

Integration of Market Approaches to hygiene and Sanitation for improved livelihoods, clean and healthy Environment;

A case of Slum Communities in Makindye and Lubaga divisions, Kampala capital city

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Abstract¹

This paper examines the potential Sanitation and Hygiene based enterprises (*such as briquette making from market waste, improved public toilet design with a business unit, crafts making from solid cloth waste*) towards contribution to the triple benefits of improved livelihoods; a clean and healthy environment; and enhanced social organization and cohesion among slum dwellers in urban slums.

This was largely realized through various interventions, which were implemented within the framework of the Descent Living Project that targeted the slum communities in Makindye(*Ggaba and Kibuye 1 parishes*) and Lubaga(*Busega and Mutundwe parishes*) Divisions. The project was implemented by Environmental Alert in collaboration with Water Aid Uganda and Kampala capital City Council Authority during the period 2014-2016. The interventions include; Mapping/identification of community based initiatives on sanitation/solid waste management, capacity needs assessments, targeted awareness creation, sensitization and training, piloting of new technologies/designs for public toilets community mobilization, better access to appropriate technology & tools, added value on existing knowledge, skills and social organization within the slum community, construction of sanitation facilities among others.

Furthermore, there was active involvement of key stakeholders (e.g. Village Health Teams/Community Based Health Workers; Community Based Organizations, Kampala Capital City Authority; Water Aid Uganda) within and outside the community based on their capacities and mandate. Overall the interventions resulted into visible positive changes in the slum communities even after the project ended in 2016.

Some of the reported changes in the communities include: *Enhanced community empowerment (e.g. communities are now able to present their concerns and issues to the duty bearers such as Kampala Capital City Authority, National Water and Sewerage cooperation through their Enterprise associations; Improved hygiene and sanitation at household and community levels; employment creation and increased incomes and well-being among community members who benefited directly from the project intervention. Thus, Zibula Attudde Women and Youth Association- one of the community based organisations 165of its members in hygiene and sanitation based enterprises-i.e. briquette, soap, candle and craft making; and enhanced social organization and cohesion among slum dwellers in urban slums.* Despite, the demonstrated potential of hygiene and sanitation based enterprises in contributing towards the triple benefits there are several challenges and limitations which must be addressed by the duty bearers and development partners to tap into this potential at different scales.

Keywords: *Sanitation and Hygiene based enterprises, Poor solid waste management, Slum dwellers*

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