

**THE BUKOBA DISTRICT COUNCIL (RURAL) GROUP DELIBERATIONS DURING THE STAKEHOLDERS
CONFERENCE ON EDUCATION TO OVC/MVC (5TH TO 8TH JULY, 2010)**

1ST DAY: 5TH JULY, 2010

GROUP No. 1

QUESTION: In what ways does your Local authority (district/ ward/ village) engage parents and caregivers in sponsoring their children's education?

ANSWER:

1. Forming community development and/ or social welfare committees with the under sub-committees:-
 - a. Health
 - b. Education
 - c. Agriculture

⇒ These sub-committees help in identifying the OVC/MVC by gathering precise information and data
2. Calling/ gathering together children's parents/ caregivers and educating them on their responsibility to meet and sponsor their children's education besides assistance received from various benefactors.

GROUP No. 2

QUESTION: In what ways does your Local authority (district/ ward/ village) engage parents and caregivers in sponsoring their children's education?

ANSWER:

- When the Local Authority receives education grant, it instructs ward offices that pass the same to village governments. The latter analyses the needy children by involving schools, village leaders, volunteers and organizations in the locality, in order to come up with a justifiable list. The ward development committees (WDC) thereafter sum-up the lists guided by instructions from the district. The ward offices deliver the reports to the District Executive Director (DED) who finally compiles a final report which is studied and discussed for ultimate action.

GROUP No. 3

QUESTION: In what ways does your Local authority (district/ ward/ village) engage the community in sponsoring the orphans and most vulnerable children's education?

ANSWER:

1. **Village**
 - i. Identification of OVC/MVC by names and locations
 - ii. Grouping OVC/MVC according to their needs
 - iii. Consideration and prioritization of individual OVC/MVC's requirements
 - iv. Formation of village follow-up/ monitoring committees
 - v. Formation of donor committees charged with collection of money, food, clothes, building materials, etc.
2. **Ward**
 - i. Ward motoring group are formed to enable the community monitor its affairs
 - ii. Receiving lists of intended beneficiaries in their priorities and delivering the same to the district authority.
 - iii. The Ward Development Committee chairmen (Councilors) make follow-ups to ensure reports emanating from their wards have been finally received by the District
 - iv. Executive Director's office

3. District

- i. Receives reports from wards and analyses them per priority
- ii. Sanctions grants observing the available budget
- iii. Conducts seminars to ward and village leaders and the community on how to assist the OVC/MVC
- iv. Visits families and group administering the assistance
- v. Receives donors and organizations which intend to assist and guides them to very needy areas/ locations.
- vi. Follow-ups to organizations and donors willing to assist

GROUP No. 4

QUESTION: In what ways does your Local authority (district/ ward/ village) engage the community in sponsoring the orphans and most vulnerable children’s education?

ANSWER:

1. Village

- i. Identification of the OVC/MVC
- ii. Identification of their problems and needs
- iii. Collaboration with NGOs, CBOs and other benefactors on the administration of assistance they extend to OVC/MVC

2. Ward

- i. Approving village plans and budgets on OVC/MVC for onward delivery to the district
- ii. Sending assistance requests to district
- iii. Monitoring and coordination of donor activities

3. District

- i. Receiving ward plans/budgets for incorporation into district budget
- ii. Sanctioning donations observing the district budget
- iv. Cooperating with NGOs, CBOs and other benefactors in extending assistance to intended beneficiaries/ the needy

GROUP No. 5

QUESTION: In what ways does your Local authority (district/ ward/ village) engage local and foreign donors in sponsoring the OVC/MVC education?

ANSWER:

LOCAL DONORS	FOREING DONORS
VILLAGE	
Self-help group members donate to the OVC/MVC Support Fund, which as regards to education assist in procuring uniforms, exercise books, books, pens and meet other contributions like fees	Are incorporated in assisting OVC/MVC directly or indirectly through local non-governmental organizations (NGOs) like Matumaini Mapya, Huyawa and TAPSE who receive funds in form of grants from them. In collaboration with the village governments that identify the OVC/MVC in need via village public meetings the NGOs come in to pay for children’s school requirements.
WARD	
• Organizations (CBOs) registered in the area are recognized by the ward government authorities and receive money to assist OVC/MVC on specified school requirements	Wards get introduced and connected to external donors through District Executive Officer’s office and liaises with and sends names of identified needy children already vetted by their respective

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On request by ward government authorities, individual people and families willing to donate do so 	villages, on the children's requirements
DISTRICT	
Through respective district government authorities TACAIDS (The Tanzania Commission for AIDS) pays school fees for primary and secondary school students; and those at various colleges	The district local authorities introduce and grantee local organizations like Matumaini Mapya, Huyawa and TAPSE, etc. to foreign donors, soliciting for education funds in areas so earmarked

GROUP No. 6

QUESTION: In what ways does your Local authority (district/ ward /village) engage local and external donors in sponsoring the OVC/MVC education?

