

Grow Healthy, Grow Strong Newsletter Issue #8 - Oct 2023



Photo: First Community Engagement Training, Rieit Ward, Sinivit LLG

GROW PROJECT UPDATE

October saw the first training workshop held for the Community Engagement aspect of the GROW project. The half day training was held on the 18th of October at the Sinivit Local Level Government office with participants including eight Ward Development Committee members, three health workers from the Warangoi Rural Hospital and the Environmental Health Officer. The purpose of this workshop was to orient participants on stunting, its causes and effects. Project Officer, Onawuta presented on the definition of stunting and led three participatory activities. These were a 'Problem Tree' to identify causes of stunting in local households (photo insert to the left), a 'Vision Fish' activity to prompt participants to identify objective goals for their community in relation to stunting reduction, and a 'Ten Seed' activity to identify priority areas to focus and plan our next steps. We observed that participants were highly engaged in the activities, despite being new to these concepts.

Some outcomes of the workshop included identifying frequent illness, poor maternal nutrition and feeding practices as causes of stunting in their community. Participants had a vision that parents will be better informed about what stunting is in order to prevent it. The GROW team aims to use these findings to co-design our activities so they reflect the needs of the community and address gaps in knowledge and practice.

COMING UP NEXT MONTH:

Given the success of the community orientation training workshop, the GROW team will be busy planning and executing similar orientation activities with parent groups of ward zones that were identified as pilots areas.

The monthly Nutrition Advocacy Working Group meeting and the Community Nutrition Advocacy Group meeting will also be held, where a key agenda item will be to plan out all the activities for 2024.

We look forward to another productive month at GROW.

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