



STAWISHA DADA- STADA KENYA MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORTS- JULY 2025

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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
IDP	Internally Displaced Persons'
KEBS	Kenya Bureau of Standards
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
WKSP	Western Kenya Sanitation Project

INTRODUCTION

At STADA, we believe in a world where women, girls, and children live with dignity, free from violence, exclusion, and poverty and are empowered to lead change in their own lives and communities. We are a grassroots, women- and child-focused organization based in Kenya, driving transformative change through rights-based, gender-responsive, and locally led solutions. Our work spans clean water, health, education, gender equality, child protection, and humanitarian response reaching those most affected by crisis, poverty, and systemic inequality.

We put women, girls, and children at the center of everything we do. Whether we are drilling boreholes, supporting survivors of gender-based violence, promoting menstrual health, or training teenage mothers and youth in green livelihoods, we aim to unlock potential and shift power to the people most impacted. We are not just service providers, we are advocates, partners, and change makers working hand in hand with communities to build a more just and resilient future.

OVERVIEW OF THE PROGRAM:

VISION:

A just world where every woman, girl, and child can thrive with dignity, equality, and opportunity.

MISSION:

To advance the rights, agency, and resilience of women, girls, and children through inclusive, community-led solutions that dismantle inequality and drive sustainable change.

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.

OUR PROGRAMS

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Dignity, Access, and Care for All

We deliver integrated health programs that respond to the most urgent needs in underserved communities. Grounded in a human rights-based approach, our health services are designed to be

available, accessible, acceptable, and of high quality for all—especially women, girls, and marginalized groups.

1. Maternal Health

Improving maternal health lies at the heart of our strategy. We address the five leading causes of maternal mortality—postpartum haemorrhage, obstructed labor, unsafe abortion, sepsis, and pre-eclampsia/eclampsia. Every woman deserves safe, respectful care during pregnancy and childbirth.

We strengthen health systems to:

- Expand emergency obstetric and neonatal care
- Train health workers in respectful, evidence-based practices
- Increase access to skilled birth attendants and essential medicines
- Improve early detection and referral of complications

Through the AAAQ framework, we remove systemic barriers and advance maternal health as a right. We also engage communities—especially men—to encourage shared responsibility and early care-seeking.

2. Menstrual Health

Menstrual health is foundational to gender equity and dignity. Many girls miss school due to a lack of access to products and widespread stigma. We promote menstrual dignity by:

- Distributing reusable and disposable pads
- Supporting women-led production and enterprises
- Delivering education to schools and communities
- Advocating for menstrual equity policies

We engage all genders to break taboos and create enabling environments where girls can thrive.

3. Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS)

Mental well-being is essential to holistic development. Our MHPSS programs support women, adolescent girls, caregivers, and survivors of trauma through:

- Psychological first aid and trauma counselling
- Peer support and safe spaces
- Anti-stigma campaigns
- School-based life skills and resilience programs
- Training teachers, caregivers, and frontline workers

We integrate mental health into education, livelihoods, and maternal care while advocating for long-term inclusion in primary care systems.

4. Non-Communicable Diseases: Sickle Cell Disease

We are expanding our health work to include sickle cell disease—an inherited condition that remains neglected. Our work includes:

- Promoting newborn screening and early diagnosis
- Building caregiver support networks
- Training health workers in sickle cell management
- Educating communities to reduce stigma

5. Universal Health Coverage & Primary Health Care

We champion Universal Health Coverage (UHC) and Primary Health Care (PHC) as the foundation for health equity. Our approach prioritizes health promotion and disease prevention over curative care—placing women and children at the center.

We work to:

- Strengthen community-based health systems
- Bring services closer to homes, especially in rural areas
- Ensure affordability and equity in access
- Mobilize communities for participation and accountability

By advancing PHC, we build resilient systems that prevent illness, respond early, and empower communities—because health is a right, not a privilege.

Our Vision: Equitable, Rights-Based Health for All

Health transforms lives. From maternal care to menstrual dignity, trauma support to chronic disease, we center the needs of women, girls, and children. Our vision is clear: inclusive, resilient health systems that uphold dignity and leave no one behind.

JULY ACHIEVEMENTS

In July, the department conducted the following activities:

Key Activities & Achievements:

- **Pre-Discharge Home Visit for Psychiatric Patient**
A home visit was conducted on 3rd July to assess the environment prior to a psychiatric patient's discharge. *Note: The officer in charge has not yet submitted the official report.*
- **Missed Home Visit to MCH Mothers**
A planned home visit to mothers under Maternal and Child Health (MCH) was not conducted due to poor coordination.
- **Webinar on Maternal Mental Health and Child Development**
Partial attendance on 7th July due to scheduling conflicts. Awaiting the recording to review the full session and extract key insights.
- **Immunization Campaign – Measles-Rubella (MR) and Typhoid Conjugate Vaccine (TCV)**
Provided support from 5th to 14th July at Kibarwa and Rongo Primary Schools. A total of 583 children were successfully vaccinated.
- **Focus Group Discussion (FGD) on Needs Assessment on Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care**
Conducted on 16th July at Rabuor Sub-County Hospital. Transcription is pending. No major challenges were encountered during the session.
- **Webinar on Gender-Responsive Health Systems**
Attended on 18th July. The session focused on strengthening health systems to promote gender equality and advance Universal Health Coverage (UHC) advocacy efforts.

- **Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) Training – Healthy Adolescents Webinar**
Participated in the session on 29th July, the first of a three-part series organized by EANNASO. A certificate will be issued upon completion of all sessions.
- **School Health Talks and Sanitary Pad Distribution**
Conducted health education sessions and distributed sanitary pads in selected schools.

