

DEVELOPMENT AID FROM PEOPLE TO PEOPLE

DAPP IMPROVES TRANSITIONING OF INFANT LEARNERS FROM CBCC INTO PRIMARY SCHOOL – FINDINGS

The DAPP Let Children Stay in School (LCSS) project was implemented in six districts namely Chitipa, Rumphi, Ntchisi, Lilongwe, Machinga and Nsanje targeting to reach 114 primary schools.

The goal was to improve the transition of infant learners from community based care centres into primary schools specifically targeting standard one and two learners.



Lower class learners

Running between June 2015 to May 2018, the project worked with different stakeholders including District Education Managers, Primary School Education Advisors (PEAs), teachers, Parents and Teachers Associations, Mother Groups and community members around the targeted schools.

Following an independent evaluation carried out by Makoka & Associates it was established that the project has reduced the dropout rate of grade one learners who proceeded to grade two by 9 percent. This was revealed during a validation workshop that had been organised to share the results with implementers which DAPP worked with.

Furthermore, there is an increase in the number of learners who proceeded from grade 2 to 3 with an overall rate of 63.9 percent, a reduction in class repetition and a reduction in the drop out rate for grade 1 learners.

Activities that were implemented in the project included; in-service teachers' trainings for child friendly school environments, establishment of standard play grounds made from locally available resources, community engagement in school feeding programs and activities sustainability through trainings in income generating activities.

150 VILLAGES VERIFIED OPEN DEFECATION FREE



Verification exercise

The DAPP Child Aid projects builds on the idea that the people in a community should work together in a structured way to discuss and come up with solution to issues of mutual interest in particular those that involve the wellbeing and upbringing of the children. The aim is to create safe and conducive environment in which families can raise their children.

The projects are operating in Machinga, Zomba and Neno districts focusing on the areas of water, sanitation and hygiene, nutrition, agriculture as well as climate change.

In Machinga DAPP is working in four Traditional Authorities (T/A) of Nsanama, Mlomba, Nkula and Chamba while in Zomba the project is operating in T/A Nkagula. Currently, district's Water, Sanitation and Hygiene coordination team are carrying assessments to determine if the villages are not practicing Open Defecation.

The aim is to establish that people in the target villages are not practising open defecation so as to be qualified for ODF status by the National ODF taskforce. During the verification phase carried out between 16 July to 25 August 2018, the district teams have verified that 150 villages are open defecation free.

The qualify for an open defecation free status, all



Latrine with a drop hole cover

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households in a village need to have latrines with drop whole covers, hand washing facilities next to the latrine and without any traces of human faeces at any place within the villages.

There 48 villages from T/A Chamba, 40 from Nkula, 15 from Nsanama, 17 Mlomba and 30 from Nkagula which have all been verified.

WATERLOO FOUNDATION PROMOTES GIRLS EDUCATION IN THYOLO

With assistance from Waterloo Foundation, an UK based Foundation, who is contributing to the training of 26 student teachers at DAPP Amalika Teachers Training College, change rooms and toilets for girls have been constructed and others maintained in 11 primary schools where the sponsored students are currently doing their teaching practices.

Waterloo Foundation is supporting the training of 16 females and 11 male students at the college with an aim of promoting girls' education in primary schools. As such, the student teachers are expected to carry out activities that will promote girl child education which among others include construction of the change rooms and toilets which are used by girls during their menstruation period so as to ensure they do not miss school.

The primary schools that have benefitted from the program are from Thunga, Mpinji, Mountview and Chisawani education zones.



Toilets constructed in the program

SATELITE STUDENTS SHOWCASE SKILLS

On the 6th of August 2018, DAPP Chilangoma Satelite Tailoring students organized an open day to showcase to parents and community members from around DAPP Chilangoma Teachers Training College (TTC) the products they have made following their on-going training at the school.

The students have learnt to sew using machines and some of the products they have produced include petticoats, boys' shirts and baby dresses.

The training is for four months with funding assistance from Sympany of Netherlands. It is an extension of DAPP Mikolongwe Vocational Schools programs to reach out to more youth with technical skills and entrepreneurship skills in rural areas around the four DAPP TTCs of Chilangoma, Amalika, Dowa and Mzimba.

The beneficiaries are young women and girls aged between 15 and 24 from poor backgrounds which are selected from communities that around the villages to benefit from the free training. The target is to train 720 youth by 2021.



Products made by tailoring students

STUDENT TEACHERS HITTING THE HEARTS

On 10th of August student teachers undergoing training at DAPP Chilangoma teachers training college organized a community outreach activity aimed at sensitizing families on environmental conservation.

The key activity on the day was demonstrations which were made on how people can construct firewood saving stove using locally available resources.

The students organized songs, drama and poems that carried messages of the importance of combating the effects of climate change.

The firewood saving stoves use less firewood as compared to the traditional three-way open fire which in turn lead to increase cutting down of trees.



Firewood saving stoves demonstrations