

ANNUAL REPORT FOR LITERACY LEADERS PROJECT

BACKGROUND

Literacy Leaders is a Starfish-funded literacy development project implemented within the Ngolowindo Zone of Salima District. The project seeks to impart teachers with skills in vocabulary, grammar, phonics, pedagogy and classroom management in order to improve their service delivery and hoping to see an improvement in learners' performance at both National and School exams.

Five primary schools are the targets within the zone, namely: Lifuwu, Mikute, Ngolowindo, Demera, and Maganga. The lead teachers prepare plans for sessions in liaison with the Literacy Leaders coordinator, who provides overall guidance and coordination for the delivery of sessions.

PROGRESS OF THE PROJECT

LLs project continues to conduct its activities within schools. The arrangement was for the purpose of allowing more teachers to be part and parcel of the project in tandem with the strategic direction of the project.

In the year 2023, teachers from Demera, Mikute and Maganga have been the ones actively involved. They meet at least every fortnight or once a month depending on their availability. The teachers also conduct inter school visits so as to share experiences and together interact for the advancement of the project.

The leaders, prepare plans for sessions in liaison with the project coordinator, who provides overall guidance.. The planned activities within schools has increased. Demera has a maximum of 18 teachers attending the sessions, Mikute has 20, Lifuwu has 10 and Maganga has 20.



Thom from Demera leading a session in one of the meetings

RESOURCE PROVISION

Starfish Malawi has been providing resources for the implementation of the project. These are in the form of writing pads and pens for the teachers, flip charts, and markers, masking tapes for session lessons, plain papers for printing, ink cartridges, chalk, and more. Additional resources provided are funds for transport for both the project coordinator and school visits for the teachers during their exchange visits and refreshments for all LLs attending sessions. Starfish also provides airtime to the coordinator for session planning and communication.

WHAT DIFFERENCE ARE WE MAKING

The project outcome is expressed mainly in examination progress at National exams. Schools have sent learners to conventional Secondary schools as well as Community Day Secondary schools in 2023.

In the academic year 2021/2022, Mikute had 83 learners enrolled. 68 of these passed the examinations representing a pass rate of 82%. 1 girl was selected to attend Lilongwe Girls Secondary School, a National school. 2 girls were selected to Chipoka and Salima Secondary Schools respectively while 1 boy went to Salima Secondary School. 15 learners were selected to Parachute Battalion Secondary School.

In 2022/2023 school year, there was a total enrolment rate of 110 at Mikute School., of which 90 passed the exams, representing 81.8%. 18 were selected. 1 girl was selected to Salima Secondary school and the rest to Parachute Battalion Community Day Secondary School.

In the 2021/2022 school year, Demera primary school had 30 learners who were entered. The pass rate was 47% Those that passed were selected to Maganga Secondary School.

In 2022/2023, 34 students from Demera School sat their Standard 8 examinations. The pass rate was 41%. All the candidates that passed were selected to Maganga Secondary School.

Likewise, at Lifuwu Primary School in the 2021/22 academic year, 70 sat for the exams.

The pass rate was 90% Of those that passed, 1 boy was selected to a National Secondary school in Dedza,

In the 2022/2023 academic year, 59 learners sat for the national exams, with a pass rate of 91% 1 girl was selected to a conventional secondary school in Chipoka and the rest went to Parachute Battalion CDSS.

Maganga had 100 learners that sat for the 2021/2022 National examinations. The pass rate was 56%

In 2022/2023, 180 learners sat for the National examinations at Maganga Primary School. The Pass rate was 45%. One was selected to Chipoka Secondary School and 61 were selected to Maganga secondary school.

Thus 2 out of the 4 primary school exam results were very positive.

THE STORY OF DELIA MIKE



Delia Mike is a Standard 7 learner at Demera Primary School, which is one of the schools benefitting from the LLs project. She comes from Njerema Village, Traditional Authority Maganga in Salima.

“I delight in learning lessons alongside games that my teacher uses when teaching which allows me to understand the lesson perfectly. This made me achieve position 2 at the end of first term exams in December,”
says Delia.

She scored 69 in English, 55 in Mathematics, 67 in Physical Science, 62 in Arts Lifeskills, 60 in Chichewa and 58 in Social Studies.

Her ambition is to become a nurse and she says.

“I will work extra hard in the coming terms so that by the time I reach Standard 8 I should be able to be in a high scoring position.

My goal is to be selected to a National Secondary School which will subsequently pave my way into Kamuzu College of Health Sciences (KUHES). That will be the realization of my dream of becoming a nurse.”