



## RAFIKI – SDO IN A 5 DAYS EXHIBITION ON GLOBAL ACTION WEEK FOR EDUCATION IN RORYA.

04 June, 2021

On the 1st week of June 2021, Rafiki – SDO participated in a 5 days exhibition on Global Action Week for Education (GAWE) in Shirati – Rorya organized by Tanzania Education Network/ Mtandao wa Elimu Tanzania (TEN/MET) in collaboration with the Regional government aimed at bringing together all stakeholders that works to promote access to quality education with the theme “Tuwekeze Katika mifumo ya Elimu kwa Maendeleo endelevu” Or as it reads in English “Financing in education system for sustainable development goals”.

An opening event on Monday of 31st May 2021 was attended by Mara Regional commissioner Eng. Gabriel Luhumbi as a main guest joined by

the Rorya District Commissioner Hon. Simon Odunga and Rafiki – SDO,s Executive Director and the Rorya District Council Chairperson Mr. Gerald S. Ng’ong’a, whereas RAFIKI-SDO staff had an opportunity to share a brief overview of their activities in Secondary Schools where Mr. Joseph Madaga, a Program manager at Rafiki- SDO Musoma Explained the Organization’s goal to increase in school Retention.

The Regional Commissioner Eng. Gabriel as the guest of honor had a chance to visit the Rafiki – SDO’s Pavilion to observe how the activities implemented by Rafiki – SDO in schools contribute in helping student who are in need with their education journey.

Eng. Gabriel Luhumbi asked if there were any significant changes brought by the activities Rafiki – SDO implements in improving education performance whereas the RAFIKI-SDO team responded by pointing out students who are members of different student clubs supervised by Rafiki – SDO to testify how Rafiki – SDO through their student clubs helped them in improving their performances helping them achieve Division 1 in their exams.

Congratulating Rafiki – SDO for their good work, the Regional Commissioner asked RAFIKI-SDO to keep helping especially in eradication Division 0 in their targeted schools where they implement their activities saying it is possible as the light has already be seen in those schools. He also appreciated how RAFIKI-SDO is working to ensure that Girls are being retained in schools and valued and removing all the obstacles that will prevent girls from achieving their goals. Rorya district commissioner Hon. Simon Odunga, gave a brief speech by giving a summary of District’s education performance whereas he stated the increase in performance of about 91% while the 9% remaining are due to truancy.

He also added that there are challenges hindering the district’s performance where a shortage of teachers acts as a leading obstacle saying they lack 1752 teachers for Primary schools and 1295 for secondary schools. Along with it he said lacking facilities like classes and books to accommodate the total number of students in the district hinders the district’s performance.



*Rafiki - SDO Executive Director and Rorya District Council's Chairperson Mr. Gerald S. Ng'ong'a giving a speech.*



*Rafiki - SDO's Executive Director and Rorya District Council's Chairperson Mr. Gerald S. Ng'ong'a with other guests during Exhibition on Global Action Week for Education.*





*The Program Manager Mr. Asante Nselu Presenting Rafiki - SDO's Activities intended to be Implemented at Itwangi Division in Shinyanga District Council.*

## **RAFIKI – SDO SHINYANGA TO SCALE UP PROJECT ACTIVITIES TO ITWANGI DIVISION.**

01st June, 2021

Rafiki – SDO pushed their boundaries to widen up their working field to fight new HIV infections by launching their activities in Itwangi Division reaching across all 10 Wards that found it, making Itwangi Division the third Division from the first two, Nindo division and Samuye Division where Rafiki – SDO implements their activities for Shinyanga DC. The launch was conducted on the last week of May 2021 between May 24th to June 1st whereby a team of Rafiki – SDO staff led by the Program Manager Mr. Asante Nselu did introduction and sensitization meetings with the Ward Development Committee from each of the 10 wards makes up Itwangi Division namely Tinde, Itwangi, Ilola, Didia, Imesela, Puni, Bukene, Usule, Nsalala and Nyida. The main goal of the meetings organized by

Rafiki – SDO was to explain to the Local Government Authorities about what they are, their activities, goals, targeted beneficiaries, their area of implementation, and what benefits can be gained by the Itwangi community from Rafiki – SDO's presence in Itwangi Division and most importantly to ask for their cooperation as local authorities who have a great role to play in ensuring efficiency to Rafiki – SDO in implementing.

