

# **KOSCOBAR – Kenya**

## **Community-based Rehabilitation and Community Development in Korogocho slums of Nairobi (Kenya)**

**DESCRIPTIVE REPORT Part 1 - 2014**

**Project Supported by AIFO/Italy**



## **1.0 - INTRODUCTION**

This report captures the activities and events carried out by KOSCOBAR-K in the last three months of the year 2014 i.e. January – March 2014. All the activities reported therein were carried under the scope of KOSCOBAR-KENYA ,in Korogocho.

The implementing organization KOSCOBAR-K has a management headed by the programmes Coordinator who is seconded from the Board that is headed by a chairman.

## **2.0 SITUATION AND ITS IMPACT ON THE ACTIVITIES**

The year started on mixed moods with the optimism high that with a new government in place, at least positive changes were on the offing taking into consideration the elections promises of the JUBILEE governing coalition.



It was also the year that security situation in the country was taking a change for bad due to increased terror attacks on civilian targets. This has led to stringent security measures in the country leading to crackdown on illegal aliens and other terror suspects and sympathizers. This has led to the exodus of some of the targeted beneficiaries, the former leprosy patients back to their country of origin to avoid the crackdown. This has in turn affected the implementation pace of the activities in their favour.

At the local level, insecurity has increased in Nairobi and this has manifested itself at LUCKY SUMMER where the library and offices are. At night, the security is bad and this made the organization to decide to have its security guard live within the compounds of the premises to deter criminals. Further, there are ideas that more reinforcement on the windows and some door need to be done bearing in mind the impending additions of more equipment and books. This will be discussed further.

### **3.0 - ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR THE YEAR**

During the reporting period, some activities were carried out from among those planned for the whole year 2014, the following activities were planned for 2013,

- i. Disabled persons organization support
- ii. Leprosy group social support
- iii. The library project
- iv. Rehabilitation centre
- v. Rent
- vi. Kosco-bar-K administration
- vii. Meetings.

#### **3.1 Disabled Persons Organization Support**

This programme is a continuation from the last year whereby persons with or living with



disabilities in their families were being supported to enhance their lives and dignity by guaranteeing them what they lack or can't access....the health wellbeing. This is through the health insurance scheme **the NATIONAL HOSPITAL INSURANCE FUND (NHIF)** whereby they are enrolled to and the monthly premiums catered for. The target for this year is 35 persons. At the start of the year, a meeting with the beneficiaries was held to inform them of them of the status of the programme and inform them that at that moment, funds for the programme were not available. In

the meeting also, the beneficiaries were asked to continue updating their monthly premiums if possible to avoid penalties for non-payments until the organization was in a position to continue. At the time of this report, no further action on the programme had been made though it was found that non of the last year beneficiaries had made any personal payment and their accounts had accrued penalties of 5 times the monthly premium of Ksh.800 for each month not paid for in addition to the normal premium. The organization shall be holding another meeting with them to chart the way forward on the penalties.

### **3.2 Leprosy Group Social Support**

This programme refers to the interaction and interventions put in place to mitigate the situation and lives of the former leprosy patients living in Korogocho and who have no productive activity to give them economic independence. In the last activity year 2013, the organization had a program that provided foodstuff support fortnightly. This year, in pursuit of achieving a bit of self independence and more dignity in the beneficiaries, the organization has in discussion with them has planned totally new kind of co-operation through support to their own initiatives of a nurturing some talents in music by providing some musical instruments to a musical band that a group of these beneficiaries have and some income generating activities. To realize this and put ground work for the initiative, the concerned and the organization has held a meeting and field visits. It was realized that due to the on-going crackdown on aliens in the fight against terrorism, some of the initial beneficiaries had fled the country and went back to their country of origin –TANZANIA. Although some of them have reportedly “sneaked” back to the country. This is one of the challenges in implementing these activities for the former leprosy patients. The equipments by the time of this report had not been bought but are on course. The band has 12 members but the most active are eight.

It’s also important to note that most of the members are suspicious of almost everyone, 9 only have been able to sneak back into the country. We plan to start with the band which are more willing to start but shelve the I.G.A. until the concerned members are settled and less worried and also to see if more members will come back into the country.

