



# **STAWISHA DADA- STADA KENYA MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORTS- NOVEMBER 2023**



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## ABBREVIATIONS AND ACCRONYMS:

Comm.	Communication
CUC	Court Users' Committee
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
H&H	Health and Hygiene
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
LWC	Life Water Canada
MoH	Ministry of Health
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MH	Menstrual Health
MHM	Menstrual Health Management



RH	Reproductive Health
SGBV	Sexual Gender-Based Violence
SRH	Sexual and Reproductive Health
SRHR	Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights
STADA	Stawisha Dada
TARL	Teaching at the Right Level
WASH	Water Sanitation and Hygiene

## INTRODUCTION

STADA (Stawisha Dada) -Kenya translates as “thrive sister” is a feminist organization based in Kisumu County-Kenya. The organization is largely led by women and young people with its base being at the grass root level. STADA focuses on influencing policies at the regional, national and international levels.

## OVERVIEW OF THE PROGRAM:

### VISION:

“A community where girls and women have access to all basic human rights”

### MISSION:

“To promote Community health, Gender equality, Education and human rights among girls and women through Evidence-based advocacy, Community empowerment, Capacity building, Social protection and Collaboration”

### CORE VALUES

Feminism: We believe everyone should have access to equal opportunity

Inclusion: We involve and engage everyone in all our undertaking without leaving anyone behind.

Excellence: We do our work with professionalism to sustain standards effectively and efficiently

Dignity: We treat everyone with care and respect in all our undertaking

Accountability: We take ownership of our work, stay on track with our goals and achieve success across the organization.



## DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

### Output 1: Health Department

The Health Department focuses on promoting MH hygiene through MHM. Similarly, the department addressed the issues on SRH, Midwifery and Child protection.

#### 1. Menstrual Hygiene Management

By 2030, STADA strives to build a world where no one is held back because they menstruate. We want to ensure that girls and women menstruate with dignity without discrimination.

##### **Objectives**

- To ensure that myths, taboos, and stigma around menstruation are addressed by providing the community with access to information and education on menstruation.
- To offer menstrual hygiene talks in and out of school, to both boys and girls.
- To supply safe, hygienic and convenient sanitary towels to vulnerable girls both in schools and communities.

#### 2. Mental Health

The world is experiencing a growing burden of mental health disorders, which in turn lowers work productivity, thus, slowing down economic progress. STADA exists to promote a world in which mental health is valued, promoted, and protected. We do this by offering counseling services to our beneficiaries and training community counselors.

##### **Objectives**

- To provide comprehensive mental health and social services in the community.
- To prepare community counselors with the basic skills in counseling so that they can offer psychosocial services.

#### 3. Sexual Reproductive Health & Rights

STADA works to ensure that reproductive health rights are integrated into policies and laws. We do this by examining gaps at the county level and providing recommendations on how to fix the gaps and journeying towards implementation of existing policies.

We achieve this through:

- Advocating for the provision of Family Planning commodities in health facilities where it is easily accessible to everyone.



- Attending County public participation in budgeting to ensure allocation of Family Planning commodities in every health facility.
- Sensitizing the community on the importance of Family Planning while debunking the myths and misconceptions surrounding it.

### **Adolescent Sexual Reproductive Health:**

STADA provides access to comprehensive sexuality education. We have an adolescent center where we meet teenage girls twice a week to improve their physical and emotional well-being. Additionally, the center focuses on ensuring that they remain free from unintended pregnancy, STIs (including HIV/AIDS), and all forms of sexual violence and coercion.

### 4. Universal Health Coverage/Primary Health Care

Primary Health Care ensures that medical services are available to individuals at the community level. The aspect cuts across the physical, mental and social well-being of individuals regardless of age, race or color. PHC is a vital building block to achieve universal health coverage, as approximately 80 percent of medical services can be provided at the PHC level.

We advocate for quality health for all by:

- Empowering families to stand for their own health needs, and speaking about the barriers to access health services. We also use their views to push and influence an equilibrium between the supply and demand of health services.
- Holding leaders accountable for adequately funding health systems especially primary health care.
- Encouraging leaders to innovate around PHC and UHC.
- Pushing for the implementation of existing policies, to identify gaps in such policies and work together with the county government to develop new policies.

