneficiaries.

1.8.5 Harvest.

The outcomes of the products were registered. The eggplant, okra, cowpeas, sweet potatoes and groundnuts. These were given to the farmers to boost their nutrition demands.



The Farmers harvesting Eggplants and Okra

Samples of some produce from the kitchen gardening pilot project



African eggplants

Okra

sweet potatoes

(2.0) Part Two: Awareness raising on Sexual and Gender and Domestic Based Violence (S&GBDV)

2.1. Overview of the activity.

STAD organized two days 9–10 December, awareness campaign workshop to mark the 16 days of activism against Gender-Based Violence under the 2021 theme "**Orange the World: End Violence against Women Now.**" About 235 people attended the two days intensive presentations and discussions on VAWG in Ayimini village (see appendix 3). Present were academicians, researchers, practitioners, government leaders and STAD volunteers. The event was facilitated by Dr. Otieno Ong'ayo (Antony), a researcher from the International Institute of Social Studies (ISS) of Erasmus University in the Netherlands; Mr. Boboli Sam, a teacher and coordinator of Women Democracy Network (WDN), Koboko District; Mr. Wayi Jackson parish chief Degiba. Children's sessions led by STAD's youth leader, Dieudonne Emmanuel.

The main objective of the two days awareness raising workshop was to empower and disseminate information, knowledge on facts and strategies to combat violence against women and girls in and beyond Ayimini Village, Midia sub-county. The major areas of discussions ranged from how to improve messages and encourage the public to lobby to stop Gender/ domestic violence. Activities performed by both host and refugee participants included poems, drama, creative dance and awareness songs denouncing Violence Against Women and Girls.

These facilitators took the adult participants, through speeches and demonstrations and Q and A sessions on the impact of S&GBV in families and ways to prevent it within families and at the community level. Equally, children were also introduced to the materials for campaign against gender-based violence since they are both victims and the most affected by S&GBV in homes. The children are not just passive participant but silent witnesses and bearers of the traumatic experiences of S&GBV, yet left out in most intervention programmes within host and refugee communities.



Mr. Avaga Emmanuel, STAD's Field and Community Mobilization Officer (F&CMO), opened the workshop by welcoming participants, defining the workshop process and objectives and urging participants to consider "everything on the table" in identifying ways to motivate the public to combat and navigate meaningfully ways to mitigate challenges posed by violence against women and girls. He also observed that VAWG creates a negative impact on people. It affects an individual, the family and the nation at large. Women and children have been victimized tremendously through domestic violence. He

urged every participant not to silently watch VAWG cases but instead make efforts to report or even intervene positively. He concluded by applauding the audience and the facilitators by saying it's the responsibility of everyone for successful changes of social norms around VAWG for healthy and safety society.

2.2. Insights on VAWG from researcher, practitioners and community elders.

The following section presents key points made by facilitators and presentations under a common theme “**Domestic Violence Cease Fire**” (DVCF). Messages were based on a deep understanding of key factors, such as what motivates people to act against VAWG, the knowledge, need to act, & use of segmented data.

2.3 Dr. Otieno Ong'ayo (Antony), diasporas researcher's presentation focused mainly on valuing children



and taking action against domestic violence in Ayimini Village. His approach to the community was creating value-based preparedness messages to combat domestic violence. According to him, people make decisions on two levels— emotional and rational. The emotional level involves personal values (why I care) and emotional benefits and consequences (how it makes me feel). Given the situational analysis of the children around him that time, he embarked majorly on the effects of violence on children. The children looked to have suffered from lack of care from parents for example poor dressing, poor feeding and sadly the parents seem to do little financially

to support their children. He called the workshop, with its gathering, as an “**eye opening.**” This demands rapid response towards domestic violence and urged those in attendance to make informed decisions about messaging to help the victims even with the limited resources available. He thanked participants and stressed that their hard work over the course of the workshop will probably reduce domestic violence. He said; “**more people will suffer less, next time something bad happens.**” He also recognized that, people tend to be persuaded by reason, but motivated by emotions. Emotion is powerful because it tends to be associated with deeply held and stable values. People need to tap into emotions, such as family protection and love for the children.