Rafiki – SDO were backed up by the Shinyanga District Council whereas in the introduction of their activities in Itwangi, were joined by the District Community Development officer (DCDO) Mr. Deus Muhoja and the Council HIV and AIDs Coordinator (CHAC) Ms. Happiness Misael who assured the Ward Development Committees of how genuine Rafiki – SDO are at implementing their activities.

Ms. Misael the CHAC testified to the Ward Development Committees by saying, “Rafiki – SDO has been working with the District Council for a while and they have always been great in their performances helping the society in different areas including Biomedical services, educational services especially on behavioral change education to Adolescent girls and young women (AGYWs), as well as economic strengthening through providing entrepreneurial education and skills, that is why we welcomed them in the first two divisions and we are now asking you to welcome them as they are great stakeholders”

The DCDO on his side said “Rafiki – SDO plays a role that the government should be playing, but as government we need stakeholders like them to push high the speed of implementation of such activities for the betterment of the community as we cannot reach everyone alone, we need stakeholders who are as great as them.”

He also added “Rafiki – SDO has been helping us in many ways especially in helping Adolescent girls and Young Women through their AGYWs Groups where through them we are able to identify best groups with good project proposal to fund them through the District Councils funds for Youth and Women.” Trough out all 10 wards the WDCs Members agreed to welcome Rafiki – SDO in their wards while promising to offer a full cooperation to land an impactful collaboration between the two, Rafiki – SDO and the WDC for the benefits of the community.”

By launching their activities in Itwangi Division Rafiki – SDO expands their working field in Shinyanga District Council by adding up 10 more wards to the previous 16 wards making a total of 26 wards for Shinyanga District Council with 17 wards in Shinyanga Municipal Council and so makes a total of 43 Wards in Shinyanga District Council and Shinyanga Municipal Council.

## **SWAHILA PTP TO SAVE THE SCHOOL FROM EXAMINATION PRINTING COSTS**

May, 2021

Under the supervision of Rafiki – SDO, Parent – Teachers Partnerships (PTP) have been very helpful in ensuring education improvements for schools across Nkasi district in Rukwa, this has been exemplified through different contributions made by these associations in supporting education through their collaboration with local governments.

This can be proved by what the PTP from Swahila primary school located at Mkwamba ward, Nkasi did to the school which was facing a shortage of funds to support the use of paper printed examination which made the examination process difficult by providing examination questions to the pupils through blackboards written in chalks

where with different teacher’s handwritings a children can mislead the question or due to low speed miss some questions as the board had to be cleaned to provide a space for next questions.



*A Desktop computer Swahila PTP mobilized parents to contribute for.*





*A Photocopier machine Swabila PTP mobilized parents to contribute for.*

Finding out about the problem the Swahila PTP members under the Swahila primary schools headteacher were determined to solve the problem to ensure friendly examination environment to both teachers and children at Swahila Primary school and so through parents meeting they mobilized other parents to contribute for funds to buy the school a new Desktop and a Photocopy machine.

Through their mobilization and them supervising the whole process they managed to make other parents to realize the sensitivity of the matter and feel the need to provide support, they contributed and successfully bought a computer and a printer for Swahila primary school to end the suffering. By doing so the Swahila Parent – Teachers Partnership saved the school from too much spending during preparing examination as before the school had to spend a lot for first to provide a fare to the nearest center Namanyere which is way far located in search of a stationary shop, then for paying the typing and printing costs, this can help improving the school’s performance in one way or another.

## RAFIKI – SDO & STAKEHOLDERS DISCUSSES WAYS TO REDUCE STIGMA AND DISCRIMINATION TO KVPs IN SHINYANGA.

10 June, 2021

Rafiki-SDO conducted a quarterly sensitization meeting to their key stakeholders involving gender desk, Council Health Management Team (CHMT) and gender task force from Shinyanga MC and Shinyanga DC at Shinyanga Fairies on Thursday 10th June 2021.

The meeting intended to Create awareness to Traditional and Faith leaders, Community based Organizations, public health provider and other stakeholders on reducing stigma and discrimination and free services to Key Vulnerable Populations (KVPs).

