

REPORT ON CLICK RUKIGA VISIT 3RD TO 4TH MARCH 2015

March 3rd and 4th, 2015 were great and remarkable days in KWID history. Receiving Mike at KWID offices was a nice and joyful day. KWID members, beneficiaries and staff were honored by the visit.



At 10.20 am on 3rd march, Mike Whitlam, Sherley Gredhill arrived at KWID coordination office in Kabale town. They were warmly welcomed by the KWID executive Director and staff. Their driver took photos as they toured the office. Mike was happy to visit the office. Shirley was happy to see the office for the second time. . The visitors keenly looked at the two programmes (Communities advancing HIV prevention and Child well being) being implemented by KWID and were happy. Visitors admired the office according to their comments and inquiries. After touring the office, the visitors and KWID staff discussed a number of issues pertaining how to raise funds and sustain the organization. Mike highlighted on some organizations that give grants and donations in line with KWID goals, objectives and activities. At the coordination office, the visitors and KWID staff briefly shared KWID 4th strategic plan 2014- 2018. KWID staff members were asked to prioritize their strategies to be able to raise funds for them. Out of the discussion, the parties put much emphasis on Economic empowerment and Women and Girl's empowerment. Mike requested the Executive director and staff to polish the discussion and present their priority in the meeting which was to be held in the field office. Mike asked the Executive Director if KWID have been receiving 100 pounds from Vincent who was given a loan to study and requested to pay back to KWID instead of Click Rukiga as a way of building the CBO capacity. The executive director said that the organization have never received the funds. Mike promised to follow it up. KWID executive Director shared with the visitors the program to be followed and they left for the field.

The visitors and KWID executive Director were received by KWID Kyogo branch executive committee and some members.



They visited KWID beneficiaries around Kyabuhangwa. The first visit was paid to Jane Kyereeta the beneficiary whose pig was stroked by lightening. She happily shared how Click Rukiga prayers and KWID stakeholder's support led her to succeed in looking after the survived piglets. She shared a success story how she was able to raise one of its offspring which matured and had also produced.



Visitors amused the members by the speed at which they climbed the mountain. While slopping down, Sherley said that the scenery was good though Florence had to hold her hand at some points to ensure she doesn't fall down when slopping down.



The second visit was at Byaruhanga Grace the member who has paid back to KWID per agreement made and now owned the project. At this site one of the biggest pigs among KWID projects was seen. It was comfortably lying in her shelter while the off springs were tied outside. The family testified that the piggery project have helped them to pay school fees for their daughter in secondary and construct a kitchen. The husband mentioned that he is ready to join the group after testing the benefits of being a KWID member. He cited the successes he has received because they accessed a loan at a low rate, very easily just having a member to stand as surity and just across at the branch office. He happily showed the visitors other projects he is implementing due to KWID advice and guidance. Visitors enjoyed walking around the family and looking at crops that are grown in the area.



The third visit was at Kyogo branch office. At the branch office, the chairperson, secretary and treasurer of the branch took visitors around explaining what takes place, how they benefit from KWID and how they support KWID programs. The committee told visitors that they are autonomous and their office was equipped with stationery by KWID secretariat. The treasurer explained how they keep records of the savings and credit scheme and how the branch office is helping children around to access reading books. He also testified that he was happy to access a loan at a low rate and in his village instead of walking long distances to access financial services and passing through many hard steps. He said that the money borrowed assisted him to pay school fees and access other basic needs. Visitors looked at the handicraft and bought some.



From the branch office, visitors were led to where the seed bed was prepared while implementing the back yard garden.



Visitors and KWID Executive Director left for another branch. It was not possible to visit Kashekye branch because the chairperson mobilized for a different day from what was agreed upon with KWID staff

The visitors and KWID staff were received at the main branch with very warm welcome dance, songs and a skit. At the main branch, the chairperson of the branch received the visitors, she also gave a testimony how she have improved her household income through benefitting from KWID projects. She said that she has benefited a lot not limited to the piggery and savings and credit scheme. She shared how she was empowered to lead and mobilize community members to advocate for issues concerning them. Another branch member who was at the same time an executive committee member also testified how the piggery project and the savings and credit scheme enabled her to pay school fees for her granddaughter. She also shared challenges faced by the committee due to high expectations by some of the members who were elected to the committee. Children also gave testimonies how they were benefitting from the branch activities. Kezia testified that through accessing reading books, she has improved her vocabulary and performance in school. She told the members that she secured the first

position because she was seriously utilizing the reading books at the center. Alexander also testified that he was utilizing play materials. Ruth also testified that she was the first in her class because she was acquiring skills from the center. Kenneth testified that he was always the first in class due to acquiring skills at the center. He also mentioned that he won an award of a school bag when he emerged winner in KWID reading competitions.



