



Nashulai Progress Report For Together Women Rise (TWR)

Project Title: Women and Girl Child Empowerment Program

Grant Amount: USD 35,000 For 2 Years

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1. Recap briefly what outcomes the project was designed to achieve.

The project was set up with the sole objective of empowering women and girls. This was to be accomplished through a program of sexual reproductive health and rights education for our girls, women rights advocacy training and the creating of women led economic empowerment enterprises. These campaigns were to be conducted through workshops and radio programs. The goal was to enlighten girls on their rights especially right to education and how to fight off discrimination at the family and community level. By creating a generation of educated and confident girls this would eventually change the communal landscape by getting rid of early marriages, FGM and GBV. In order to be successful, we planned to work in collaboration with chiefs, assistant chiefs and village elders to curb FGM and teenage marriages. Hence by the end of the project about 2000 schoolgirls will have gained sexual reproductive health training and free access to reusable menstrual pads, drastically improving their sexual health and decreasing rates of teenager pregnancy, FGM and early marriage. Our schoolgirls will be able to continue with their education uninterrupted for a better future. 500 reusable pads will have been produced and distributed to needy girls.

The beekeeping enterprise under women groups was meant to increase income of our women to enable them purchase food for their families and take their children to school. The entrepreneurship mentorship that would come with the enterprises would help our women learn skills of leadership and management, sales and marketing. Other enterprises that would help us support more women were handwash and sanitizer production and also production of elephant dung soap. Our young women were to be involved in supplying these products to the many lodges and camps surrounding our conservancy hence getting some extra income.

Ultimately the more income women have the more their confidence would increase and ultimately able to make decisions about their families and be positive role models for their boys and girls alike.

3. Has funding changed for this project? For example, have you received unexpected funding from another source?

We have not received funding from any other sources. All activities undertaken were utilizing funds which we had received from TWR.

4. Is your organization or project situation different than presented in the approved proposal? For example, new executive director, significant project staffing changes or NGO affiliation, loss of large funding, or other significant changes?

The contract of Noah our resource mobilization consultant expired in June last year hence left our organization. Also, one of our project officers called Evalyn Kamau left for another organization. All others staff including rangers are still at Nashulai

- Nelson Reiyia - CEO/ Co-Founder
- Margaret Koshal - Coordinator gender and youth affairs
- Thomas Muema - Project/operations manager
- Bernard Rono - Accountant
- Evalyn Naeku - Project Officer
- Benjamin Koke – Warden

The overall goals, activities, and outcomes of the proposed program remain the same since when we wrote the proposal in 2021. Ours is to remain focused till we accomplish all that we had indicated till end of 2022.

5. Have the number of beneficiaries changed? To report this please refer to the original numbers in your grant proposal under Number of women and girls Directly Impacted and population Indirectly Impacted.

The numbers of our beneficiaries have not changed. It remains as we had proposed. By the end of the project, we should have some impact on the following directly or indirectly

Directly

- 2,000 school girls will have received sexual reproductive health training, with free sanitary pads;
- 40 young women teachers will be trained to run their own sexual reproductive health workshops (ToTs)
- 150 girls at risk of dropping out will have their education maintained, with the most vulnerable 50 receiving scholarships for their school fees.
- 2,000 parents (1,000 of them women) will be sensitized on the benefits of girl's education.
- 600 women will receive rights and advocacy training with 40 women trained to run their own small-scale enterprises.
- 540 each year (1,080 total) women will be organized into co-operative groups and receiving entrepreneurship, group management, credit, production training and productive assets to launch co-operative enterprises gaining economic empowerment and agency.
- 1,500 people will be impacted with many participants benefiting from multiple project dimensions.

Indirectly

- 1.5 million people (750,000 women) across Maasai land will hear our anti-GBV and anti-FGM programming on Maasai radio (Sidai FM and Radio Maiyan)
- With the average household size of 10 children, 4,000 Maasai girls will indirectly benefit from their parents being educated on the benefits of girl's education.
- And 2,400 will indirectly benefit indirectly from their mothers receiving women's rights education and advocacy training.
- Increased women's employment will indirectly benefit the 4,860 other members of their households.