2.4 Legal Laws, policies which protect and safeguard women and girls against VAWG by Boboli Sam.

Mr. Boboli Sam, teacher and coordinator of Women Democracy Network (WDN), Koboko District; His approach was using a human rights framework to oppose VAWG which he said requires legal and social redress. No matter the cultural context is not a legitimate practice and that the individual woman's body is inviolable. Often, making this point has required courageous work on the part of women's organizations like WDN. He also observed that human rights approach provides a framework which governments and others can be held accountable and can be used to demand women's rights. He highlighted some of the legal contexts such as

Article 1 of Universal Declaration of Human right DHR (1948) states that all people are born free and are equal in dignity and rights female, male, child, adult, disabled etc. He enlightened the participants about the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of



discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and Article 14 of the African Charter on Human and People's Right (ACHPR) also known as Maputo protocol to mention by a few, recognizes the rights of women to own land and asks all signatory states to protect women against all forms of discrimination as well as **other legal instrument in Uganda such as** Domestic violence Act (2010) criminalized the mistreatment of women and children; Land and property right stated that women have the right to own land and property; Marriage and divorce bill suggests that women have a 50% share of the family assets in case of divorce; **Penal code (amendment act 2007)**, Sexual offenses bill seeks to criminalize sexual offenses like rape and defilement and recommends for even castration of perpetrators and National gender based violence policy. Addresses challenges of GBV and suggests penalties to offenders.

He concluded by saying that in a community, people think if a man beats his wife and children, it is a private business and thus most people do not intervene. From this presentation, the women and men understood that S&GDB beyond a man and wife when it comes to justice. The legal frame work gives women and girls the strength to seek for justice from the authorities. Many people especially the women, mainly the victims, lack the information, knowledge and resources to persue their right and justice

2.5 Mr. Wayi Jackson; a parish chief Koboko west division and a volunteer in Uganda Red Cross, Koboko. His used participatory method that involved probing and brainstorming for participants to recall and recognize triggers and indicator of domestic violence and its effects on household, particularly on the girl child, The beneficiaries were able to acknowledge the dangers, triggers and the impacts of VAWG in a community and at family level.



2.6 Word of wisdom from refugee and host elders

2.6.1 Mr. Karilo Lumago, refugees elder from Bango Village

The refugee elder from Bango village stated that violence against was highly condemned and the act was punishable by the elder's council in his generation. In their generation, a woman was viewed as a clan property and marriage was a life time commitment an expressing disappointment over the high rate of divorce and separation. He urged the current generation to emulate their generation. He however attributed the current rate of violence against women to drug abuse, poverty, laziness by man and women, change in fusion and design. Most importantly, he advised the husband and to love one another and work hand in hand for the betterment of the family and the children. He concluded by praising STAD for organizing such programs and wished for its continuity.



2.6.2 Host elder Mrs. Christine Laguwa



The women elder for the host community in Ayimini village, started by thanking STAD for the OSLP program and for organizing the awareness campaign on VAWG, first of its kind in Ayimini village. She attributed the main triggers of domestic

violence to lack of education by the people in Ayimini village and added that no girl has ever finished senior four in Ayimini village. This is clear evidence that girl child education has been ignored for so long in this village. She also believes that domestic violence is as a result of failure to involve women actively in planning for cultural and family institutions for example women being neglect or abused from decision making which is a common behavior in Ayimini. She therefore urged the village women to rise up and condemn their husbands against such practices.

.6.3 Rev. Awusa Daniel, the area councilor Degiba Parish



The councilor was one of the happiest participants of the awareness campaign. He urged the participants to be ambassadors and agents of peace in his community. He also felt privileged for STAD for organizing the event. Through such events, he believes his people can learn, relearn and unlearn aspects of the domestic violence in community. His praised the education intervention in his area and recommended for its recommendation. The facility is currently worn out and needs a massive renovation before the children are brought in to learn. He also wished STAD to bring livelihood and health projects like offering seeds to

famers and health interventions.