A. Activity Report: MR/TCV Immunization Campaign

Date: 5th to 14th July 2025

Venues: Kibarwa and Rongo Primary Schools

Reported by: Jacklyne Odhiambo – SCPHN/SCRHC

Objective:

To conduct a supplementary immunization activity targeting children aged 9 months to under 15 years, with the introduction of the Typhoid Conjugate Vaccine (TCV).

STADA's Contribution:

- Facilitated transport for vaccinators and logistical support through vehicle provision
- Provided camera coverage for documentation
- Supported the campaign with allowances for one vaccinator and two Community Health Assistants (CHAs)

Key Outcomes:

- A total of 583 children were vaccinated:
 - 333 at Rongo Primary School
 - 250 at Kibarwa Primary School
- Immunization commodities were issued and returned on a daily basis
- Sub-county health team supplemented staffing by participating as vaccinators due to personnel shortages

Challenges Encountered:

- **Delayed Arrival of Vaccinators:** Staffing constraints led to late deployment
- **Lack of Service Integration:** SRHR and school health activities were not incorporated into the campaign
- **Parental Consent & School Disruption:** Low parental consent rates and interference with school schedules impacted reach and efficiency

Recommendations:

1. **Increase Vaccinator Deployment:** Ensure adequate human resource coverage to improve efficiency and timeliness
2. **Service Integration:** Incorporate SRHR and school health services into future immunization activities to provide holistic care
3. **Community Sensitization:** Conduct pre-campaign sensitization targeting parents and caregivers to improve vaccine uptake and minimize disruptions

B. Mental Health Department Report:

1. MHPSS Needs Assessment of Widows at Alara and Kobura

Objective:

To explore the lived realities of widows—gaining insights into their self-identified challenges, strengths, and priorities. The assessment also aimed to understand existing peer support systems to inform sustainable, community-led interventions.

Achievements:

- Raised awareness of available mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) resources.
- Identified key support needs including grief support and physical health care.
- Documented cultural frameworks for interpreting and responding to emotional challenges, laying the groundwork for context-sensitive interventions.

Challenges:

- Competing social and economic responsibilities limited participation.
- Role expectations restricted many women's availability for support sessions.

2. Serenity Seekers Session – Alendu Primary School

Topic: Emotional Differentiation

Achievements:

- Strengthened participants' emotional vocabulary and self-awareness.
- Raised awareness of adolescent mental health needs among students and educators.

Challenges:

- Language barriers: Some participants had difficulty following in English or Swahili; most were more comfortable expressing emotions in Luo.
- Scheduling conflicts at other schools necessitated rescheduling of planned activities.

3. Introduction to Mental Health – Kobura Teen Moms

Achievements:

- Improved participants' understanding of mental health concepts.
- Participants reported applying learned concepts in real-life situations.

Challenges:

- Low attendance limited reach and group engagement.

4. Self-Awareness and Resilience Training – Ogenya Teen Moms

Objective:

To empower young mothers by identifying and building on their personal strengths while equipping them with practical tools for resilience.

Achievements:

- All participants actively engaged in discussions.
- Each teen mom was able to recognize and articulate personal strengths, supported by sharing real-life experiences.

Challenges:

- Varied comprehension levels: Some concepts were challenging for participants with limited formal education.

5. Participation in the Inaugural Kisumu County Mental Health Technical Working Group (TWG) Meeting

Organized by: Kisumu County Department of Health in collaboration with Living Goods

Purpose: Activation of the County Mental Health TWG and development of an action plan to improve coordination and collaboration in mental health programming.

Achievement:

- STADA was formally recognized as a key stakeholder and has been incorporated as an active member of the Kisumu County Mental Health TWG.

6. Mental Health Stakeholders' Meeting – Focus on Schools and Learning Institutions

Purpose:

To map out ongoing mental health initiatives within schools in Kisumu County and strengthen collaboration among implementing organizations.

Achievement:

- Identified several potential partners for future collaboration and program expansion in school-based mental health initiatives.

Challenges & Issues

- **Limited Cooperation from the Mental Health Department:**
Lack of collaboration from the Mental Health Department led to delays in the repatriation of psychiatric patients.
- **Failure to Submit Report:**
The officer in charge did not submit a report following the pre-discharge home visit for a psychiatric patient, affecting follow-up and documentation.
- **Missed Home Visits:**
Planned home visits to MCH mothers were not conducted due to poor coordination between responsible teams.
- **Webinar Attendance Affected:**
Participation in the maternal mental health and child development webinar was incomplete due to scheduling conflicts with an internal office meeting.
- **Challenges During Immunization Campaign:**
Implementation of the MR/TCV immunization campaign faced delays due to limited staffing, lack of parental consent, and missed opportunities to integrate the activity with ongoing SRHR interventions.

Recommendations & Action Items

1. **Enhance Stakeholder Communication:**
Strengthen communication and collaboration channels with mental health stakeholders to ensure timely support and follow-through on critical activities.
2. **Deploy Standby Vaccinators:**
Assign standby vaccinators to improve outreach coverage and address potential staff shortages during immunization campaigns.
3. **Integrate SRHR Services:**
Incorporate Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) services into school health programs and immunization days to maximize reach and impact.
4. **Community Sensitization on Vaccination:**
Conduct targeted community sensitization and education campaigns to raise awareness on the benefits of vaccines and increase parental consent.
5. **Strengthen Pre-Visit Coordination:**
Improve internal and inter-departmental coordination prior to field visits to enhance planning, reduce missed activities, and ensure resource optimization.

