



MALALA FUND GRANTEES VISIT AT AFYAPLUS ORGANIZATION - REPORT

19 -21 FEB 2023

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FUND

About Afyaplus organization

AFYAPLUS is a not-for-profit organization operating its core development agenda of prevention and control of diseases through the promotion of water sanitation and hygiene (WASH) and empowerment of girls and young women.

The main goal of the organization is to improve school performance and create a community free from diseases caused by lack of safe and clean water, poor sanitation, and hygiene and empower adolescent girl's and young women in a community.

Our mission

To cultivate behavior change and build a strong community through the promotion of water sanitation and hygiene services and empowerment of adolescents girls and young women through engaging relevant stakeholders

Our vision

A responsible healthy Tanzanian community free from diseases caused by unsafe water, poor sanitation and hygiene services; and where adolescent girls and young women are empowered.

Where we work

We operate within the Iringa region, specifically in the following councils:

- Iringa Municipal Council
- Iringa District Council
- Kilolo District Council
- Mafinga Town Council



STRATEGIC GOALS



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Services Improved in Schools and Community.

Afyaplus Organizational Capacity Improved.



Adolescent Girls and Young Women Empowered to Exploit their Potential to the maximum.

INTRODUCTION

On the 19th of Feb 2023, Afyaplus hosted a group of visitors from Malala Fund that was represented by the Malala Country Director, Miss Nuria Mshare along with other Malala Fund grantees such as PASTROL WOMEN COUNCIL(PWC), MEDEA Tanzania, KINNAPA, Msichana initiative, and ICCAO.



Fig 1: Afyaplus team together with the Malala Country Director and other grantees of the Malala Fund during their visit at Afyaplus headquarters offices.



Fig 2 : Afyaplus team together with the Malala Country Director and other grantees of the Malala Fund during their visit at Isimila secondary school.

It was 2 days trip that aim at sharing experiences on the implementation of the safe pad lab project which is implemented in 50 schools from four councils of Iringa which are Iringa MC, Kilolo Dc, Iringa DC, and Mafinga TC.



Fig 3: Malala Country Director, Ms. Nuria Mshare briefing the administrative secretariat, the management team from the education and health department of Iringa regional office the purpose of the visit and how Malala Fund is working with other organizations to help girls achieve their dreams

Objectives of the Visit

- To explore the operation and implementation of the safe pad lab project in schools of Iringa.
- To learn how Afyaplus work with the government authorities
- To assess how the safe pad lab project has impacted the lives of students of Iringa.



Fig 4: Afyaplus Executive Director, Ms. Suzan Yumbe introducing Malala Visitors to the beneficiaries of the safe pad lab project at Ismani Secondary school in Iringa DC



Fig 5 : A student of Isimani Secondary School demonstrating to visitors how to make reusable pads. This project provides a sustainable and cost-effective solution to menstrual hygiene management in the community

ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

Visiting the Safe pad labs present at Isimani and Isimila secondary school in Iringa district council

All visitors together with the Afyaplus team got a chance to visit two schools in the region, including Isimani Secondary School and Isimila Secondary School of Iringa DC, to see and learn how safe pad labs operate in schools and how it has impacted student lives.



Fig 6 & 7: Beneficiaries of Pastoral Women Council (PWC) from Arusha learning how to make reusable sanitary pads from students of Isimani secondary school in Iringa DC.

Through visiting the safe pad labs other Malala grantees got a chance to learn how labs operate in schools and they can use available resources on their areas to implement the same project and remove barrier girls facing during menstruation both in school and out of school.



Fig 8 : Students of Isimila secondary school in Iringa DC capacitating Pastoral Women Council (PWC) beneficiary how to make reusable sanitary pads.

Furthermore, other Malala grantees and a Malala Country Director got a chance to learn and hear how the project impacted the lives of students through discussions with students and their teachers. It was found that student attendees and performance have increased because girls' confidence and dignity have been restored together with access to reusable sanitary pads at the school level.



Fig 9 : The Headmaster of Isimila secondary, Mr. Frank Mahenge sharing how safe pad lab has impacted the lives of his students

"I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the Afyaplus organization for establishing the safe pad lab project at Isimila secondary, as the project has helped girls to be confident, independent and attend their classes well for all 5 days without any problem. In addition, this project has significantly contributed to increasing school attendance, especially for girls, from 92 percent to 99.9 percent. **Said, Frank Mahenge the Headmaster of Isimila secondary "**

Visiting Iringa regional office and conduct meeting with administrative secretariat , management team from education and health department

Malala Country Director and other Malala grantees got a chance to visit Iringa regional office and conduct a meeting with administrative secretariat , management team from education and health department in order to to learn how the government received the project, their commitment to it and how they cooperate with Afyaplus organization.

Through this meeting, the Afyaplus organization got a chance to share the organization profile, and the progress of the project, as well as the monitoring and evaluation system (Kobo toolbox) used for tracking project implementation with the Malala country director, other Malala grantees, the administrative secretariat, the management team from the education and health department.



Fig 10: The Afyaplus Executive Director, Ms. Suzan Yumbe sharing project progress with the Malala country director, Malala grantees, Iringa regional office, the administrative secretariat, and the management team from the education and health department.

Moreover, Malala Country Director, other Malala grantees and got a chance to learn how Afyaplus cooperate with Iringa regional management team and hear from regional academic education officer on how the project has contributed to the performance of students.



Fig 11 : Regional academic education officer, Mr. Wilbrod Yanga sharing how the safe pad lab project contributes to school performance

" First of all, I would like to congratulate the Afyaplus organization for implementing the safe pad lab project, as it has contributed a lot in raising academic performance in both primary and secondary schools of the Iringa region as girls attend their classes well for all 5 days without any problem. Iringa was named as the second-best performing region in primary education, while in secondary education the National examination performance has increased from 91.5% to 99.98%, **Said by Regional academic education officer, Mr.Wilbrod Yanga "**

LESSON LEARNT

- i) Other Malala grantees who visited have learned how they can use local resources available in their environment and implement the safe pad lab project in their areas.
- ii) Other Malala grantees who visited have learned how the Afyaplus organization monitors its projects online through a system known as the kobo toolbox.
- iii) Other Malala grantees who visited have learned how Afyaplus carries out its projects in collaboration with the government through regional leaders, districts, villages, and schools
- iv) Afyaplus has learned how other organizations implement water sanitation and hygiene (WASH) projects in schools and out of school.

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