### 5. Cervical Cancer Awareness Campaigns

Cervical cancer is preventable and curable, as long as it is detected early and managed effectively. STADA carries out awareness campaigns to increase the knowledge of cervical cancer and Human Papillomavirus (HPV) and the importance of early detection. We encourage girls and women to go for screenings as early as 21 years of age.

Objectives:

- To increase screening participation with a particular focus on those women not screened at all during the recommended two-yearly interval.
- To raise awareness of the challenges faced by women and girls who are affected by cervical cancer.



- To promote research into its cause prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and cure.

## 6. Nutrition

Kenya is experiencing a triple burden of nutrition, undernutrition, micronutrient deficiencies, overweight and obesity. To address malnutrition, we support in ensuring that nutrition is more visible in the county budgets for enhanced implementation of nutrition plans and advocate for good nutrition practices at all levels including community level.

### **Objectives:**

- To review the nutrition policy environment, plans and program reports to identify gaps and needs.
- To strengthen the enabling environment and coordination of nutrition interventions at the county and sub-county level.
- To create opportunities for the community to exchange views and develop solutions to issues of interest to the community.

## **NOVEMBER ACHIEVEMENTS**

In November, the department conducted the following activities:

- Application and submission of Hanga Grant for SRH.
- Trip to Nairobi for Korogocho activity: Menstrual Health talk, STADA Pads distribution and mentorship program.
- Community Event at Obino dispensary.
- Podcast on Korogocho experiences.
- Adolescent girls talk at STADA Center
- Youth dialogue with adolescent girls and youth at Chiga Primary with members of TBM Health Club.
- MHM talk and STADA Pads distribution at Rweya chief camp, Rweya Community, Kochieng Health Center, Kangoya, Kachola Kodeyo and Bungu



## Output 2: Gender Department

### Gender Based Violence

Under this department, STADA seeks to attain Sustainable Development Goal 5, *Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls*, by ending all forms of discrimination, violence and any harmful practices against women and girls in the public and private sphere. Our aim is to empower all women and girls to take full participation in leadership, decision making and economic development.

We have a range of initiatives that we put in place to achieve our vision, this includes: addressing the underlying causes and motivators of violence against women and girls at a population level, gender-based violence (GBV) primary prevention programs aim to promote change.

We work around all forms of GBV i.e., physical violence, sexual violence, and emotional violence. This we do by advocating for implementation of Gender Based Violence policies, sensitization in community and schools and working with key stakeholders in the justice system to bring perpetrators to book.

#### **Objectives:**

- To encourage and support behavior change to challenge the long-standing, pervasive, and historical gender-based oppressions in society.
- To coordinate the inclusion of gender considerations in development planning and to advance the fair political and socioeconomic advancement of women and girls.

#### 1. Adolescent Girls

STADA is dedicated to put an end to teenage pregnancies, prenatal deaths, school dropouts, and the rise in HIV/AIDs infection. These we believe are some of the issues hindering the girl child from emerging into their full potential.

Under this program, we uplift the girls by teaching them very important life skills such as communication, problem solving, career choice and leadership. All this is to ensure that the girls grow up bolder and confident to be able to take up space just like their male counterparts.

We are also cognizant of the fact that girls go through so much trauma inflicted on them by their families and their society, with the help of our resident Psychologist, we take the girls through counseling sessions which aim to help them heal from past pains.

#### 2. Teen Moms' Empowerment

This program is the heart beat of the Gender Department, teen mothers are the most vulnerable group of women in the society since most of them became mothers due to defilement and without proper care and empowerment, these girls are easy targets to repeat defilement.





Under this program we are dedicated to breaking the cycle of poverty by empowering these women to be able to fend for themselves and their children by taking them through vocational training, table banking, entrepreneurship training as well as offering scholarships to those interested to go back to school. We also take them through counseling sessions to ensure they heal completely from past traumas.

### 3. Feminist Movement Building

Sexism. Misogynistic exploitation and other forms of social oppressions and abuse are but a few indicators of gender inequality that women continue to battle even as they try to measure up to their male counterparts. It is for this reason that we continue to build a strong feminist movement of like-minded women and men as we seek to put a finality to sexism, misogynists' exploitation, and other forms of abuse in order to fully realize gender equality in both theory and practice. We achieve this by conducting dialogues and sensitization in schools and communities to ensure that girls and women know their rights and are able to speak up when being violated.