At the main branch, Mike Whitlam officiated over issuing out of certificate to children who had completed Hope for Kids and explorers' clubs. Children were inspired to receive certificates while our partners were witnesses



At the main branch, KWID executive director gave her remarks per attached.

Remarks from Visitors: Mike Whitlam gave remarks on behalf of the visitors. On behalf of the visitors and his behalf, he said he was happy to be with KWID members, staff and beneficiaries again. He commended the work being done and challenged everybody who was present that one day one time, each person present might find himself/herself involved in such development work being done. He called upon them to be ready and learn from what is being done. He told the members present that the link between KWID and Click Rukiga is a long term venture. He thanked the members and children for participating and entertainments.



The visitors were taken around the office premises after which, together with KWID members and staff had some simple refreshment and the day closed.



On 4th March, visitors reported at exactly 10.00am. They were received by KWID staff. They together drew the programme to be followed. KWID staffs were happy to receive Mark Morris. After some discussion, the visitors and KWID staff agreed to begin by visiting Jo's supported family to involve the parents in decision making to enable them own the decisions and be able to implement them. At Jo's supported family, after a long discussion and touring the home, the team identified the type of support suitable for the family. The first priority was to support the three old children to go to school. The second priority was to equip the family with basic needs while the third was to pay rent for the family, hire land and buy bean seeds so that the family gets food and earn a living rather than just receiving handouts. All agreed upon priorities were to be implemented their and then. Shirley had brought gifts which were given to the family including clothes for children, a torch, and tooth brushes and solar for providing the family with light at night. The team took the three old children (Patience, Grace and Gahinja) to take measurements for school uniforms and buy the agreed basic needs which were seen to be bought immediately for the family to start on a journey in a positive direction.



From Jo's supported family, the team split into two groups to be able to accomplish all agreed activities of the day. One team composed of Shirley, Mark, Florence, Muhanya an executive member and Jerimina who is in charge of children went to buy things while Mike Whitlam remained at office sharing with Christopher the fundraising assistant and Mugabe sam the KWID field coordination. The reason for the meeting was to acquire tips on how to raise funds for the CBO from mike. Mike said that it was very important to network with other civil society organizations and development partners rather than mere writing and submitting proposals. He went ahead to share with the fundraising assistant a number of companies that could offer grants and donations such as FINCA and CHALKER foundation. He also talked about another big international microfinance organization which he said is based in west London. He also suggested that Christopher should write to computers for Africa and ask for computers

Lastly, the visitors and KWID staff discussed administrative issues and KWID 4th strategic plan. Mike Whitlam asked staff to share their priorities and reasons for the priorities. Finally the parties agreed on the economic empowerment strategy as the first priority. Mike asked staff to polish the strategic plan and send it to him at the end of March 2015. A among other critical issues discussed was the Executive Director's visit to Ickenham. The visitors promised to work on it and suggested that the visit will be scheduled for September 2015. The executive Director talked about the communication about Click Supporting the savings and credit scheme, the visitors asked her to forward that communication and promised that it will be fulfilled. The Executive Director thanked Visitors for their continued support and requested them to extend greetings and sincere thanks to the members who visited KWID on 15th Feb 2014, Ian and Pam for the support of a laptop and by far members of Click Rukiga who accepted to partner with KWID and for the support extended to KWID not forgetting the team that joined KWID during 15 years celebrations in 2012.

KWID executive director shared the biggest challenge the CBO is facing being inadequate space for CBO activities. She shared the information of an opportunity of the neighborhood land above office being on sale. After sharing, the visitors were taken around to see the land. The visitors were taken around the office premises, saw how the place was squeezed, play materials placed beneath the shelter without a compound.

On 5th March, Florence and Mugabe Sam bid farewell to the visitors at Great lakes museum. The issue of buying land was further discussed and Florence asked to inquire the details and communicate to our visitors.

Tumuheirwe Florence

KWID Executive Director