



**SOLIDARITY FOR HER EDUCATION AND  
EMPOWERMENT ORGANISATION**

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#### A. PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT INFORMATION:

REPORT NAME: Progress Report on the Implementation of HRDF Project in Magu District, Tanzania
PROJECT NAME: Her Right to Decide for Her Future – HRDF Project
PROJECT DURATION: 12 months, running from January 1 to December 31, 2024
PROJECT REPORT TIME COVERAGE: Six months, From January 1 to June 30, 2024
PROJECT IMPLEMENTED BY: <a href="#">Solidarity for Her Education and Empowerment Organisation – SHEEO</a>
PROJECT FUNDED BY: <a href="#">Population Connection – PC</a>
DATE OF REPORT PUBLICATION/SHARING: August 26, 2024

#### B. PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:



This report aims to inform our donors, supporters and stakeholders on the progress and results achieved by the HRDF Project staff and volunteers in the implementation period running from **January 1 to June 30, 2024**.

HRDF project strives to create a safe community, valuing and supporting girls' right to decide on their bodies, life and future without coercion and ultimately to narrow rates of teen pregnancies and child marriages amongst adolescents' girls in rural public secondary schools in Magu district, Mwanza region in Tanzania by utilizing a multi-sectors sensitization for their involvement and holistic approaches to equip them with sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) knowledge,

information and mobilizing them to take lead in fighting for their autonomy, dignity and respect to create positive changes in their lives and communities in future.

In this reporting time, "Her Right to Decide for Her Future – HRDF Project" impacted directly **600 adolescent girls and 200 boys** studying in 4 public secondary schools namely Lumve, Bukandwe, Kiswaga and Isendelo located at Bukandwe, Bujora and Bujashi wards and **20 High level political leaders and Government officials** in Magu district to sensitize them and seek their involvement in this project.

During this reporting time, the activities implemented comprised: to introduce the project and sensitize the Highest Level Local Government officials about the project and its implementation process; to conduct 16 mentorship and workshop meetings to 800 identified girls and boys referred as HRDF Peer advocates in the 4 identified public secondary schools for capacity building on sexual and reproductive health rights and girls' bodily autonomy; to organize SRHR advocacy campaigns through 160 H.R.D.F Peer Advocates Leaders meetings in 4 rural public secondary schools and; Monitoring, evaluation, learning and reporting.

#### C. PROJECT HEALTH OVERVIEW:

The HDRF Staffs, Volunteers and beneficiaries address their sincere appreciation and thanks to **Population Connection** for their continued impactful support to this project for the second year now. We also thank **Tanzamu Company Limited** for contributing to this project implementation budget. We salute the endless support of SHEEO NGO members towards this project.





Before starting the implementation of this project; the project beneficiaries, staffs and volunteers did consultative meetings in January 2024 to adjust the activities of the project in line with the funds available as we did not succeed to raise the US \$27,794.00 which were the initial budget of the project for the year 2024. Therefore, the Population Connection supported us with US \$10,000.00, the members of SHEEO NGO contributed US \$2,779.00 and Tanzamu Limited Company made a donation of US \$1,106 to this project.

The HRDF Project for this year 2024 resolved mainly to focus and implement the following activities:

Activity 1	Introduce the project and sensitize the Highest Level Local government officials about the project and its implementation processes aiming to seek their involvement in this project for its successes;
Activity 2	To organize 16 mentorship and workshop meetings to 600 identified girls and 200 boys peer advocates in the 4 identified public secondary schools for capacity building on SRHR, girls' bodily autonomy and gender-equality;
Activity 3	To strengthen activities of the 6 HRDF Project peer advocates clubs created in 3 schools reached by the project in the year 2023 and create 2 new HRDF Project peer advocate clubs in 1 public secondary school in the year 2024 and accompany all the clubs to be fully functional and sustainable;
Activity 4	Implementation of advocacy campaigns meetings twice a month making a total of 40 advocacy meetings on SRHR, girls' bodily autonomy and gender-equality by the empowered 160 HRDF Peer advocates Leaders to reach 2,240 adolescents girls and boys in 4 public secondary schools;
Activity 5	Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning and Reporting.

Finally, HRDF Project staffs and volunteers ascertain that the project is on the right track; it has not faced any delay in its implementation plan and, will meet desired results as per its revised implementation plan.