#### **Objectives**

- To educate young girls and women on their rights and be able to stand firm to avoid oppressions.
- To eradicate sexists and misogynists' exploitations and create a society where girls and women can thrive.
- To create awareness on the importance of gender equality and invite men to join the movement.

### 4. Survivors Forum

Survivors of Sexual Gender Based Violence (SGBV) often face stigma and discrimination in the society hence preventing them from living a wholesome life. To end the stigma, we provide a safe space for women and girls who have been affected by sexual violence to share their experiences and support one another. We initiate Sexual Gender Based Violence prevention and response and document the cases for easy follow ups. Through group therapy sessions we give them opportunities to voice their thoughts and feelings.

#### **Objectives**

- To ensure survivors of sexual assault have access to services which are responsive and appropriate to their needs.
- To end stigma and give hope to the victims.
- Create a space for safe discussions and dialogues.



## NOVEMBER ACHIEVEMENTS

- Adolescents Girls and Young Women (AGYW) Power up National Summit at Mama Grace Onyango social hall with the theme: Transforming Adolescents Girls and Young Women SRHR through narrative shaping and movement building.
- Conducted a SGBV reporting committee meeting at Nyang'ande Sub- County Hospital with the purpose of finding ways of mapping out SGBV cases around Kabonyo Kanyagwal ward.
- Attended a hearing session at Ahero Law Court (Court 2) concerning a defilement case of a survivor from Nduru village.
- Conducted adolescent girls' sensitization and talk at STADA Adolescent center on GBV and My Body My Rules: A Girl's Guide to Menstruation, life skills and career choice, public speaking skills and communication skills.
- Teen moms meeting; discussion on the following agenda: Teen moms' attendance, finding ways/new ideas to do, finding best strategies to market the products (both the beadwork and mat work) and Prices(matts), discussed on the plans they will have with the beadwork sales where we recorded a total of 1,750 and ways to promote marketing of the products made at the teen mom centre.
- Grant writing on Feminist Opportunity Now window 3.
- Feminist Movement Building meeting with Nguono widows' group at Nyabondo.
- Conducted a dialogue with Adolescent girls at Chiga Primary and Alara community. The aim of the meeting was to get an entry into the community to help address challenges that girls go through.

## Output 3: Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Department

The WASH department ensures easy access to water, hygiene and proper sanitation in the community. The department has done extensive work in Kisumu county and has also extended its services to Kitui County-Mwingi constituency. Activities in the department include but are not limited to Borehole drilling, pump repair, rehabilitation, and construction of toilets and hand washing facilities.

Besides, the department also offers sanitation and hygiene talks as well as distribution of reusable sanitary towels to the young women and girls in the community and the surrounding schools.

### Objectives

- To ensure that the communities have access to safe drinking water.
- To ensure access to handwashing facilities in targeted communities and institutions
- To reduce open defecation in communities through the construction of latrines.



- To improve menstrual hygiene management among young women and girls in the community by providing reusable sanitary towels and conducting menstrual hygiene education.

## Sub-departments

### Borehole drilling

STADA in partnership with Life Water Canada, drills, rehabilitates and repairs boreholes. Drilling of these boreholes is preceded by water sanitation health and hygiene talks with priority given to areas where water is a primary need and there is no water source nearby. We only drill boreholes in public places such as churches, schools, and markets. This we do to ensure there is a sense of ownership by all members of the community, this way they take better care of the boreholes.

STADA-Kenya has managed to drill 30 (thirty) boreholes since the program was initiated.

### Plumbing

The plumbing section deals with the rehabilitation and repair of the broken pumps within the community by fixing parts of the pump that are either broken or worn out or rehabilitating the borehole by replacing the whole pump and the piping system.

Since inception, STADA has managed to repair and rehabilitate 149 pumps.

### Health and hygiene (HH) talk

HH talks are conducted in schools and public areas. The talks serve as a platform to inquire about water sources, waste disposal, personal and communal sanitation and hygiene (toilets and handwashing facilities). Additional areas covered during these activities include menstrual health management, water storage, drilling, repairs and rehabilitation of boreholes, and general environmental conservation.

So far, STADA has conducted over 2000 Health and Hygiene talks in both Kisumu and Kitui counties.

### Latrine Construction

Open defecation is one of the challenges crippling the public health sector since it is responsible for most cases of water-borne diseases. STADA works to curb this challenge by constructing pit latrines, especially in schools. The result is a clean environment with limited fecal contamination.