3.0 The children session.

Children had separate activities facilitated by STAD’s youth leader and a community volunteer Mr. Dieudonne Emmanuel. Topic covered by the children were on hygiene, how to relate well with girls, poems, riddles, songs and their dreams. They were also provided with different materials containing different messages on adolescent and domestic violence. The children were able to interpret and condemn domestic violence. They said, it frustrates them to see their parents fighting and quarrelling at home mainly caused mainly by their fathers. Some of the messages from the Information



Communication (IEC) kits included, avoiding bad touching of girls, keeping clean, avoiding bad peer groups, domestic violence, and teenage pregnancy among other. Some children acknowledged touching girls on their buttocks and breasts. But their actions were condemned by their facilitators.

Poor hygienic and poverty are some of the greatest problems faced in Ayimini village. Due to this challenge, some of the children looked malnourished as the parents couldn’t afford to feed and clothe these children properly and most of them have torn clothe and without shoes. The facilitator conducted a session of mind set change to preparing them for school. Since most of them were aged between 5 and 10, they were encouraged to come and learn at the open space learning facility when schools open

3.1 Participants’ presentations.



Dressed in orange T-shirts with messages against VAWG, the participants offered many potential ways to combat VAWG through drama, awareness song, and poem by both host and community communities. The refugee community sang awareness raising song, condemning suffering and brutalization of women by their husbands’ bad behaviors rejecting their wives when they have money etc. Some part of the song lyrics denounced a

common practice that; when husbands have money, they tend to prefer and admire beautiful women and sometimes sleeping away from home for a number of days. Sadly, when money is gone, they tend to have time for the family and the children.



The host community took part in series of activities that included song, poem, drama and a creative dance. A welcome song was sung on the first day of the awareness raising for the refugee community and the facilitators. In their song, they acknowledged the programs offered by STAD in Ayimini for example the OSLP. This song set the climate for the training and the refugees felt at home for the hospitality by the host.

3.2 Creative Dance: the dance demonstrated the difference between a God-fearing family controlled by the devil family. Domestic violence (fighting and abusing) and unhappiness were regarded as characteristics of a family controlled by the devil. The children were frustrated and stopped dancing and painfully watched the actions of their father. Meanwhile the characteristics of the God-fearing family, with Jesus in the family was portrayed as the husband loving his wife, happiness, children and the parents dancing among other. Nevertheless, a strong message against domestic violence was disseminated.



3.2.1 Drama was also played; the characters included the wife, husband and the children. The husband was a tough arrogant drunkard who never appreciated the wife in anyway but would always come home late and torments the tolerant wife and the children. Towards the end of the drama, the woman sought justice from the elders and husband was reprimanded and counselled. The lessons learnt from the presentations included, justice for the victims, the negative impact of domestic violence on children, love, and the power of prayers in a family.



4.0 Donor Visibility.

STAD greatly emphasized visibility of HAELLA stichting in the Netherlands in all the activities. During the two days awareness rising on violence against women and girls, procurement and printing of T-shirts were printed with key emphasis on the logo of the donor - HAELLA Stichting (main financier of the 16-activism program) and also the messages denouncing violence against women and girls. The T-shirts and masks were distributed to the beneficiaries and stake holders.

4.1 Community Contribution



The community were involving right from the beginning of the project. By involving them, means they ownership of the interventions. The refugees and the host contributed additional chairs to accommodate individual. An individual also

contributed a music system (woofers) which greatly helped in entertainments. The community also contributed labor in the areas of assembling and dismantling the tent, registering the beneficiaries and providing security during the awareness session. Most of the facilitators were drawn from within the community and were able to properly unpack the key messages of violence against women and girls in the local language, familiar to everyone. Interestingly, contributions were made by the community to support the two days event.