6. What challenges are you facing as you move forward with this project? How are you approaching these challenges?

The SRH activity was the most widely undertaken in the year 2022. The challenges encountered were as follows:

- 1) Schools were far wide apart beyond the boundaries of Nashulai. Some like Suswa girls was 140 kilometers away. This stretched our budget to the limits as we had to undertake two trainings.
- 2) The rainy season was the most challenging as it made roads impassable. We had to hire expensive four-wheel drive vehicles to reach our destination.
- 3) The request from teachers and parents to give the training to their girls gave us immense pressure. The number of girls in need of training outstripped our capacity. Hence use of our TOT champions to continue with the training at school or in surrounding areas.
- 4) The ideas of discrimination against girls' education will take some time before they are eradicated hence, we still need them to continue our campaigns on the rights of girls and women generally.
- 5) In most schools' teachers wanted us to offer the same training to boys as well as they are also part of the problem. They felt that the issues being discussed were useful to boys as well. But the way we had structured the training in phase one it was intended for girls only. We had to inform them that a phase two would involve boys as well.
- 6) Prolonged drought affected our beekeeping project as the heat and lack of water limited our harvest to one crop.
- 7) The cost of materials has escalated in the post Covid 19 era beyond what we had planned. This forced us to trim our budget to accommodate as many activities as possible.

7. Have you revised your original objectives since the project began? If so, why? What are your new objectives?

Our original objectives remain the way they were – we have not revised them. As a summary our objectives remain as follows:

1. Providing sexual and reproductive health education for 2000 girls in schools
2. Undertake advocacy campaigns on harmful effects of FGM and early marriages
3. Improving community perceptions about the value of educating girls
4. Economic empowerment of our women and youth

8. What progress have you made toward achieving your objectives? Please address each stated objective.

Objective 1

Our objective was to provide sexual and reproductive health education for 2,000 girls. Hence, we concentrated on this activity until by the end we were able to reach 1,982 girls. Parents and teachers were very pleased with the idea of providing SRH education to our teenage girls in both primary and secondary schools hence urging us to put a lot of energy in this as we had lost so many girls to teenage pregnancies and early marriage. Narok County was one of the leading counties in teenage pregnancies. A report by the County health department shows that over 13,000 girls between ages 10 and 18 in Narok County got pregnant in 2021. This was a very high rate which called for urgent intervention.

Many school heads wanted the training to be given to their girls hence we were under immense pressure to reach as many schools as possible. In order to reduce the pressure on our team, trained some 20 lady teachers to be our champions in each school on matters SRHR and any other counselling needed by the girls. Some of the schools have a big population of girls hence we had to divide the girls and do the training for two days. This was the case for Sekenani girls secondary school, Ewaso Nyiro primary school, Suswa girls secondary school, Naikarra primary school and siana primary school.

The curriculum/content was designed to be covered in a single day. After the initial training our champion in the school is left with the duty of keeping the ideas of mentorship and SRHR alive by organizing continuous engagement sessions with students and also inviting role models. Apart from SRH education, the curriculum had sessions on human/ girl child rights, career choices and life skills. Trainings were mostly conducted on Saturdays so that we don't interfere with the school programs as much as possible. The disruptions caused by the lockdowns of 2020/21 caused a lot of backlogs in the curriculum of the schools and teachers wanted to cover the lost time. In schools where the population was big like Naikarra boarding primary, we divided the population into 2 groups and undertook the training in 2 days. During these sessions female teachers from the

particular school helped us organize the girls in small groups of about 30. Keeping the number of participants to a small size allowed quality training and achieved higher participation, involvement, intimacy and rapport among participants.

At the end of each raining session, we were giving girls package of renewable sanitary pads, soap and some panties. A befitting message of support a girl.

At the end of each term our champions in each school would file a report on the progress of the training and impact on the girls. In most of the reports the confidence of girls had improved as they were more aware of their rights and goals as provided by the holistic education.

An activity that accompanied the SRH training was the production of renewable sanitary pads by our women group. The group of 20 women was first trained on how to do make renewable pads Then were given materials and the necessary equipment and support to be doing the renewable pads.

500 renewable pads were produced for the very vulnerable girls in far off schools. Otherwise, most of the schools had some supplies of pads from the government program. This program however was not consistent and most girls did not receive a continuous supply of pads. This year we target to produce 1500 more pads.

