

MASAKA RELIEF FOUNDATION (MRF)

Annual Report 2022 and Annual Performance Plan 2023



Facilitating Radical Change in the Ugandan Social, Health and Education Systems

Report Overview

2022 has been a unique year for Masaka Relief Foundation (MRF), The foundation has registered numerous success as well as exposed to various implementation bottlenecks. At the beginning of the year, we continued our activities built on strong foundations registered in 2021. This Annual Performance Report presents a description of various activities conducted in 2022, projects MRF plans for FY 2023 and financial mobilization and management strategy.

Message from the Executive Director/Founder

Dear Owners & Stakeholders,

As I look at the growth of Masaka Relief Foundation (MRF) since our inception in 2020, I am extremely proud of what we have been able to achieve. I am even more excited about our outlook for an equally promising future. We have successfully managed full operation in Greater Masaka. We have transitioned from managing critical housing issues to gathering the support of our community and establishing strategies to end social injustices and promote community wellbeing of our communities.

It is satisfying to know that we have the support of our local government, our staff, our friends and our community in acquiring the necessary resources to reach our goals. This collective support enables us to continue to launch new strategies and establish new partnerships. As a result, we are able to ensure that families in our communities have a safe and stable water supply, good quality education among others.

MRF cherishes the proper growth and development of children and empowers youth with knowledge and skills to become responsible adults and to realize their life goals and passionate about mothers of child bearing age.

MRF has made and continues to make tremendous contribution towards the Uganda's children, youth and economically supporting families to achieve the desired status, legally supporting children and youth realize social and legal justice as well as emphasizing the right to Health, Education, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene. This is attested by a cross-section of stakeholders across the board including Central and Local governments, other Civil Society Organisations, the community, and development partners.

MRF's biggest legacy in 2022 is probably the impact it has had on children, their mothers, youth and communities empowered to achieving social justice and peace within households and among the immediate neighbors.

As MRF performs her services, she is continuously guided by her Vision, Mission and core values all of which are an inspiration to not only focus on her cause but also providing leading example of stewardship and accountability to her own stakeholders.

MRF will continue to fulfill her mandate as we progress into the New year, looking forward to achieving all planned activities. We look forward to working with you come 2023.

Wish you well as we extend assistance and relief everywhere.



Madrine Namayengo
Executive Director.

Introduction

Masaka Relief Foundation (MRF), believes that children's rights, social and economic empowerment for adolescents and youth, community inclusion in development and empowerment programs should be key as a mean to overall national development, and that such programs must be matched by quality and equity.



Our Vision

We envision a world where children, youths, and communities are empowered to live sustainable lives.



Our Mission

Working together to connect people in the fight against poverty, investing in the lives of children, adolescents and youth, build the healthy environments they need to thrive, and empower them to create lasting change in their own lives and communities.



Our Values

Social justice, Equity, Equality, Integrity and Professionalism

Goal

To assist government and private actors in bridging the social and economic empowerment gap prevailing among vulnerable children, adolescents and youth.

Specific objectives

- ❖ To protect and advocate for children's rights in Uganda.
- ❖ To provide adolescent sexual and reproductive health (ASRH) information and services to in- and out-of-school youth in prevention of teenage pregnancies, HIV and other STDs.
- ❖ To provide vocational skills training activities to children, adolescents and youth out of school as mean to self-independence.
- ❖ To re-integrate child mothers into formal and informal education systems.
- ❖ To empower households for vulnerable children as a mean to sustainable development of communities.
- ❖ To provide seminars and workshops guiding all people in the community to fight for the children rights.
- ❖ To construct safe homes for abandoned children in the country in order to help them live decent and meaningful lives.
- ❖ To discover and develop the talents of children, adolescents and youth to become productive citizens of the nation.
- ❖ To do such all other lawful things as may be incidental or conducive to the promotion or carrying out of the activities of the organization.
- ❖ To formulate partnerships with all the actors to improve life of children, adolescents and youth and their communities.

MRF implements its activities basing on following thematic areas namely:

- a.** Child protection.
- b.** Livelihoods Support.
- c.** Advocacy.
- d.** Environmental Protection and conservation.
- e.** Emergency and relief.
- f.** Reproductive Health.
- g.** Education.
- h.** WASH (Water Sanitation and Hygiene)

Key Activities and Projects Carried Out in 2022



Food relief. The COVID-19 pandemic continued to cause uncertainty to Uganda's food security among underprivileged communities, MRF in 2022 has extended food aid to various underprivileged households in communities to enable them survive.



Uganda recently underwent and is still undergoing a difficult moment of a Covid-19 lockdown, due to its deadlier second wave. Most people in Uganda are no longer working because of loss. In fact, the most affected people are children and their parents from very poor backgrounds who normally get their daily bread from their daily earnings. **“As MRF we couldn’t remain relaxed and comfortable as we witnessed many people suffering due to hunger.” We thank all friends who extended financial support to ensure that food aid reach underprivileged communities.**

Kisuuna Water Tank provision: MRF provided tanks to under privileged households in Kisuuna to support farming and increase household income



MRF has been implementing SAFE WATER FOR DRINKING, LIVESTOCK AND HOUSEHOLD project, aiming at enabling the people of Kisuuna Community get access to safe and clean water for drinking, livestock and household needs to combat water borne diseases that are attached to unsafe water sources, realize a practical solution to water shortage in Kisuuna village, create more time for child care and farming which was otherwise be used for fetching water from traditional wells which are distant from the peoples' homesteads as well as sensitize the community on environmental management and maintaining the harvesting system clean. The project has been implemented in South Western Buganda/Masaka Municipality – Katwe Butego division, Kisuuna Village.

