

## **PLATFORM FOR THE NEEDY AND KABAROLE DISTRICT LOCAL GOVERNMENT.**

**Malaria Prevention Awareness in Kabahango TC in Buheesi Town council, Rubona TC, Kibiito Town Council and Busiita and Rubona Primary Schools, Karambi and Nyansozi primary schools in North Division Fort Portal Tourism City.**

**Date: 9th/03/2025**

### **ACTIVITY REPORT ON:**

### **IN SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY MALARIA PREVENTION AWARENESS CAMPAIGN (MPAC)**



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Approved by: Ainganiza Stephen Executive Director.....Date: 09 /03/ 2025

### **Overview**

PLAFTOFROM for the NEEDY (PLANE) in partnership with Kabarole District local Government are supporting malaria prevention awareness in primary schools and communities in Kabarole , Fort Potal tourism city Bunyangabu districts in

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various sub counties. These efforts arose from taking note of the rampant misuse of the recently distributed malaria nets by the government. Many children have not only suffered from malaria but their school performance has been equally affected due to high rate of absenteeism. Disease burden due to malaria is high among the school going pupils due to insufficient information about malaria and lack of proper use of mosquito treated nets.

PLANE, sought to intervene in malaria prevention and awareness creation through targeting school pupils since they are able to convey information to their guardians and parents. To ensure that there is effective information delivery, PLANE also targets parents and guardian in their respective communities with mosquito nets use and malaria prevention messages. Pupils have been often affected by malaria scourge, sensitizing them would support reduction of malaria cases through use of recently distributed mosquito treated nets.

The communities that were targeted are in Kabahango TC in Buheesi Town council, Rubona TC, Kibiito Town Council and Busiita and Rubona Primary Schools, Karambi and Nyansozi primary schools in North Division Fort Portal Tourism City.

PLANE sought to use drama awareness due to its effectiveness to drawing the attention of the learners, conveying mind sticking messages and being more entertaining.

Malaria Prevention awareness through drama outreaches was conducted Kaboyo Primary School which is located in Mugusu Sub County Kabarole District and those trading centers mentioned above.

Mobilization was through use of radio announcements, use of community leaders and making of phone calls to school head teachers or teachers of those respective places where the activities were to be conducted.

PLANE through its drama arm called BAHEMUKA was able to conduct drama sessions to create more awareness about malaria prevention and use of Insecticide Treated Nets (ITNs) in the above schools and communities. In school pupils and teachers were given the opportunity to ask questions, share lessons learnt from the drama, make submissions or presentation with regard to malaria prevention.

Apart from drama activities, PLANE also uses placards with key malaria messages to disseminate to the public where drama is conducted.

### **Summary of Achievements**

1. Three drama sessions were organized one (5) in schools and two (2) in communities and all were conducted as planned.

2. Conducted radio announcements to mobilize the community members.
3. Conducted 05 (five) school talk on malaria where key messages were disseminated using placards.
4. Community members and teachers alike reacted responded to the drama message and share their experiences.

### **DETAILED ACHIEVEMENTS OVER THE REPORTING PERIOD**

PLANE sought to use drama as a strategy in creating awareness about malaria prevention. The essence of using drama underpins in the fact that it's entertaining, educative and delivers mind sticking messages to the audience.

Three (3) sites were identified where drama was conducted and the drama group made presentations in all the identified sites.

### **BAHEMUKA drama group presenting a play on Malaria Prevention and Awareness In Rubona Trading Centre.**



**Inset:** BAHEMUKA drama group on how malaria infections can cause community unrest due myths surrounding its transmissions, symptoms and management. Treatment under specialized medical professional ought to be sought than seeking traditional Doctors

To ensure that more people are mobilized, more radio announcements had to be run on VoT FM.

A public-address system was hired for use during all the sensitization sessions. At some point, Health workers were involved to create more awareness on

malaria prevention and also enable them respond to issues that emanate from their respective areas of jurisdiction.

The reason for ensuring effective mobilization was as a result of the already reported misuse of the recently distributed mosquito nets by the community member.



Some of the nets being used to shade seedlings in Kabahango. This hampers effective malaria control efforts in communities



Bahemuka Drama group point up a mosquito net to show good practice in hanging up the nets and their



Bahemuka Drama group creating awareness on malaria prevention and effective use of mosquito nets.

**(i) Conduct sensitization and education campaigns.**



**Inset:**  
Kugonza a Pupil of Karambi Primary School reading Key Malaria Messages as one of PLANE staff does the translation and explanation into the local language for further clarity about the messages

**(ii) Demonstrating knowledge on good practices.**



Bahemuka Drama group demonstrating how the poor treatment seeking behaviors to malaria affect children and their families. They further exposed how witch doctors can treat malaria condition among affected patients

### **(iii) Networking and Partnerships**

PLANE developed partnerships with Kabarole District Local Government (DHEs office) to support malaria prevention awareness that were critical in providing critical information and other resources. It also developed a partnership to PACE and Global Giving donors that provided logistical support for this program.

### **(iv) Challenges from communities and schools.**

1. Community expressed the fact that they lack insufficient knowledge about mosquito nets use.
2. The community members requested PLATFORM for the needy to support them with awareness on domestic violence, reproductive health, Maternal Health and HIV. This arouse to increasing cases of HIV and domestic violence in communities.
3. Schools expressed interest in accessing mosquito nets for continued demonstration of usage of the mosquito nets.

### **(v) Constraints of PLANE.**

1. Whether changes affecting drama performance in communities where the drama team have to perform in a muddy environment.
2. Changes in the weather also mobility of the sensitization team due to poor road terrain.
3. Insufficient funds to meet other operational and program management costs.

### **(vi) Lessons learnt**

Drama plays a big role in educating pupils and community members with regard to malaria issues and other aspects. It's a better approach since its crow pulling and attracting the participation of all genders and different age groups.

It was also observed that PLANE with partners should engage more with the communities where guardians and parents are found since they play a critical

role in supporting pupils use and access to mosquito treated nets.



Bahemuka demonstrating sale of nets affects families which sale nets and in the end it results in domestic violence among families and accusations of witch craft among family or community members especially where the community has poor understanding of issues concerning malaria

### (vii) **Conclusion**

By and Large there is need for community awareness on Malaria Prevention and other health aspects in communities. The community members are very receptive to Bahemuka Drama. It's cost effective and it's an ideal for health awareness interventions in communities.