GENDER EQUALITY & CHILD PROTECTION

Empowering Women, Girls, and Children to Thrive

We are committed to advancing gender equality and safeguarding the rights and dignity of all children. Our holistic, rights-based approach addresses the root causes of inequality and vulnerability—providing safety, healing, and opportunity for women, girls, and children in crisis-affected and underserved communities.

1. Preventing and Responding to Gender-Based Violence (GBV)

GBV is a widespread violation of human rights, often rooted in harmful gender norms.

Women and girls—and particularly children—are at heightened risk of violence, exploitation, and abuse. Our response is survivor-centered and community-driven:

- Prevention campaigns that shift harmful norms and reduce stigma
- Safe spaces offering confidential, trauma-informed care
- GBV case management and referrals for medical, legal, and psychosocial services
- Capacity building for health workers, teachers, and protection actors
- Ethical documentation to strengthen accountability and advocacy

We place survivors at the heart of recovery, while challenging the systems that enable violence.

2. Teenage and Young Mothers Empowerment

Adolescent mothers face stigma, limited access to services, and economic hardship. We support them to reclaim their futures through:

- Psychosocial support and peer mentorship
- Parenting education and life skills
- Vocational training and economic empowerment
- Access to child care and flexible learning pathways

Our goal is to ensure no young mother is left behind.

3. Widows Empowerment Program

Widows often face discrimination, isolation, and economic insecurity. We support their healing, independence, and dignity through:

- Vocational training and entrepreneurship
- Table banking and joint business ventures
- Financial literacy and mentorship
- Legal education on inheritance and land rights
- Peer support and trauma-informed group therapy

Widows are empowered as caregivers, leaders, and agents of change.

4. Women's Economic Empowerment

When women thrive economically, so do their families and communities. Our programs build economic resilience through:

- Savings groups, artisan training, and community enterprises
- Financial literacy, business mentorship, and digital tools
- Market linkages and access to startup support

Women's economic power fuels education, health, and protection for their children.

5. Child Protection

Every child has the right to safety, dignity, and opportunity. Our child protection work is gender-sensitive and rooted in community systems that prevent and respond to:

- Violence, abuse, exploitation, and neglect
- Child marriage and harmful practices
- Discrimination that limits girls' rights and futures

We strengthen child protection through:

- Training caregivers, teachers, and child protection actors
- Safe spaces, case management, and psychosocial support
- Parenting without violence and rights education
- Legal identity and advocacy for inclusive child protection laws

We put children at the center—protecting their rights and amplifying their voices.

JULY ACHIEVEMENTS

The gender department conducted the following activities in July:

1. Widows Empowerment Program

- Kobura and Alara Widows

MHPSS Needs Assessment

A psychosocial needs assessment was conducted among widows in Kobura and Alara to identify key psychological and social challenges, determine priority areas for intervention, and establish resource needs for future programming.

Key Findings:

- Financial stress is a primary contributor to emotional and psychological distress.
- There is a critical need for both physical and mental health support services tailored to widows.
- Widows highlighted the need for improved access to financial services and training programs designed specifically for their context.

2. Teenage and Young Mothers Empowerment

Psychosocial Support Activities:

a) Kobura Young Mothers:

- Continued structured group discussions on key mental health concepts.
- Topics covered included identifying healthy vs. unhealthy coping strategies and practical approaches to self-care.

b) Ogenya Young Mothers:

- Facilitated a *Strengths Sharing Circle*, promoting peer support, resilience, and self-awareness through guided group reflection and discussion.

Arts Activities:

Engaged in drama practice activity aimed at building confidence, enhancing self-expression, and fostering emotional healing through art-based interventions

3. International Youth Day (IYD) Planning

- Participated in planning meetings for the upcoming International Youth Day celebrations.
- Kisumu County will localize the global IYD theme through community-based activities that highlight youth contributions toward achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): SDGs 1, 2, 4, 8, 9, 13, 15, 16 & 17.
- STADA has committed to supporting the event in-kind.
- Key Dates:
 - **Launch Event:** August 4th, 2025
 - **Main Celebration:** August 8th, 2025

4. Stakeholder Engagement – Gender Sector Working Group (Women’s Economic Empowerment)

- A meeting has been scheduled with the State Department for Gender and Affirmative Action under the **Gender Sector Working Group**.
- Focus will be on the **Socio-economic Empowerment Pillar**

Nyabondo Widows Report

Activities Conducted:

- **Weekly Group Meetings:** Regular meetings held throughout the month with strong attendance.
- **Plastic Weaving Sessions:**
 - Initial preparation and cutting of weaving materials done collaboratively.
 - Ongoing weaving sessions continued as part of their income-generating activities.
- **Budgeting and Procurement:**
 - Budgeting was done for weaving materials.
 - Two rolls of plastic bought at KES 3,300 and two pairs of scissors at KES 350 each.
- **Table Banking and Weekly Contributions:**
 - Continued successful implementation of the group’s table banking initiative.
- **Counseling Session:**
 - A peer-led session was held, where a widow shared her personal story of resilience, focusing on stress management and the value of sharing challenges.
- **Financial Literacy Training:**
 - A session was held to enhance knowledge on saving and managing group funds, facilitated by a financial officer from a neighboring group.

Challenges Encountered

- **Lack of Market Access:** Difficulty in finding a consistent market for their woven baskets.
- **Health-Related Interruptions:** Irregular attendance due to frequent hospital admissions among some members.
- **Land Grabbing Issues:** Emotional and legal distress caused by land disputes, particularly from in-laws.