#### D. PROJECT BENEFICIARIES:

- This project will benefit directly 2,400 adolescents' public secondary schools students in Magu district among them 1400 girls and 1000 boys aged between 13 to 18 years old;
- The indirect beneficiaries of this project are hundreds of students, parents/guardians, teachers and different stakeholders who will be informed about this project through its direct beneficiaries and the Project Implementation Team.



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#### E. PROJECT OVERALL GOAL:

Scaling-up the HRDF project interventions to reach 2,400 adolescent girls and boys in 4 public secondary schools in 4 wards in Magu district to advance and start advocacy initiatives on sexual and reproductive health and rights, girls' bodily autonomy and fighting gender-based violence in order to help adolescents' girls to complete successfully their secondary education cycle and exercise their SRHR and bodily autonomy without challenges.

#### F. PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

**Objective 1:** To build and strengthen capacities of 600 adolescents' girls and 200 boys through 16 mentorship meetings and workshops in 4 public secondary schools on girls' bodily autonomy, sexual and reproductive health and rights and gender-equality by December 2024;



**Objective 2:** To sensitize and mobilize the empowered 160 adolescents girls and boys who are HRDF Peer Advocates Leaders in 4 public secondary schools to plan, implement and strengthen advocacy initiatives through 40 advocacy meetings to reach 2,240 more adolescents boys and girls students in their schools in order to promote and advance girls' bodily autonomy, sexual and reproductive health and rights, gender-equality and challenge the patriarchal systems and beliefs by December 2024.

#### G. PROJECT PROGRESS STATUS FOR THIS SPECIFIC REPORTING TIME (JANUARY 1 TO JUNE 30, 2024):

In this reporting time, the HRDF Project main focus was working with 800 adolescents' girls and boys who are HRDF Peer advocates studying in 4 public secondary schools found in Bukandwe, Bujora and Bujashi wards in Sanjo division, Magu district to empower and equip them with necessary skills and knowledge so that they may become able to implement advocacy activities in their respective schools on promoting and advancing girls' bodily autonomy concept, sexual and reproductive health and rights and gender-equality. The objective one stated above was successfully



completed and the activities in this reporting time aimed at accomplishing that objective. Thus, the project is progressing well.

Kindly, we invite you to take a look on what we achieved during this reporting time and its outcomes:

ACTIVITY PLANNED AND ACCOMPLISHED	
<b>Activity 1</b>	To introduce the project and sensitize the Highest Level Local government officials about the project and its implementation processes
<p><b>OUTCOMES:</b> In <b>January 2024</b>, the Executive Director and the Projects Team Leader of SHEEO NGO, travelled to Magu town, the Headquarters of Magu district to introduce the project. <b>As the result</b>, the High Political Leaders appreciated once again the renew of contract of this project by the <b>Population Connection</b> for implementing this project in Magu district and confirmed to continue collaborating with the project team as they did in the year 2023. They took also time to explain about what they achieved as Local Government Authorities in promoting SRHR, Women's rights, Girls' education and Gender-equality.</p>	
<b>Activity 2</b>	To conduct 16 mentorship and workshop meetings to 600 identified peer advocates girls and 200 boys in the 4 identified public secondary schools for capacity building on sexual and reproductive health rights and girls' bodily autonomy
<p><b>OUTCOMES:</b> <b>From February up to May 2024</b>, we conducted in 4 public secondary schools where the project is implemented 16 mentorship meetings and workshop sessions for capacity-building on SRHR, girls' bodily autonomy and gender-equality whereby <b>600 adolescents' girls and 200 adolescents' boys</b> capacities were built and were sensitized to initiate advocacy activities in their respective schools to change the situation of things. Through observations of HRDF Project's volunteers in these schools, they reported that in these six months of project implementation there is an increase of SRHR-related knowledge and behavior change among adolescents' girls and boys. It was recorded that 80% of the reached adolescents girls and boys in these schools could name at least 5 sexual and reproductive rights, authorized places where they can access sexual and reproductive health services and; 80% have shown confidence and readiness to organize and implement advocacy activities under HRDF Project in their schools.</p>	
<b>Activity 3</b>	To strengthen activities of the 6 HRDF Project peer advocates clubs created in 3 schools reached by the project in the year 2023 and create 2 new HRDF Project peer advocate clubs in 1 public secondary school in the year 2024 and accompany all the clubs to be fully functional and sustainable;
<p><b>OUTCOMES:</b> In <b>April and May 2024</b>, we were able to build capacities of six peer advocates clubs which were formed in 2023, created one more club in the new school added to the project this year 2024 and then making in total 8 HRDF Peer Advocates clubs in 4 partner schools.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 160 HRDF Peer advocates Leaders were impacted through the 8 clubs meetings and these peer advocates leaders are working tirelessly to implement the SRHR advocacy activities to reach <b>2,240</b> students in these <b>4</b> schools;</li> <li>▪ 160 students empowered and nominated as HRDF Peer Advocates Leaders and the HRDF Volunteers receive full time support from HRDF Project staff as accompaniment in their duties during design and implementation of their advocacy activities in their schools.</li> </ul>	
<b>Activity 4</b>	Reporting, Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning: The HRDF Project staff and volunteers are carrying this activity and it has made the project to move out well and on track until today.