It was done in form of discussion, presentation, questions and answers where each participant had a chance to contribute his or her

views and understanding on the topic discussed and at last the discussion set several ways forward to fight stigma and discrimination and all forms of Gender-Based Violence (GBV).



*Participants of the meeting during their discussion*

With all invited participants attending the meeting timely and fully participated while the District Social Welfare Officer leading the discussion, the meeting set several strategies to reduce stigma and discrimination to KVPs, Increased awareness to stakeholders and collaboration in ending GBV to KVPs, and Emphasized the government to create friendly services to KVPs.

In discussion the participants of the meeting pointed out some points that are regarded the challenges towards the efforts to reduce stigma and discrimination to KVPs, and they were Poor documentation of GBV cases at WEO offices, and so they suggested a Capacity building on GBV cases recording to Local Government Authorities (LGAs) including wards and village leaders on Clear documentation of GBV cases is discuss and set way forwards to increases efficient on GBV cases support for the reported cases.



YEP Tanzania representatives, Rafiki – SDO’s Executive Director and Rafiki – SDO Staff in a group photo during the visit by YEP Tanzania at Rafiki – SDO Shinyanga Offices on Monday 07th May 2021.



## NEW SKILLS DEVELOPED TO 10 CHILDREN SUPPORTED BY RAFIKI – SDO THROUGH MWANHALA FDC COLLEGE.



May, 2021

Through a Supportive Supervision done on May 2021 the Project Coordinator Ms. Rael Joseph Witnessed the children demonstrating new skills they acquired from the trainings they have been receiving from their teachers through theory classes and Practical classes in their workshops at Mwanhala FDC Nzega.

On the supportive supervision the Project Coordinator intended to discuss and share knowledge, achievements, challenges, success, way forward, follow, up progress of both groups who pursue Tailoring course and who pursue home electrical installation accessing how they benefited by vocational training from joining the collage.

This was done through a variety of methods including visiting the students in their workshops and observing them learning in practical, asking questions basing on what they have learned and discussing

with them through an interactive discussion.

Visiting the children in their Workshops the Project Coordinator witnessed them learning in groups practically using different tools according to their courses while being supervised by their teachers, they demonstrated their new developed skills.

From the Tailoring students workshop the children demonstrated what they have learned that included taking measurements from the client's body, defining the measurements on the piece of cloth and cut it into pieces accordingly and lastly transforming the chopped pieces of cloth into a simple dress ready to use.

While in the Electrical Course workshop the children pursuing electrical were also in progress learning practically with tools, when the project coordinator asked them what have they learned



so far, they said they have covered all about simple circuit, deem light circuit and the Parallel Circuit.



*Home Electricity Installation Students Explaining what they learn from their teachers.*

Apart from learning skills basing on their courses the children are also benefiting by learning additional skills on computer, Ms. Rael had opportunity to visit the college's computer lab where the children get to learn basic computer skills like connecting a computer system, turning on and off, typing and other skills.



*Children Supported by Rafiki - SDO in a Computer Lab learning basic computer skills.*

After a visit throughout the workshops and the computer lab, the project coordinator settled down with the students discussing what they have benefited from joining the college so far, they mentioned several benefits including, acquiring new skills which they did not have before joining the college, skills they acquired are such as, crafting dresses from the scratch to a final dress, making and defining different circuits as well as defining what different electrical symbols means, computer skills, English language, mathematics and entrepreneurship skills that will help them employ themselves after college.



*A discussion between the Project Coordinator and the Children.*

Lastly, they thanked Rafiki – SDO for providing them with such an amazing opportunity to save them from Child labor by being employed in small mines doing dangerous jobs which could endanger their life as well as their health.





Through Monday Technical Meetings conducted on every Monday morning Rafiki - SDO Management team and Staff Evaluate the performances for the previous week and Set plans for the new week ahead.

A photo above is from a Monday Technical held Monday 31st May 2021.

### Contacts:

**Location:**

Mbuyuni street, Near Roman Catholic Church Ngokolo/Radio Faraja.

Shinyanga Municipal

P.O.BOX 2078 Shinyanga, Tanzania.

Website: [www.rafikisdo.or.tz](http://www.rafikisdo.or.tz)

Email: [info@rafikisdo.or.tz](mailto:info@rafikisdo.or.tz)

Mobile: +255 754 448 838

Tel: 028 2710341

   @rafikisdotz