Recommendations

- **Market Linkages:** Facilitate connections with local traders, craft fairs, and online platforms to access wider markets for the baskets.
- **Health Support Referrals:** Establish links with local health facilities for better support and tracking of members with recurring health issues.
- **Legal Aid Support:** Partner with local legal aid organizations to offer support for widows facing land grabbing or property disputes.
- **Continued Peer Counseling:** Encourage more members to share and support each other through storytelling and resilience-building sessions.

Ogenya Teen Moms Report

During the month of July, the following activities were conducted with the teen mothers in Ogenya:

- **Hygiene Education Session** focused on proper disposal methods for sanitary products, including pampers.
- **Beadwork Sessions** to enhance creativity and provide a therapeutic outlet; participants successfully created handmade bracelets.
- **Mental Health Discussions** exploring coping strategies for personal challenges and promoting emotional well-being.
- **Drama Practice** as a form of expressive learning and confidence building.
- **Menstrual Health Education** delivered in collaboration with visitors from STADA Kenya.
- **Art-Based Activities** to encourage self-expression and emotional processing.
- **Group Prayers and Reflections** were incorporated into some sessions to foster unity and emotional support.
- **Engagement with STADA Kenya Team**, which facilitated interactive sessions across various departments including mental health, menstrual health, and art.
- **Sanitary Pads Distributed:** A total of 23 pads were given to participants during the month.

Challenges Encountered

- Lack of sufficient chairs during group meetings.
- Persistent time management issues affecting the smooth flow of activities.

Recommendations

- Mobilize resources to provide adequate seating for participants.
- Strengthen timekeeping and scheduling protocols for better participation.

Kobura Teen Moms Report

Activities Conducted

- 1. Introduction Session with the Art and Music Department**
 - An engaging introductory session was held to familiarize the teen moms with the department's objectives and offerings.
- 2. Menstrual Health Education**
 - Participants were educated on menstrual health, including various menstrual products.
 - A discussion was held on combating period poverty, and reusable pads were distributed to the group.
- 3. Beadwork Practice**
 - Beadwork sessions continued throughout the month, promoting creativity and skill development.
- 4. Health and Safety Awareness**
 - A session with the Health and Safety Department focused on hygiene, personal safety, and general wellness practices.
- 5. Life Skills, Creative Arts, and Performing Arts**
 - Teen moms engaged in activities designed to build essential life skills and express themselves through arts and performance.
- 6. Dance Sessions**
 - Dance was incorporated as a fun and expressive activity to encourage teamwork and boost morale.
- 7. Formation of a Merry-Go-Round Group**
 - The group initiated a *merry-go-round* savings initiative to strengthen social bonds and promote financial inclusion.

CLIMATE ACTION FOR RESILIENT, GENDER-EQUITABLE COMMUNITIES

Across the regions where we work, the climate crisis is not a future threat — it is a present and daily reality. Communities face the compounding effects of prolonged droughts, unpredictable rainy seasons, destructive floods, and the displacement these climate shocks trigger. Our climate action strategy centers on resilience, adaptation, and mitigation, with a strong focus on the most affected: women, girls, and displaced populations.

1. Water Resilience

Access to clean water is increasingly under threat due to shrinking water tables, delayed rains, and intense flooding. In response, we work with communities to develop integrated water solutions — from borehole drilling and rainwater harvesting to protecting

groundwater and training water user committees. These locally driven systems improve access to safe water for households, schools, and agricultural use, and reduce the burden on women and girls who often travel long distances to fetch water.

2. Food Security through Sustainable Agriculture

The climate crisis is undermining traditional farming cycles. Crop failures due to drought, flooding, and soil degradation are pushing families deeper into food insecurity. We promote sustainable, climate-smart agriculture that equips smallholder farmers with the tools and knowledge to adapt. Through practices like composting, drought-resistant crops, and water-efficient irrigation, families increase productivity, improve nutrition, and build food sovereignty. These efforts are critical not only for survival but also for climate resilience and long-term development.

3. Displacement and the Gendered Impacts of Climate Change

Climate-induced displacement is on the rise. As water sources dry up and floods destroy homes and livelihoods, families are forced into temporary camps or to migrate in search of basic necessities. In these fragile settings, women and girls bear the greatest burden — facing heightened risks of gender-based violence, school dropout, and health issues. Our programs address these vulnerabilities by providing psychosocial support, safeguarding services, safe spaces, and opportunities for displaced women and girls to lead and shape solutions.

4. Climate Adaptation: Solar Energy for Resilience

Clean energy access is central to adaptation. We deliver solar energy training with a focus on youth and women, preparing them for employment in the green economy while expanding renewable energy access in off-grid communities. These efforts bring light to schools, power water pumps, improve safety in displacement settings, and reduce dependence on expensive, polluting fuels. Solar energy becomes both a tool for resilience and a pathway to economic empowerment.

5. Climate Mitigation: Reusable Pads for Gender and Environmental Justice

Our climate mitigation efforts are grounded in gender justice. Through the local production and distribution of reusable menstrual pads, we reduce non-biodegradable waste, promote menstrual health, and support girls to stay in school — especially during emergencies or in climate-impacted areas. This initiative not only reduces the environmental burden of disposable products but also uplifts women-led enterprises and community health.