STADA has managed to construct seven (9) latrines in schools within the community.



## Water Tank Distribution and Hand Washing Stations

Hand washing became common during the Covid-19 pandemic, as a way to curb the disease. STADA took it up as a platform to boost sanitation in the affected schools and communities. STADA also provides water tanks to schools to ensure that there is constant water flow in the institutions and public places. Throughout the implementation period, STADA has managed to construct seven (9) Handwashing stations, and set up seven (9) Water tanks in schools and the community.

## NOVEMBER ACHIEVEMENTS

In November, the number of drilled boreholes, rehabilitated and repaired pumps, alongside health and hygiene talks that were provided were as follows:

Drilled boreholes	Rehabilitated pumps	Repaired pumps	Health and hygiene talks	Total activities
8	8		63	

**Success story:** Buoye Chief’s Camp

## Output 4: Education Department

STADA aims at achieving SDG number 4, Quality Education, by ensuring that children going to school are comprehensively learning and achieving foundational literacy and numeracy as early as grade 3. Our vision is for each child to develop a curiosity about learning, discover their interests, and grow in their love of learning. STADA desires to develop a strong reading culture, an environment where reading is championed, valued, respected, and encouraged. This is achieved by fastening the abilities of those lagging behind in their ability to read. We desire to have all-around children, talented, disciplined, and confident in facing life challenges, as we prepare them for future leadership.

## PROGRAMS

### a. STADA Community Library

With the vision of developing a strong reading culture in the children, we have established a community library equipped with books for all grades. This is to help children who are learning in schools that are ill-equipped with basic learning materials.

### Objectives

- To promote a culture of reading among the children in the community.



- To alleviate immoral practices by giving someone a chance to be critical and creative.
- To equip learners with extra information from the class.
- To bring information close to the people who might not under ordinary circumstances access such information.

#### b. Accelerated Learning Program

To achieve Universal Literacy and Numeracy, STADA is implementing an Accelerated Learning Program, at the community library to fasten the abilities of children who are lagging behind in reading and doing basic numeracy. This is done through a one-on-one reading and numeracy assessment to generate a baseline of children's competencies.

#### **Objectives**

- Provide an alternative education and a faster system for learning.
- Provide learners with opportunities to acquire desirable knowledge that will propel them to a better future.
- Promote self-expression, self-discipline, and self-reliance among the learners.
- Enable children enrolled in schools to catch up with their peers in other schools.
- To create an atmosphere for them to discover, develop, deploy, and express their skills.
- To broaden and deepen the vocabulary of the learners. Students are introduced to 'new or unfamiliar words in each book they read.
- To improve reading fluency. The students usually have an opportunity to take turns reading aloud, listening to group members read, and following along as others read.

#### **Activities**

- Assessments – regular assessments are done to the learners to establish the level of literacy and numeracy competencies.
- Learning activities – after the assessment, the learners are grouped based on their levels and taught the basic skills they lacked.
- Tests and revision – monthly tests are administered to the learners to determine the level reached.



- Book reading sessions – this is done regularly to expand members’ personal literacy experience by reading and discussing works chosen by the learner in a friendly and open atmosphere.
- Debate – This is to enable learners to formulate and express their ideas effectively, be more persuasive and confident when giving presentations and improve their one-on-one dealings with others.

### c. Creative Hub

Talent incubation center to help young girls realize their potential. This is done through one-on-one mentoring; each talented girl is matched with a mentor who is an expert in their field of interest. We have established different families: including, poetry/spoken word, dance, singing, drama, fashion design and modeling.

#### **Objectives**

- To boost participants' confidence by discovering their talents at an early age and start nurturing them.
- To develop participants’ skills and enhance them.
- To provide a strong foundation in performing and creative arts.

### 5. Education Scholarship Program

Adolescent girls dropping out of school may lead to a high level of illiteracy, gender inequality, single motherhood, unemployment, and many more. To address this, we keep girls in school by advocating for their retention and offering financial support to those with low socioeconomic status. Our focus is on girls from marginalized communities who are recruited after the needs assessment.