### **3.3 The Library Project**

For library project for 2014, the following activities have been planned:

- i. Personnel
- ii. Visibility
- iii. Sustainability
- iv. Library development & improvement
- v. General maintenance
- vi. Reading materials

#### **3.3.1 Personnel**

At the moment, the library has the following staffs or persons who work or give their services to the library. These are: Security guard, Librarian, 2 library assistants, and two volunteers who give their services when the schools are closed. It’s imperative to report

that the security guard is housed at the premises due to the insecurity situation around LUCKY SUMMER area where the library is situated. Last year, there was a daytime security guard who acted as the caretaker. To reduce expenses and maximize vigilance within the organization, it was decided to do away with the daytime guard and allow a live-in security guard who acts as the caretaker. All of them have been compensated accordingly.

### **3.3.2 Visibility**

This relates to activities and actions geared to making the library more prominent in the community. In this year's activities, the organization has planned two activities which involves publishing of posters and sensitization visits to the community and local schools. So far, publishing of the posters have been on-going and have been pasted around the surrounding community and Korogocho. The sensitizations visits awaits the end of the school holidays which takes place in April and will start henceforth the schools are opened.

### **3.3.3 Sustainability**

These are activities planned to enable the library generate some funds to enable it be on the way to sustainability in the long run. It included offering of internet services in the library beside other services such as typing and printing and photocopy services. Plans on the outreach programme are on course to enable library reach as many persons as possible by going to them.

**So far since January 2014, a total of Ksh.965.00 has been realized through the access charges.**

### **3.3.4 Library development & improvement**

This refers to the activities and plans that are to ensure that the accommodative capacity of the library is enhanced and improved.

In this year, it is planned to source for more books to add to the library shelves and at the moment, already a list of preferred books by the library clients is being complied. The next process of quotations is being now prepared to ensure that by 2nd week of May 2014 the books will be added to the shelves.

### **3.3.5 Reading materials**

This refers to the additional reading materials in form of newspapers. Since January up to the reporting period, for 5 days, two dailies; the Standard and Daily Nation, both have

national circulation and have been supplied to the library. This is popular with older persons especially those who at home and they come to the library to catch up with the news. This is still on-going.

### **3.3.6 General maintenance**

This area refers to the daily expenses by the library which generally, the expenses include communication, secretarial jobs of typing, printing and photocopies beside transport where applicable. This was taken care of in the petty cash vote. There is need to reinforce the general security situation within the library and offices.

### **3.4 Rehabilitation Centre**

The rehabilitation centre is a workshop within the premises of the organization that has been equipped to provide trainings to disadvantaged members of the community. It was geared up to provide trainings in tailoring, candle-making, printings and any other viable training to the targeted community.

In this reporting period, the workshop which was availed to disabled persons who are running it has been provided trainings on candle making which has been providing a source of income to the persons who trains and produce candles in it. The workshop has a dedicated trainer who is available throughout and delves as the manager of the centre.



For each box of 25 kg candle wax which produces at least 98 packets of 8-pieces candles, a commission of Ksh. 120.00 is paid to the management. Since January this year to the end of this reporting period, a total of Ksh. 1,440.00 has been collected as commission and a total production of 9,408 pieces of candles have been produced making a total of 1,176 packets from 12 boxes of wax used. Each week, at least a box of wax is used. To support this initiative, this period, a box of wax and some candle

dyes were provided by the organization. For the past three months four beneficiaries have been trained on candle making. Seven more have been mobilized to start training in the next reporting period.

### **3.5 Rent**

This is yet to be effected though the landlord is coming in the month of April to confirm the new contract among other issues he may have for the organization. Generally, the building is now better off than last year due to the repairs that were carried out.

### **3.6 Koscobar-K Administration**

This section dealt with the salaries and allowances for the co-ordinator and the Board members among administrative expenses for the management.

#### **3.6.1 Co-ordinator**

The Co-ordinator has been paid until March 2014 as budgeted.

#### **3.6.2 Board allowance**

They have been paid up to March 2014. This involves the chairman, secretary, the treasurer and two other members.

#### **3.6.3 Utilities**

Utility bills for electricity have been paid

#### **3.6.4 Management expenses**

In the reporting period, the following were expended as per the need.

- Stationeries
- Communication
- Petty cash involving typing, photocopying, scanning, internet and transport.

In the first two months of the year, provision for office tea at a rate of Ksh.500 per week was effected but discontinued in the third month of March.

### **4.0 CONCLUSION**

The next implementing phase will be busy as most activities have been lined up for implementation in that phase. Hopefully the challenges that have dogged this phase will have some resolutions this next phase.

Finally, the Board takes this opportunity to thank AIFO Board for its continued trust and support.