The list of schools and the number of students is shown below:

Expenditure on SRHR Training Activities (2022)		
Date	Description of SRHR Training Activity	No of participating students
24th & 25th February	SRH Training - Sekenani Girls School	183
26th February	SRH Training - Emarti Primary School	70
19th March	SRH Training - Nashulai College	65
26th March	SRH Training - Nashulai College	50
30th April	SRH Training - Ololaimutia Primary School	65
1st & 2nd June	SRH Training - Suswa Girls Secondary School	200
9th and 10th June	SRH Training - Ewaso Nyiro Primary School	157
11th & 12th June	SRH Training - Naikarra Primary School	150
25th June	SRH Training - Beacon primary school	65
20th July	SRH Training - Nashulai College	68
29th August	SRH Training - Nkoilale Primary School	77
31st August	SRH Training - Naboisho Primary School	50
1st September	SRH Training - Sekenani Primary School	150
5th October	SRH Training - Mpoongi primary School	98
5th October	SRH Training - Kichermuruak Primary School	126

21st October	SRH Training - Goswani Primary School	76
24th October	SRH Training - Iturisho Primary School	56
28th October	SRH Training - Nkineji Primary School	116
29th & 30th October	SRH Training - Siana Boarding primary School	160
Total No of Students		1,982

Objective 2 - Undertake advocacy campaigns on harmful effects of FGM and rights of women. The aim was to educate 600 women on their rights and how to advocate for them. The plan was to undertake 5 campaigns. These campaigns will be undertaken this year.

Our advocacy efforts mainly focused on eliminating FGM, early marriage and sexual and gender-based violence as well as promoting girls' and women's equal access to education, healthcare and economic opportunities, and promoting their sexual health and rights.

In the past year we undertook only one anti FGM and anti GBV campaign as we prioritized the SRH girl training. We intend to hold more campaigns this year.

Objective 3 - Improving community perceptions about the value of educating girls

Our objective was to undertake 5 campaigns to educate 5 girls and educate them on the importance of girls' education. Our aim was to reach 2000 parents. We were able to conduct only one campaign which was attended by representatives of our five villages at the local sekenani market. Hence a total of 25 parents - both men and women. Among these were local administrators as they are the ones who are given the responsibility of enforcing the anti FGM law. Parents were taken through the anti FGM Act of 2011, the Children Act of 1989 and the international women's rights instruments such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). This was done in simple way by use of the local maa language. The aim was to enlighten parents on the need to stop all forms of discrimination against women and by extension girls.

These representatives of parents will help us in subsequent campaigns to reach more parents to advocate the importance of education to girls. We plan to undertake 4 more campaigns on the importance of girl education this year.

Objective 4 - Economic empowerment of our women and youth

Our aim was to set up three income generating projects for women these are honey production through beekeeping, and the production of elephant dung soap, sanitizers and handwash.

The only income generating activity that we were able to undertake in 2022 was beekeeping. We purchased 18 Langstroth beehives and with the help of some partners trained our women how to

take care of beehives until production of honey. The group has already harvested one crop but would have been two were it not for the prolonged drought. Each beehive produced approximately 8 kgs of honey at Ksh 800 per kilo. Hence earning the group Ksh 115,200 (approx. USD 5,760). If the crops were 2, this would double the earnings. We intend to put up another apiary this year for our women group in Nashulai East. The land is plenty and natural hence producing organic honey which is highly marketable.

This year we plan to organize our women groups into savings and credit groups (SACCOs). Our plan is to organize 1,080 women into these SACCOs.

We plan also to 36 batches of hand wash soap and 36 batches of hand sanitizers. We also intend to produce 18 batches of elephant dung soap.

9. Do you anticipate any difficulties in completing your project in the timeframe outlined in your proposal?

We do not anticipate any difficulties in completing our remaining activities. The activities that we did in 2022 have given us the right traction and the community and administration is very supportive of our work. We believe that by January 2024 we should have completed all activities outlined. The project will however have given us the necessary visibility to be able to mobilize for funds from other organizations to scale it up in future.

Within the report also include:

- Several high-resolution JPG photographs of the project depicting the women/girls who have benefited from the grant funds should be posted to your assigned Dropbox. Photos should be submitted with the right to use in all forms and media in Together Women Rise documents and website. Include confirmation of grantee's right and consent to use photos/videos as per local law.

Photos are posted in the link below. Nashulai gives consent and right to use all submitted photos in all forms of media.

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/13H2kRNZwF-dlhFFAtBllunh2lttyreKP>

- Any message you would like us to convey to our membership and donors about the impact our grant is having on those being served and/or your organization and its mission.

Nashulai is so grateful for supporting us to uplift the lives of women and girls in our community as it has enabled us amplify how harmful traditional practices legitimize and perpetuate various forms of violence against women including FGM, GBV and early marriages which prevent women and girls from achieving their full potential. Our

women and girls are now more confident to speak against any discrimination and are ready to demand full enjoyment of their rights as enshrined in the constitution.

- Detailed list of all expenses incurred during the reporting period which have been paid for with the Together Women Rise grant (attached separately)