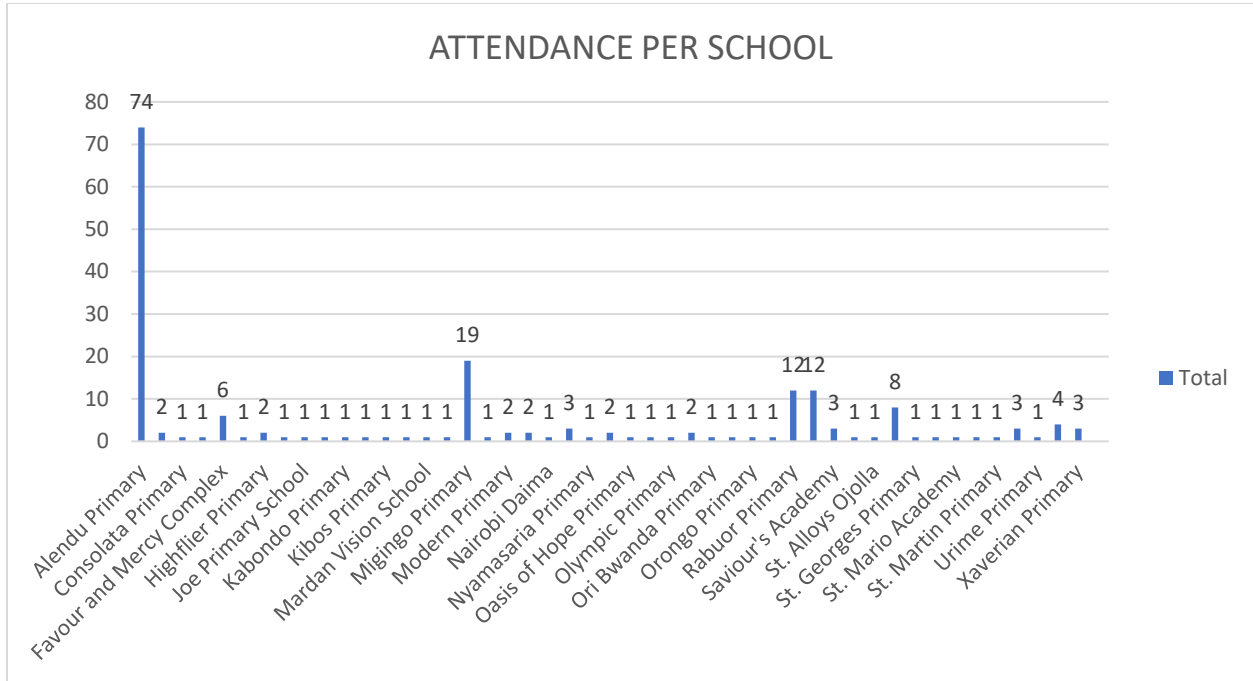
#### **Objectives**

- To eliminate barriers to quality education and obstacles that girls face in pursuit of their education.
- To achieve gender equality and reduce inequality