4.2 Awards (token of appreciations)



Awards were presented to the various groups for their wonderful presentations linked to domestic violence. Both the host and refugee communities group leaders were rewarded for their performance in songs, drama, poems, dance, kitchen garden and awareness workshops. These awards are meant to complement and motivate the participants who hardly experience acts of appreciation in their everyday lives of struggle to make ends meet. Recognition of their contribution in the programme also serves as means to encourage involvement in pursuit of collective solutions at the community level.

4.2.1 Challenges.

- High expectations. The participants expected transport refund, meals, sitting allowances and certificates after the training. Despite the fact that STAD couldn't meet some of these expectations due to limited resource, there still a high turn up of participants.
- Logistical challenges. The project area of intervention is about 7km from the town and has poor roads and thus high transport costs incurred.
- Fluctuation in the market prices. This is for both commodity prices and a drop-in exchange rate especially euro to local currency affecting the budget.
- High turnover of participants in the 3 days of training for the kitchen gardening. A projected total of 100 beneficiaries to attend each day but on the first day 103 attended and the following day 132 participants attended. This caused challenges in providing refreshments and thus many beneficiaries were not served with soda and biscuits.
- Poor weather conditions – heavy rains, cold etc. affected time management during the training days.
- COVID-19 restriction on social gathering, movement among others delayed early implementations of the project as planned.
- This project was implemented midst COVID-19 lockdown measure. Thus, making it difficult to reach a bigger audience due to following up the necessary Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).

4.2.2 Lessons learnt.

- Deliberate and joint mobilization with key community members is key to achieve targets in any project implementation. The mobilization strategy was deliberate with focus on the LCI, VHT, sub county chief, elders among others. These mobilizers were from both the host and refugee community.
- Flexibility - being flexible and having a good relationship with the community is key. During the awareness campaign, we run out of chairs and community members supported STAD with 20 chairs.
- Involving the local leaders in activities is very important. The local leaders involved were the VHT, councilor, coordinator Women Democracy Network, parish chief. These were key people who delivered the context in the local languages and were heard by both the host and refugee community.
- Women and men were able to acknowledge the dangers of violence against women and girls in the community.

4.2.3 Recommendation.

- Need to renovate and expand the shelter. During the awareness campaign, the numbers of participants were many and these challenged sitting capacity.
- Need to organize additional training for the beneficiaries on the areas of food nutrition.
- Need to do a follow-up on the training conducted
- A clear strategic plan in demonstrations and agronomic trainings will help a lot in bringing the community to fight hunger and poverty.

4.2.4 Conclusion.

This report has reviewed and identified the context and level of agriculture or farming in Ayimini Village. Ayimini and the neighbouring communities in Midia sub-county felt neglected in most development and services provision and initiatives. Farming still is the leading source of livelihood in this area. And they literally missed out opportunities for innovations and personal endeavors to come out of poverty.

Being the first kind of agricultural intervention in the community, many more similar interventions are still needed from all stakeholders- the government, private sectors and NGOs in order to incorporate some of the most sustainable agricultural practices that can provide food and livelihoods and for environmental sustainability. The leaders and all stakeholders acknowledged that STAD is the first organization to conduct such an activity - taking the lead in fighting against VAWG in the three villages (Bango, Ayimini and Wani). Without sufficient financial and non-financial resources support (creative/ innovative ideas), changing their mindsets from vulnerable poor, coupled with high literacy especially among the women in the community, to confident self-reliance is going to be a gradual process which requires more financial and non-financial resources support.

Intensive involvement with key stake holders was part of the preparation taken to conduct the awareness campaign. Government officials from Midia Sub County presented their understanding of VAWG in broader aspects in the community. The Community Development Officer (DCO) highlighted that physical abuse is not the only form of VAWG in her community. It exists in many forms. The most common form of violence is depriving women of their basic rights, property and finances, lack of recognition at household, workplace and community levels, hence ignoring and discouraging women from the precursors of VAW. The LCIII described violence as physical and mental abuse - beating, rape, harassment, bullying, disrespect, suppressing women, depriving women from food and marrying her without consent to mention just few of the forms of violence against women and girls in the community or his area of work in Midia Sub County.