ANSWER:

1. Villages form education committees which ensure OVC/MVC receive education and other basic requirements
2. The village governments on obtaining names of OVC/MVC, approves them correct in collaboration with caregivers/ guardians. The identified children then put up applications to their respective village governments, non-governmental organizations on their education and other basic school requirements. These organizations in the area include MATUMAINI MAPYA, World Vision (Lweru ADP), Huyawa, etc.
3. Another way could be establishing school friends; e.g. a school with connections with reputable people outside the country who solicit funds for their home schools.
4. Various donations from special groups, e.g. faith based organizations
5. The village government in collaboration with ward office to identify and recommend children's names to the district authority for the necessary assistance

GROUP No. 7

QUESTION: In what ways does your Local authority (district /ward /village) engage the schools in sponsoring the OVC/MVC education?

ANSWER: Schools become involved in various ways as follows:

- Identifying needy pupils at primary and secondary school levels
- Identified children then apply (by letters) for assistance to the head teachers
- The head teachers table the applicants' names before the school committees
- The school committees vet the names and send them to the village governments, which, thereafter send the names to the Ward Development Committees and finally to the district and/ or to donors
- In some schools OVC/MVC get exemptions or concessions on some contributions, e.g. school porridge, security, trial tests between neighboring schools, etc
- Schools also vet for any possible double assistance to a single student and discovers genuine needy ones left over
- There are cases where some assisted students do not show up at school. When a school does discover such cases, it recommends to higher levels for reallocation of assistance to others

GROUP No. 8

QUESTION: In what ways does your Local authority (district/ ward /village) engage the school in sponsoring the OVC/MVC education?

ANSWER:

1. Within the village government there is a social welfare committee which handles education matters and involves children in the identification of OVC/MVC
2. The ward development committee (WDC) approves and monitors the sponsorship of orphan's education

3. The district authority through the community development/ social welfare department coordinates all education sponsorship issues for OVC/MVC
4. The source for all relative data are respective schools in the district concerned

GROUP No. 9

Question: In what ways does your Local authority (district/ ward /village) engage itself in the sponsorship of OVC/MVC education?

ANSWER:

1. Village and ward:

- There have been established funds for payment of school fees, procurement of uniforms, contributions for porridge, security guards and private tuition for the OVC/MVC. The account has been opened at the CRDB Bank.
- Women groups donate food at day care centres, e.g. WAWATA, BETHANIA, SOLIDARY, and individuals, etc
- Working on children's plots in a bid to enhance their food security/ availability potential
- Setting up day care centres
- For children-headed households, arrangements have been made to provide domestic attendanst/ matrons
- Village governments solicit for grants from NGOs, e.g. Matumaini Mapya, World Vision, Partage etc. for meeting OVC/MVC education requirements
- Extending health services including dispensation of medicines
- Erecting houses, buying plots, setting up vocational colleges, constructing water wells and giving mosquito nets.

2. District authority

- Pays schools fees for OVC/MVC

GROUP No. 10

QUESTION: In what ways does your Local authority (district /ward/village) engage itself in the sponsorship of OVC/MVC education?

ANSWER:

1. Village

- Identification of the OVC/MVC and prioritizing their needs
- Mobilizing/ sensitizing the community through public meetings on the importance of education to the OVC/MVC
- Sensitizing village government to identify able people to contribute for these children
- Submitting to the ward authority the approved names of those children to be assisted

2. Ward

- Receiving approved names from village governments for onward submission to the district authority

3. District

- The district sanctions grant as per budget
 - ⇒ **Assistance/ grants dispensed**
 - i) School fees
 - ii) School uniforms
 - iii) School materials, e.g. books, exercises books, pens, pencils, etc.
 - ⇒ **Challenges**
 - i) There are more needy children than currently assisted
 - ii) Cases of double/ triple sponsorship for one individual leaving others unserved
 - iii) Nepotism in recommending the needy children
 - iv) School leadership is not that transparent nor dependable in accounting for the various donations meant for needy children; e.g. double sponsorship might have been made for an item yet the sponsored would still be sent home for want of other contributions

GROUP No.1

QUESTION: Besides meeting school fees and other school requirements for the OVC/MVC, how else does your Local authority (district/ward /village) engage itself in improving the lives of the OVC/MVC families (specify other services provided other than those above)?

ANSWER:

1. Village

- Voluntary services by the community in constructing classrooms dispensaries to enable the OVC/ MVC have ideal places to learn and get health services
- The village vets the OVC/MVC names and sends them to the ward development committee (WDC) for possible sponsorship from various organizations willing to sponsor them

2. Ward

- Conducts thorough analysis of the genuine needy children and forwards their names to the district offices and other non-governmental organizations

3. District

- The district authority sanctions sponsorship to identified OVC/MVC

GROUP No.2

QUESTION: Besides meeting school fees and other school requirements for the OVC/MVC, how else does your Local authority (district/ward /village) engage itself in improving the lives of the OVC/MVC families (specify other services provided other than those above)?