More households that received water tanks (pictorial)



- **Currently 20** households in Kisuuna now have access to safe and clean water for drinking, livestock and household needs this has enabled them combat water borne diseases that are attached to unsafe water sources.
- **Over 20** water tanks for 10,000 liters capacity have been set up in the village greatly reducing on water shortage challenges.
- **60%** of young children in Kisuuna can now access good parenting, since most parent do not need to abandon them for long hours or days in search for water and this in the long run will enable these young children grow into responsible and well empowered members of the village.
- **Farming has been improved** among the people of Kisuuna, over **35** households have now joined farming, **35** households testifying having improved their farming outputs for the last farming season due to sufficient water to water the gardens even when its dry season.



More beneficiaries of the Kisuuna Tank project





More beneficiaries of the Kisuuna Tank project



MRF- Kisuuna water tank project sustainability plan: The project has been built on community existing structures and leadership; this has been built through strengthening their capacities in managing and handling water tanks, all beneficiaries of this project are permanent residences of the Kisuuna and therefore follow up by MRF will be ease and routinely done.

MRF among the 3-project staff hired a water technician who is well knowledgeable with water systems and this will be instrumental and ensuring follow up to the beneficiaries

Construction of a community borehole in Masaka City.



MRF- through friends and partners have constructed a community borehole in Kisuuna.

The borehole was launched and in use by the community members.

This will support boost the economic levels of the various households, promote sanitation and hygiene



Some of the pictorial highlights at the launch of the community borehole



Community engagement:

With the rise in deepening and expanding community engagement, the importance of community engagement has become pivotal for well-functioning and implementation of community programs. MRF believes that constructive relationships between communities and the institutions of government make community engagement not only desirable, but necessary and viable as it is likely to lead to more equitable, sustainable public decisions and improve the live ability of local communities. This is why community engagement is one of the activities MRF undertakes before, in progress and at the end of any project i.e. MRF engages community in designing strategies for overall empowerment and always ensure communities are the forefront of their own development.



MRF engages community



Community stakeholders pose for a group photo after a community engagement meeting

Annual performance plan 2023:

Administration plans for FY 2023:

- a. MRF in FY shall intensify its resource mobilization strategy as a mean to implement the planned activities under various thematic areas.
- b. MRF shall initiate a construction drive for its head offices that shall include vocational skills training center for vulnerable girls, young women and youths.
- c. MRF shall design its five-year strategic plan.
- d. Finalize its employee hand book and other related organization policies.
- e. Design and launch its website and other social media platforms.
- f. Constitute and launch a governing board.
- g. Sign memorandum of understanding with other districts within greater Masaka region.
- h. Continue to write project proposals to various donors/funders.

MRF in FY 2023 shall focus at implementation of activities under the following thematic areas:

- a. **Child protection:** Formation and training of child protection committees, community dialogue meetings, and support to community led initiatives on child protection, translation of key legal and policy documents into local languages, data collection on violation of children's rights and supporting formal education for Orphans and Vulnerable Children in greater Masaka
- b. **Livelihoods Support:** Provision of sustainable and profitable means of livelihoods, training of Income Generating Activities and financial management, support to Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVCs'), adolescent girls and young women to attain vocational skills and provision of basic start up tool kits to beneficiaries.
- c. **Advocacy:** Is a strategy through which MRF addresses cross cutting issues that arise from the above core programs messages are generated through Parents Support Groups and Youth Support Groups meetings
- d. **Environmental Protection and conservation:** Training of Youth Support Groups, formation of Environmental Protection and Conservation Clubs in schools, establishing tree nursery which acts as a demonstration site and supplies tree seedlings to the community. MRF will open a tree demonstration garden in 2022 which will be used as a learning center for tree growers, students and environmentalists.
- e. **Emergency and relief:** Provision of food aid, training in food security and agricultural rehabilitation to disadvantaged community groups.
- f. **Reproductive Health:** This is done through: Behavioral Change Communication (BCC), awareness and sensitization, guidance and counseling, distribution of Information Education and Communication materials, HIV/AIDS Counseling and Testing and community outreach and formation of school peer health clubs.
- g. **Education:** This is a cross-cutting activity in all the programmes of MRF. It is an integrated activity. MRF is supporting 10 orphans and vulnerable children by provision of scholastic materials, school fees and basic materials. We are getting a very big challenge in terms of funding considering the level of poverty in communities. There are many OVCs that need support but the financial capacity of MRF cannot support beyond the 10 beneficiaries for now.
- h. **WASH (Water Sanitation and Hygiene):** MRF Promote community based handwashing through a variety of media and provision of water tanks on top of educating communities on proper water management, work directly with schools and health care facilities to improve access to basic water, sanitation and handwashing

facilities and to establish protocols for preventing and controlling infections, we shall support menstrual health and hygiene in schools by advocating and constructing (dependent on available resources) private, secure sanitation and washing facilities as well as menstrual pad disposal facilities.

We therefore appeal to you to become our donor/development partner and contribute towards this noble cause.

Looking forward to working with you this year 2023 and other years to come as we reach out to empower communities in a bid to fulfil our motto of “Considering assistance and relief everywhere”.