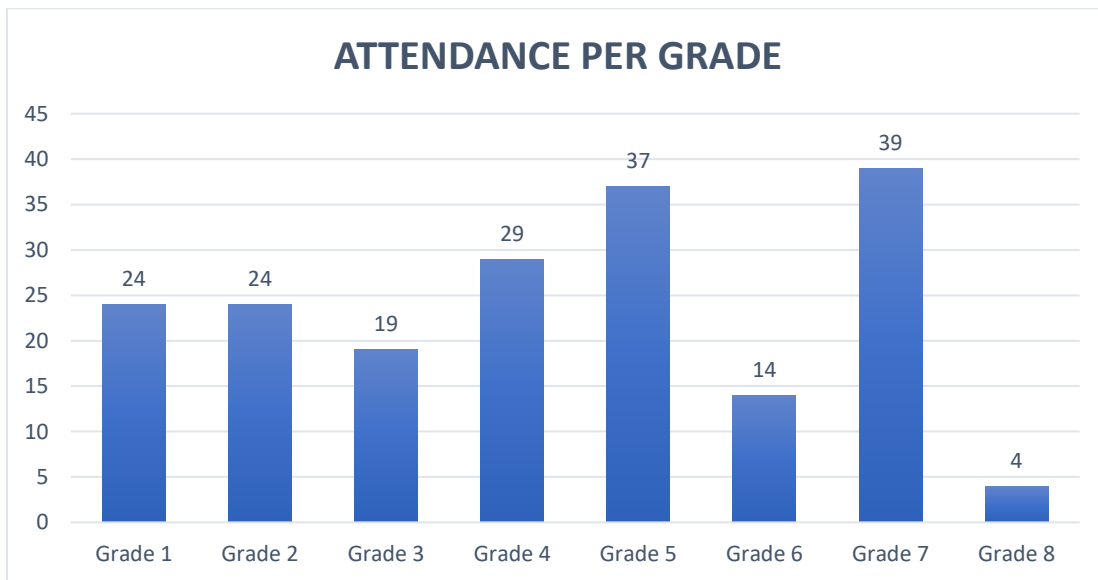
## **NOVEMBER ACHIEVEMENTS**

### Output 4.1: Community library

In November, 190 learners attended the library (121 females, and 69 males) with their distribution per school as follows:



The distribution per grade/ class levels also included:



The learning activities that were conducted in the library were as follows:

- Reading
- Music and dance
- Poem reciting
- Physical education
- Drama and public speaking



## Output 5: Humanitarian Department

Kisumu county has a number of vulnerable households, a majority of them being women and children. Other than facing difficult economic times occasioned by the tough economic times and effects of the global pandemic COVID- 19, Nyando Sub-County which is STADA's jurisdiction is prone to constant flooding.

The humanitarian department supports the county quick response team to identify the vulnerable and most affected families for rightful channeling of the much-needed help.

The department also offers supplementary support to the needy members of the community, with main focus on elderly widows with grandchildren and complete orphans.

Support to this vulnerable group is provided in the form of food, clothes, beddings, and medical support. The orphans (girls being the primary target) within the school going age bracket are offered scholarships on a need- basis to meet their educational needs.

STADA Kenya also focuses on matters of succession of land, in our area of jurisdiction. Widows are often disinherited after the death of their husbands especially in cases where they do not have children to protect them and that is where we come in to help them navigate the justice system for justice to be realized.

Objectives:

- To ensure widows and orphans have access to basic needs including food, shelter, clothing and health.
- To promote justice, fairness, and equity to widows amidst the cultural norms such as inheritance, and land succession.

## NOVEMBER ACHIEVEMENTS

In November, the department, represented by nine (9) members participated in a blood donation exercise at the Regional Blood Donation Centre- Kisumu. The department also accompanied the WASH team to Kodiaga Womens' prison to conduct a pre-visit. Through the department, one community members was supported with household items, house rent, and a start up capital for her business.

## Output 6: Textile Department

Menstrual Health Management (MHM) is a key component as far as putting an end to period shame and poverty is concerned. Here we address the myths and misconceptions surrounding MHM as well as provide reusable sanitary towels and the disposable ones. This effort is geared towards ending period poverty and 'sex for pads' which is the exchange of sex for sanitary towels, this according to our research is the main cause of teenage pregnancies, HIV/AIDs infection and eventually school dropouts.





These reusable pads have also been the cause of improved hygiene among girls, this has boosted their self-esteem and confidence which eventually reflects in their performance at school. As an organization, STADA produces reusable sanitary towels which are distributed to young girls and women who are unable to afford the disposable sanitary towels due to their economic status. STADA Kenya has managed to produce and distribute a record 20,000 reusable sanitary towels since inception.

### Objectives

- To reduce school absenteeism by keeping girls in school.
- To create awareness on menstrual health management, thus reducing period shame.
- To provide a platform where research on MHM can be conducted, and influence MHM policies.

## NOVEMBER ACHIEVEMENTS

In November, the re-usable sanitary towels production was as follows:

<b>Towels carried forward from October (packets)</b>	<b>Towels processed in November (packets)</b>	<b>Towels overlocked in November (pieces)</b>	<b>Towels buttoned in November (pieces)</b>	<b>Towels packaging bags sewn in November</b>	<b>Towels completely packaged in November (packets)</b>	<b>Towels distributed in November (packets)</b>	<b>Towels remaining in the store (packets)</b>
1665	600	2400	2400	600	600	696	1569

## Output 7: Advocacy and Communication Department

STADA has continued to position itself as a policy maker in the matters affecting the people of Nyando Sub county and it is for this reason that we work closely with other actors such as the government, the general public, stakeholders and donors to develop policies that work in favor of the women and girls while remaining cognizant of the rights and needs of the men and boys.

The communication department plays a fundamental role in helping to amplify these policies, capture how the work done by STADA Kenya impacts people’s lives as well as call key actors to action on specific issues that require their attention.