ANSWER:

- i. The village authority identifies households/ families with needy OVC/MVC. Thereafter, identified names are forwarded to registered organizations in the village; e.g. SOLIDARY in Maruku ward has constructed over five living houses in collaboration with the village authority and ward development committee (WDC). In addition, the Organization serves food, provides mattresses, and sanctions micro-credit loans, etc
- ii. Also, World Vision (T) through it's "Area Development Programs (ADP)" is involved in administering grants to needy families with orphans
- iii. The district authority collaborates with village governments in providing shelter to OVC/MVC, e.g. in Katoma ward.

GROUP No. 3

QUESTION: Besides meeting school fees and other school requirements for the OVC/MVC, what else would you suggest your Local authority should assist in order to better these children's living standards?

ANSWER:

1. The Local authority should empower the children economically in running small businesses
2. The Local authority should offer small loans to enhance their incomes earning potential
3. The Local authority should set up a fund/ liaise with willing donors on construction of low-income houses for OVC/MVC
4. Health services be free for OVC/MVC (Health Insurance Scheme)
5. The Local authority should provide free agricultural inputs and equipments to school leaving OVC/MVC
6. Children who excel in form six be supported for higher education

GROUP No. 4

QUESTION: Besides meeting school fees and other school requirements for the OVC/MVC, what else would you suggest your Local authority should assist in order to better these children's living standards?

ANSWER:

- To meet all other contributions as may be demanded by the schools
- In collaboration with the parents to ensure befitting behaviors and brought up
- To be closer to these children in order to understand the challenges before them as other donors do.
- Besides caring them in their youth stage the Local authority should set up a base for their better adulthood
- The Local authority should give priority to the health issue and free medical services by enabling them join the health insurance scheme.
- The Local authority in collaboration with other stakeholders should have in place concrete arrangements of ensuring security to inherited family properties. The Authority should enact by-laws to protect widows and orphans' properties after the death of their husbands or fathers.

GROUP No. 5

QUESTION: Besides meeting school fees and other school requirements for the OVC/MVC, how is your Local authority (district/ ward/ village) collaborating with (i) Schools; (ii) Ministry of Education and Vocational Training in assisting orphans and most vulnerable children?

ANSWER:

A. Village

- Identifies the needy OVC/MVC
- Keeps appraised of their school attendance
- Keeps appraised of their academic performance
- Keeps appraised of their conduct and behavior
- Is responsible for their healthy upkeep
 - i) Treatment
 - ii) Food
 - iii) Accommodation
- Follows up their conduct and behavior both at schools and residence
- Ensures their security in particular female pregnancy issue

B. Ward

- i) Receives progress reports on these children, e.g.
 - School attendances
 - Academic performance
 - Conduct and behavior
- ii) Enlists civil and government organs, e.g. the militia, to book children who, after school, involve themselves in:
 - Fishing
 - Exploitive employment
 - Drug abuse
- iii) Sues those who impregnate school girls

C. District

- i) Receives progress reports from the wards on the children's social life in the community, e.g.
 - Health services
 - Accommodation and food
- ii) Receives children's progress reports from schools on academic excellence and discipline

D. Ministry of Education and Vocational Training

- Furthers children's academic aspirations after completing primary, secondary school and college education

GROUP No. 6

QUESTION: Besides meeting school fees and other school requirements for the OVC/MVC, how is your Local authority (district/ ward/ village) collaborating with (i) Schools; (ii) Ministry of Education and Vocational Training in assisting orphans and most vulnerable children?

ANSWER:

Village:

- The village authority collaborates with school parents/ caregivers to ensure these children attend their classes

Ward

- The ward authority closely monitors their school performance and report to the district local authority

District

- The district authority in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Vocational Training to ensures orphans and most vulnerable children are assisted to pursue higher education and vocational training:
 - i) By applying for educational loans (from High Learning Students Loans Board) on their behalf
 - ii) By sending them to less costly vocational institutes

GROUP No. 7

QUESTION: Besides meeting school fees and other school requirements for the OVC/MVC, how would you like your Local authority (village ward, district), civil society organizations (NGOs, FBOs, CBOs, etc), donors and the community to cooperate in assisting orphans and most vulnerable children?

ANSWER:

- The village/ ward authorities in collaboration with schools, NGOs, CBOs, individuals, etc, should provide OVC/MVC quality food, hygienic accommodation, health and medical services, entrepreneurial skills, water wells/tanks for harvesting rain water, etc.
- Affording the children improved livestock and education on animal husbandry and modern farming
- Accord them love and affection
- Sanctioning grants/ loans with no stringent stipulations
- The Ministry of Education and Vocational Training does sanction loans to those pursuing higher education

GROUP No. 8

QUESTION: Besides meeting school fees and other school requirements for the OVC/MVC, how would you like your Local authority (village ward, district), civil society organizations (NGOs, FBOs, CBOs, etc), donors and the community to cooperate in assisting orphans and most vulnerable children?

ANSWER:

1. Schools, villages and district be reminded to enforce regular school attendance
2. The government to initiate a system of empowering parents/ caregivers attain conducive environment for self-sustenance by propagating income generating