6. A People-Centered Climate Solution

Our climate action approach is community-led and intersectional. We know that solutions must be local, inclusive, and centered on the people most affected — especially women and girls who are often excluded from decision-making but are the backbone of resilience. By investing in water systems, sustainable agriculture, clean energy, and menstrual health, we build a future where communities not only survive climate shocks, but thrive beyond them

JULY ACHIEVEMENTS

Key Activities & Achievements

1. Training and capacity building for Water User Committees (WUCs)
In collaboration with the WASH Department, the department facilitated a training session in Lela to enhance community knowledge on sustainable water management and climate risk preparedness. Participants strengthened their understanding of water governance and resilience strategies.
2. Baseline Survey for the Inclusive Resilience & Climate Justice Action (IRCJA) Project
Partnered with Vashmaq Consultancy to successfully carry out Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) and Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) at Ogenya IDP Camp. This formed part of the baseline assessment for the Inclusive Resilience & Climate Justice Action (IRCJA) project.
3. Youth advocacy engagement in Ogenya
Engaged on dialogue sessions with youth from multiple villages, initiating steps toward the formation of a unified Youth Climate Advocates Group aimed at amplifying local voices on environmental and social justice.
4. Proposal development and grant writing:
 - UEFA Foundation for Children – it identifies and supports impactful projects that contribute to the well-being and development of children.
 - Climate Communication Fund: aims to break cycle by strengthening the internal communication capacity of CSOs. This includes training, strategic support, and media resource development, tailored to the individual needs of each grantee
 - UNDP: Strengthening Community-Based Disaster Risk Management and Resilience in Kenya. With objective to empower local communities to lead recovery efforts, restore livelihoods, rebuild essential services, and reduce disaster risks
 - Fair Water Action Fund: which offers grants along with technical and legal support to organizations working toward water justice and addressing water-related challenges rooted in inequality, climate change, and weak governance.
5. Internal Capacity Strengthening
Engaged on proposal development workshops for P. Os, covering grant tracking, template writing, and strategy alignment and scientific paper writing
6. Monthly concepts note development:
Drafted a departmental concept note to guide activities, priorities, and community engagement efforts for the reporting period.
7. Stakeholders' engagement with Kisumu County's WECC&NR departments on:
 - To align the department's strategic focus with the County's Annual Development Plan (ADP) and County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP).
 - Review partner engagement and reporting mechanisms.
 - Jointly identifying strategies for a more effective and resilient network in addressing water, environment, and climate challenges in Kisumu County.
8. School engagement on groundwater protection
Engaged student leaders at Kobura Secondary School in a capacity-building session focused on borehole protection, hygiene, and student-led WASH advocacy, fostering school-community collaboration.

Recommendations & Action Items

- Strengthening climate change education through rolling out various community-based training sessions on climate adaptation, risks reduction and mitigation practices.
- **Formal partner engagement through MOUs**, partners engaging in activities within the county are required to **pay courtesy calls** to relevant county departments and **sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)** to formalize the working relationship and enhance accountability.
- Conduct follow-up visits to Kobura Secondary and plan the next phase of Climate Champion Clubs formation to maintain momentum.
- Identify potential proposal calls to scale successful pilot activities.

CLEAN WATER & SANITATION (WASH)

We deliver clean water and safe sanitation to transform health, education, and dignity—especially for women and children. Our work includes borehole drilling, gender-sensitive latrine construction, menstrual hygiene support, and hygiene promotion in schools and communities.

Restoring Dignity and Health

In Kenya, over 28 million people lack access to safe drinking water, and 41 million lack improved sanitation. That means nearly 60% of the population does not have clean water, and 80% lacks basic toilets. The burden falls disproportionately on women and children in rural areas—who spend hours fetching water, miss school, and face increased risks of waterborne diseases.

At STADA, we believe clean water is a human right and a catalyst for health, dignity, education, and gender equality. Our WASH programs prioritize sustainable, community-driven solutions that reach the most marginalized.

Our WASH Interventions

- **Borehole Drilling & Repairs**
We ensure consistent access to safe water through new boreholes and the rehabilitation of broken water points.
- **Gender-Sensitive Sanitation Facilities**
We build safe, inclusive latrines and handwashing stations in schools and public spaces, promoting hygiene and dignity—especially for women and girls.
- **Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM)**
We distribute reusable sanitary pads, deliver menstrual health education, and work to end stigma so girls can stay in school and thrive.
- **Hygiene Promotion**
We run community sessions and school workshops on handwashing, water safety, and environmental hygiene to prevent disease.
- **Emergency WASH in Crisis Settings**
We respond rapidly in emergencies with hygiene kits, water treatment supplies, and mobile toilets to protect displaced families.

- **Community Engagement and Sustainability**
We train and equip WASH committees to lead and maintain infrastructure, ensuring local ownership and long-term impact.

The Impact of Access to Clean Water

Focus Area	Impact
Health	Waterborne diseases kill more people annually than all violence combined. Children under five are 20x more likely to die from unsafe water than from conflict
Time	Women and girls spend 200 million hours daily collecting water. Clean water allows more time for farming, school, and income generation.
Education	Access to water and sanitation keeps children, especially girls, in school. MHM support and fewer water chores reduce absenteeism.
Women's empowerment	In 80% of homes without water access, women and girls do the collection. Clean water frees them to pursue education, start businesses, and lead change.

JULY ACHIEVEMENTS

In July, 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
6	4	37	30	77

Other Activities and Achievements:

- Conducted 4 pre-drilling mobilizations at St. Meshack's Orije, St. Meshack's Rangita, Ogwedhi Msanda Holyghost and Osiri Kusho Roho Mtakatifu Churches
- Other activities
- Facilitated 4-day research for the Transactional Sex for Fish Project in Ogenya and Nyamware
- Co- conducted a WASH and Climate Change sensitization training at St. Meshack's Lela Church
- Participated in a stakeholders' engagement meeting with the Kisumu County Water, Sanitation and Climate Change at Millview Hotel, Kisumu
- Online meeting with the United Nations Water Conference planning, held by the World Youth Parliament
- Developed an online data collection tool for the STADA pads to assist in the tracking of produced of re-usable sanitary towels.
- Filing of new request forms both in the physical files and online WASH database.
- Weekly, Monthly reports, workplan, and budgets compilation and submission.