#### H. PROJECT TIMELINE AND MILESTONES:

The project is still moving on well and the implementation of the remained activities and review of the implemented activities is going on since July 2024 as planned and everything is expected to move well as planned up to December, 2024.

#### I. CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED:

Out of many challenges we faced, this one was the greatest one. We thank our staffs and volunteers for being positive in tackling this challenge.

<b>Challenge faced:</b>
In some schools, parents/guardians have instructed their children not to attend HRDF Project activities in fear that what is implemented is against their traditions and culture and is a western tradition;
<b>How the project handled the encountered challenge:</b>
The HRDF staffs and volunteers in those specific schools met with the Schools' Committees and talked with them on



the project and then invited parents/guardians to attend meeting where they were sensitized on HRDF Project activities, they asked questions and were answered and the project is moving on well. The HRDF staff and volunteers have taken the step to put in their plan exchanging ideas on the opinion of parents/guardian on the project frequently.

#### J. PROJECT ACTUAL FINANCIAL STATUS AS AT THIS TIME OF REPORTING:

The actual budget for this project for this year is US \$13,885.00 only after revising its initial budget.

Up to this time of reporting, US \$7,385.00 has already been invested in this project and the remaining balance is US \$6,500.00 only which is allocated for the continued activities as per project calendar.

The funds have been allocated mainly to implement the above activities accomplished already and, responding to fixed and direct daily project running cost to facilitate the effective implementation of the project in accordance with its calendar.

#### K. WHAT ARE HRDF BENEFICIARIES AND STAKEHOLDERS SAYING?

We would like to share with you few quotes from some of HRDF beneficiaries when they expressed their thoughts on this project:

*"To know my sexual rights, to have a chance to decide on my life and future and being mentored on how the education is important to me, my family and community make me happy to attend HRDF Project clubs meetings in my school as My mind is opening up and I am confident to defend my dignity "* Said Neema Joseph Mafwele, a student adolescent girl beneficiary of HRDF Project during HRDF Peer Advocates mentorship meeting held at Lumve Secondary School.



*"I am grateful for this project to start at our school. We thank those who supported HRDF Project and made it possible for the activities to start in our school after a long time of request by the School committee. This project is the answer to many problems we face and I believe early pregnancies will end in our school."* Said Josphe Mashini, Students' Leader and beneficiary of HRDF Project at Isendelo Secondary School.



*"In 2020 my sister dropped out of school due to early pregnancy and failed to live her dreams. I wish HRDF project could exist by that time. Personally, I am grateful to be a beneficiary of this project and I promise to be active advocate for girls' bodily autonomy and sexual and reproductive health and rights in my family, school and community"* Said Elisha John, Peer Advocate Leader at Bukandwe Secondary School .

#### L. ACTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:



The project is determined to strengthen stakeholders' efforts and accompany the adolescents' girls' and boys' beneficiaries of this project to advocate for their SRHR, fighting gender-based violence and promote girls' education in public secondary schools and communities in Magu district, Mwanza



region in Tanzania.

We would like to anticipate our request to **Population Connection**, as our current donor and, to any other interested partner/donor to help us extending this project in the year 2025 in order to respond to the pressing demand of adolescents' girls and boys expressing their need to have this project in their schools while sustaining the activities in the schools where this project has already reached.

Thank you for your time invested in reading our report and we hope you will join us to make a difference!



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