This department also focuses on proactive communication through stories, images, and videos to ensure the advancement of the organization’s mission, and vision.



The Advocacy and Communication department is also responsible for the packaging of messages that we intend to relay to the general public in a simple language for easy understanding.

Our department's goals are;

- To segment our audience and package messages with clarity.
- To clarify the purpose and objectives of the organizations.
- To interpret policies and strategies.
- To ensure the connection between the internal and external public is maintained.
- To document every activity the organization engages in.

These we do by;

- Keeping a photo and video library.
- Blogs
- Newsletters.
- Social media engagements.
- Bi-annual reports.

## NOVEMBER ACHIEVEMENTS

In November, the department conducted the following activities:

- Preparing a work plan and budget for the month of November.
- Shooting the STADA Pads production process part 2.
- STADA Pads distribution in Korogocho, and documentation.
- Editing and posting content from Korogocho.
- Shooting STADA Community Library success stories
- Content creation (15 days of activism, and the experiences at Korogocho)
- Shooting success stories with installation team at Bwanda village.
- Social media updates

The department also documented the following:

- WASH team activities, including the WASH success story.
- A stakeholder's engagement meeting at Nyangande with the gender department, and a community dialogue at Obino Dispensary



- The humanitarian department members during blood donation, at the Regional Blood Donation Centre in Kisumu.
- Adolescent health talk with the gender and health department at the community library.
- Feminist Movement Building meeting and documentation with various groups

## Output 8: Information Communication and Technology

The ICT department manages the organization's technological systems, and maintains their functions and underlying infrastructures. The personnel also ensure that the hardware and software are fully managed for their subsequent operations. The department also provides administrative, technical, and program support to the organization regarding system performance.

Activities undertaken:

- Installation of new software
- Research and procurement of IT hardware and supplies
- Participate in IT inventory asset management
- Assist in backup and recovery of digital assets
- Troubleshoot network issues
- Install video and audio conferencing
- Install and configure new printers, copiers and other equipment
- Provide and install cloud-based applications/services
- Repair hardware
- Website creation and management
- Development of organization's applications.

## NOVEMBER ACHIEVEMENTS

In November, the department conducted the following activities:

## Output 9: Monitoring and Evaluation

The Monitoring and Evaluation Department oversees all the projects from their inception to closure. The M&E department collects, analyzes, and interprets data to STADA staff and key stakeholders of the organization. The department also evaluates the performance of the project against the set targets for the period of implementation.

**Objectives**

- To design a monitoring and evaluation framework for the underlying projects comprising: goals, outcomes, outputs, assumptions and pathways to change.
- To develop systems that capture information from inception to closure of programs.
- To design tools for data collection, both online and offline
- To collect and analyze data which is in turn translated to information to influence the performance/running of projects
- To apply the theory of change to assess the program performance within the reporting period.
- To conduct continuous quality improvement mechanisms to support the projects that require improvement to achieve the targets
- To design an appropriate beneficiary feedback mechanism, to assess the project performance and identify areas that require improvement.

## NOVEMBER ACHIEVEMENTS

The following are the activities conducted by the Monitoring and Evaluation department November:

- Filing borehole drilling department requests and formulating the monthly workplan
- Preparation and compilation of monthly reports, including the Feminist Movement Building
- Joined the humanitarian department for a blood donation exercise in Kisumu, and a pre-visit to the Kodiaga Women's' Prisons.
- Development of student attendance lists for the library (education department).
- Assisted in grant writing, FON network.
- Drafting of letters of appreciation from the pump repair and rehabilitation department.

## PICTORIALS



*Donation of seeds and fertilizers to Wanawake Wa Stada - Nyakach Widows Group*



*Woven baskets, made and displayed by Ng'uono Widows in Nyakach*



*Re-usable sanitary towels distribution at Korogocho in Nairobi*



*A section of STADA teen mothers and adolescent girls who attended Adolescent Girls and Young Women (AGYW) Power Up! National Summit at Mama Grace Onyango social hall.*



*Stakeholder's engagement meeting at Nyang'ande Sub-County Hospital*



*Completion of a borehole drilled at Orongo Community*



*Adolescent girls' dialogue at Chiga Primary*



*A section of the humanitarian department members who went for a blood donation at the Regional Blood Transfusion Centre- Kisumu*