RE-USABLE SANITARY TOWELS PRODUCTION

STADA Pads is a social enterprise offering affordable, eco-friendly reusable sanitary towels. Our pads provide a sustainable, comfortable alternative to disposables, ensuring leak-free protection while promoting environmental responsibility. We aim to end period poverty and enhance dignity in menstruation through quality, soft, and breathable materials for all-day comfort.

Choose STADA Pads for cost-effective, eco-friendly protection that lasts for months. By selecting our reusable sanitary pads, you support a cleaner environment and empower young mothers crafting these sustainable products. Experience comfort, reliability, and contribute to our mission to end period poverty and stigma. Switch to STADA Pads today!

For more information about STADA Pads click [here](#)

Our Impact

We envision a world where we provide a long term solution to end period poverty, where every girl and Woman has access to safe, sustainable, and affordable menstrual hygiene products as we bring dignity to menstruation.

JULY ACHIEVEMENTS

The activities conducted include:

No. of pads produced	No. of pads distributed	No. of schools visited	Communities visited
750	750	14	1

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

We provide holistic, inclusive education services that support learning across all stages of life—from early childhood to adulthood. Our programs are designed to respond to the needs of communities facing poverty, displacement, or crisis, and offer safe, accessible, and empowering spaces for education.

1. Community library

Our community libraries are welcoming spaces where children, youth, and adults can access books, learning materials, and quiet environments to study and grow. They support literacy and lifelong learning in areas where educational resources are scarce. Libraries are stocked with age-appropriate books and supported by trained facilitators who guide learners through reading sessions, storytelling, workshops, and digital literacy training. They also serve as safe spaces for community learning and engagement.

2. Child/day care

Our day care centers offer early childhood care, learning, and protection. They provide structured play-based activities, nutritious meals, and hygiene support. These services are especially crucial in crisis-affected communities where caregivers may be working, seeking livelihoods, or participating in training. Children receive age-appropriate stimulation that supports their physical, cognitive, and emotional development. Inclusive practices ensure that children with disabilities or from marginalized groups are supported.

3. Foundational literacy and numeracy

Our foundational learning programs help children build essential reading, writing, and math skills. These are particularly targeted at children who are out of school or have fallen behind. Delivered through child-friendly, play-based methods, sessions are tailored to individual needs and facilitated by trained educators. Emphasis is placed on gender sensitivity and inclusivity, ensuring all children—especially girls and children with disabilities—feel safe, valued, and empowered to learn.

Small group instruction, continuous assessment, and supportive learning environments ensure that children gain the confidence and skills to transition into or return to formal schooling.

4. Scholarships

We offer scholarships to help vulnerable children and youth access and stay in school. These scholarships cover tuition, uniforms, learning materials, and transport. We prioritize children from disadvantaged households, girls, and children with disabilities, and orphans—groups often at risk of dropping out due to economic hardship.

Scholarship recipients are supported through follow-up, mentorship, and psychosocial care to ensure their success. Our goal is not only to remove financial barriers but to help students thrive academically and socially.

5. Feeding program

Hunger is one of the biggest barriers to learning. Our school-based feeding program ensures that children in our day care, foundational learning, and vocational programs receive nutritious daily meals. These meals support physical development, increase attendance, and help children concentrate and participate fully in their learning.

For young children, feeding supports healthy growth during critical early years. For older students, it improves focus and performance. Parents are often involved in preparing meals, helping build community ownership and sustainability.

6. Vocational Training Centre

We provide vocational training that equips youth and adults with practical skills for employment or entrepreneurship. This is especially important in communities where traditional education pathways have been disrupted.

Training areas include:

- **Hairdressing & Beauty:** Styling, skincare, makeup, and salon business skills
- **Dressmaking:** Tailoring, pattern-making, and fashion design
- **Food & Beverage Production:** Cooking, baking, hygiene, and catering
- **Solar PV Installation:** Renewable energy system setup and maintenance
- **Plumbing:** Water system installation, sanitation, and repair

Each course includes hands-on learning, business training, and mentorship. Graduates receive certificates and are supported to find jobs or start their own businesses.

JULY ACHIEVEMENTS

Key Activities & Achievements

1. **Day care** – the day care continues to provide safe, nurturing and developmentally appropriate environment for children of teenage mothers and other vulnerable families in the community.

During the reporting period, several positive developments have been observed:

- Behavioral and Routine Development - where children have learnt essential routine like; drinking water after meals, taking naps after eating which contributes to their overall well-being.
 - Milestone Attainment- One of the children has begun walking independently and can now speak simple words like “No.” This marks significant progress in motor and language development.
 - Health and Nutritious progress - the feeding program has played a key role in supporting healthy physical development and many children have shown noticeable weight gain.
2. **Community Library** – the activity particularly targets learners during weekends and school holiday, strengthening foundation literacy and reading culture.

Activities conducted in Community Library:

- The learners engaged in guided reading of three letter words, sounds, and acquiring new vocabulary to strengthen early reading.
 - They were engaged in facilitated group and individual reading sessions to improve literacy and comprehension.
 - Children engaged in drawing and coloring to enhance creativity and motor coordination.
 - They were also engaged in ball games to promote physical fitness
- 3. Feeding program** – the program benefits two major groups, children in day care and teenage mothers who are pursuing vocational training. They receive nutritious meals that improve their health and reduce the absenteeism rate. Regular meals have also contributed to weight gain among the children.
- 4. Scholarship support-** we participated in a career guidance session for one scholarship recipient, providing support in career planning and mapping. We also gathered next month's academic requirements for three beneficiaries in that school.
- 5. Vocational training -** This program supports three active cohort undergoing practical and theoretical training for self-reliance and employment readiness.