All stakeholders/ participants recognized that the efforts to combat VAWG is not easy and clear cut or silver bullet. It requires everyone to actively participate and lead in fight. Both hosts and refugees shared their own insights and experiences in addressing VAWG.

Lastly, but not the least, the Ayimini community and STAD management and team in Uganda register their sincere gratitude to Haella and ETWA and all individuals for their unwavering support. Your funding definitely contributed to some relative positive changes in the lives of AYIMINI community.

Appendixes

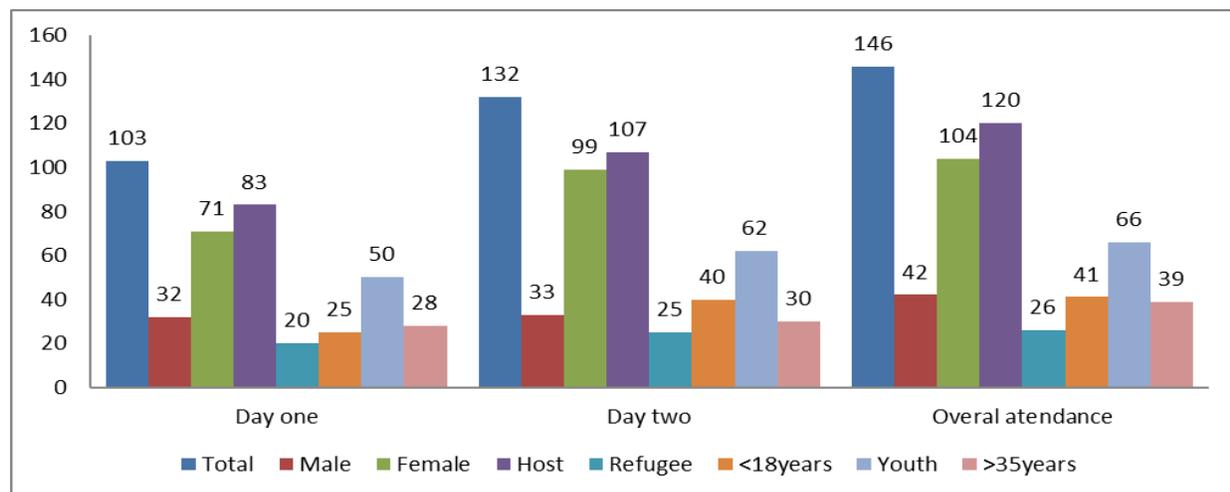
Appendix 1 Table 1, plant spacing guide used;

Vegetable	Spacing between plants	Spacing between rows.
Okra	(18-38 cm.)	(90-106 cm.)
Sweet potatoes	(30-45 cm.)	(90-120 cm.)
Eggplant	(45-60 cm.)	(75-71 cm.)
Maize	(90 cm)	(95 cm.)
Groundnuts	(8-12 cm.)	(45-50 cm)

Appendix 2: The table2 showing how each material was prepared during the kitchen gardening manure training sessions

MATERIALS	QUANTITY	RATE OF H ₂ O
Pawpaw leaves	1kg	3L
Chili	2 cups	6 cups
Tephrosia leaves	1 1/2	4 1/2 L
Neem	1/4kg	1 1/2 L
Kerosene	1ml	2 L
Brown soap	Match box size	20 L

Appendix 3: Graphical interpretation of attendance. 16 days activism against VAWG



Appendix 4: Extra Pictorial Presentations 16 days VAWG



The picture above (left) shows a participant raising hand to give and answer. Right, the Accountant

STAD serving the participants with refreshment (biscuit and soda)



The accountant STAD handing an envelope to the South Sudan group leader.



A Child expressing his feeling on domestic violence as the STAD youth leader Mr. Dieudonne Emmanuel looks and listens. Next is a group of children denouncing VAWG.



Dr. Otieno talking to a refugee girl and next is a volunteer distributing IEC materials to children.



Kitchen gardening participants



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Date: February 28 2021

Date: March 12, 2022