Key activities conducted:

- World youth skills day celebration- where both cohort was trained on use of AI for marketing
 - Soft skill and practical training on the production of shampoo, soap, fabric softener, hand wash and bleaching detergents, these sessions help learners develop income-generating skills.
 - Cohort 1 Progress assessment for the readiness for the upcoming National Industrial Training Authority (NITA) exams. The exam schedule was also shared to aid in preparation and time management.
 - Orientation to Economic empowerment and financial literacy module that will begin after exams.
 - Cohort 2 Hair dressing, Life skills and menstrual hygiene sessions, which help learners to gain confidence and enhance their ability to manage real world challenges beyond vocational training.
- 6. Strategic engagements and administrative activities** – To strengthen programs and mobilize resources, the program officer undertook several additional activities like:

- Participating in a youth champion meeting in Ogenya where we shared insight on education programs.
- Chaired proposal development for UEFA Foundation Grant.
- Initiated outreach to potential partners and sponsors to support Back-to-School Extravaganza.
- Initiated an online fundraise strategy using M-CHANGA to support Library activities.
- Attended a virtual training led by Chief of staff focused on proposal development process.

Challenges & Issues

Day care:

- Inadequate space- the current facility is too small to accommodate the growing number of children and this compromises the quality of care.
- Lack of internet Connectivity- which limits access to early childhood education resources.
- Lack of essential supplies like diapers which affects hygiene standards.

Library:

- Insufficient learning and sport materials: books, artistic materials and stationery are required to aid learning.
- Scarce digital tools: educational videos are a great learning tool and means of connecting the interior to the exterior world but scarcity of digital literacy tools and internet is a major obstacle.

Feeding program:

- Occasionally meals arrives late, disrupting class and feeding schedules. This may cause discomfort.

Vocational training:

- Inconsistent attendance of cohort 2, there was a concern of more theories than practical.

Recommendations & Action Items

Day care:

- Provision of internet services, preferably a router for the daycare center, library and Vocational center.
- Introduce a diaper support program for the most vulnerable teen moms.

Library:

- Create awareness by involving parents to encourage frequent library visits, and introduce clubs.
- Invest in learning materials like tablet or laptop for enhanced computer literacy among students.

Feeding:

- Improve coordination with food suppliers to avoid delays and maintain consistent meal times.

Scholarship:

- Organize a mentorship meeting with the beneficiaries.

Vocational training:

- Exam preparation resources for NITA certification.

HUMANITARIAN DEPARTMENT

Your Support Saves Lives

In displacement and crisis settings, we provide life-saving support: clean water, education, protection, food security, and climate-adaptive livelihoods. Our work centers women and girls in all stages of response and recovery.

1. Floods response

When devastating floods displace families and destroy livelihoods, your support enables immediate, life-saving action. Our response teams deliver clean water, hygiene supplies, and essential non-food items within hours—helping communities stay safe, healthy, and resilient. With your partnership, we reach the most vulnerable, ensuring no one is left behind in the face of disaster.

2. Food assistance

Hunger shouldn't be a consequence of crisis. Thanks to your generosity, we're able to provide critical food assistance—ranging from emergency food parcels to cash-based solutions that empower families to make choices with dignity. Together, we're fighting food insecurity and protecting the nutrition of children and caregivers during emergencies.

3. Shelter assistance

Shelter is more than a roof—it's safety, privacy, and hope. Your contributions provide families with emergency shelter kits, safe temporary housing, and the tools to begin rebuilding. We work hand-in-hand with communities to design inclusive, sustainable shelter solutions that restore not just homes, but a sense of belonging and stability.

4. Water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH)

Access to clean water and sanitation is essential in any emergency. With your support, we install emergency latrines, handwashing facilities, and distribute water purification supplies. We also run hygiene education campaigns to prevent disease outbreaks and safeguard health—especially for women, children, and people with disabilities.

5. Child protection and psychosocial support

Children are among the most affected in crises. Your donations help us establish safe spaces where children can play, learn, and receive psychosocial support. We also train caregivers and community volunteers to recognize and respond to signs of trauma, ensuring children can begin to heal and thrive.

6. Livelihoods recovery and cash-for-work

Restoring dignity starts with restoring income. Through your contributions, we implement cash-for-work initiatives, distribute livelihood kits, and support vocational training. These programs help families rebuild their independence and foster long-term recovery.

7. Inclusive humanitarian response

Crises affect everyone differently. Your support ensures our aid reaches older persons, people with disabilities, and marginalized groups. We tailor our interventions to be inclusive—whether through accessible shelters, disability-friendly WASH facilities, or inclusive planning processes—so no one is left behind.

8. Community preparedness and climate resilience

Your generosity isn't just helping communities recover—it's helping them prepare. We invest in local disaster response teams, early warning systems, and climate-smart infrastructure. Together, we're building communities that are more resilient to future shocks.

JULY ACHIEVEMENTS

Key Activities & Achievements

1. Home Visit to a Widow in Alara Community

- On **19th July 2025**, the team visited a widow enrolled in the widows' program at Alara who has been battling leprosy for some time.
- **Achievements:**
 - Successfully mobilized food items, toiletries, and monetary support.
 - The donations were sufficient to sustain her for at least a month.

2. Support Visit to a Long-term Beneficiary at Kakoth

- On **25th July 2025**, the team visited *Dani*, one of the program's longest-standing beneficiaries, to conduct house and bedroom cleaning and to fumigate the house due to a bedbug infestation.
- **Achievements:**
 - With support from the Director, a bedbug spray was purchased and used.
 - A new bed and mattress were provided to replace her previous setup, where she was using rags as bedding.
 - Laundry support was organized to clean all her beddings and clothes.

Challenges & Issues

- There is a need for more male members in the department to support physically demanding tasks. While the women are committed and capable, some activities require additional manpower.

Recommendations & Action Items

- **Capacity Building:**
 - The team requires training on effective mobilization strategies for both funds and non-perishable items.
- **Proposed Action:**
 - Organize a training session with an expert to strengthen resource mobilization skills.

ADVOCACY AND COMMUNICATION

Amplifying Voices, Influencing Change

Our advocacy and communication work centers on elevating local voices to drive systemic change. By combining grassroots engagement with strategic messaging, we influence policy, shift public discourse, and promote accountability.

1. Strategic communication

We create targeted campaigns using radio, social media, print, and visual content to inform, inspire, and mobilize. Messaging is grounded in data, culturally relevant, and aligned with our program goals raising awareness on gender equality, education, health, and child protection.

2. Grassroots advocacy

We train and support communities, especially women and youth, to advocate for their rights. Through forums, dialogues, and local campaigns, communities lead conversations on services, inclusion, and justice ensuring their voices are heard where it matters.

3. Storytelling for action

Real stories inspire real change. We collect and share firsthand experiences that highlight challenges, resilience, and impact. Whether through video, photography, or testimonials, we use storytelling to build empathy, raise awareness, and humanize policy issues. These stories connect people to causes, influence public perception, and strengthen our advocacy efforts.

4. Information gathering and dissemination

Our advocacy is backed by evidence. We gather data through assessments, surveys, and community-led research. Findings are shared in accessible formats: briefs, infographics, case studies to inform decision-makers, partners, and the public.

5. Policy and budget advocacy

We engage in policy dialogues, analyze budget allocations, and push for equitable funding in education, health, and protection. Our advocacy is grounded in community needs and evidence, ensuring inclusive and responsive governance.

6. Media advocacy

We work with journalists to promote ethical, rights-based reporting. By sharing stories, hosting interviews, and launching campaigns, we amplify underrepresented voices and foster change through public engagement.

JULY ACHIEVEMENTS

In July, the department conducted the following activities:

- Compiled stories for the newsletter.
- Worked on newsletter design.
- Humanitarian Assistance – Home visit in Alara.
- Communication team meeting with the Director.
- Media coverage.
- Humanitarian Assistance – Fumigation at Dani's Place.
- Attended a research paper training with the P.Os.
- Humanitarian Assistance – Grant writing brainstorming, drafting, and compilation with P.Os.
- Edited and submitted the grant to Maureen.
- Wrote street advertisement content.
- Attended a youth advocacy meeting in Ogenya.
- Mobilized youth for an advocacy meeting in Kobura.
- Shared an idea for a pads drive initiative as a resource mobilization strategy.
- Started working on the Climate Advocacy Communication Grant.
- Provided social media updates and drafted the social media calendar.
- Shot and scripted podcast episodes.
- Edited photos and videos.

MONITORING, EVALUATION, RESEARCH AND LEARNING (MERL)

Our MERL approach ensures that our work is effective, accountable, and continually improving. We track progress, assess impact, and learn from experience to adapt and strengthen our programs.

We monitor activities through tools like surveys, focus groups, and site visits, engaging communities in the process. Evaluation helps us understand what works, for whom, and under what conditions.

Our research projects include:

1. Transactional Sex for Fish along Lake Victoria
2. Amplifying Ratego Stories and Knowledges: A Co-Research Initiative with Young Mothers in Social Movements in East Africa

We share findings through reports, case studies, and learning briefs, promoting reflection and adaptation across all programs. MERL helps us stay grounded in evidence and focused on meaningful change.

JULY ACHIEVEMENTS

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

- Received and complied departmental monthly reports and prepared presentation slides.
- Developed and reviewed data collection tools for activities.
- Updated the online database with WASH project data and ensured it was uploaded to the website.
- Collaborated with Program Officers to review and edit grants report for submission.
- Prepared a comprehensive monthly work plan outlining MERL activities for August
- Facilitated a training session on scientific paper writing for Program Officers.
- Participated in a proposal training session with the Chief of Staff.
- Accompanied the Health team for a focus group discussion at Rabuor Health Centre.
- Conducted data collection at Ogenya and Nyamware for the TS4F Project. I also compiled and submitted TS4F files (recorded audios and reports).
- Designed a Google Form and collected participant information and feedback during the “Youth Skills Day” training.
- Attended Youth Skills Day training.

PICTORIALS



Inspiring engagement session with student leaders at Kobura Secondary School focused on groundwater protection and sustainable water practices.



A collaborative meeting organized by Kisumu County and supported by KEMRI–Vijana Shamba Maisha.



A dialogue with youth representatives from different villages around Ogenya, joined by our Executive Director and Program Officers.



World Youth Skills Day 2025: A one-day training under the theme: Youth Empowerment through AI and Digital Skills.



A training session focused on making various liquid detergents a small yet powerful step in equipping young mothers with hands-on, income-generating skills.



A powerful and holistic session at Ogenya Teen Mums Center, we explored three key pillars of empowerment: Menstrual Health, Mental Health, & Creative Arts



A Focused Group Discussion (FGD) at Rabuor Sub County Hospital as part of a comprehensive Needs Assessment on Emergency Obstetrics and Newborn Care.



The Climate Action and WASH Departments joint session that empowered Water User Committees (WUCs) in Lela through a dynamic training and capacity-building session.