The Role of Governments, Academic Institutions, and Libraries in the Attainment of Sustainable Development Goals 2&3 in African Countries

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Outline

- Background of UN Sustainable Development Agendas
- SDGs 2 & 3
- Role of Libraries in the implementation of SDGs 2&3
- Challenges faced by libraries
- Individual projects - SDGs 2&3

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Background - (From MDGs to SDGs)

- The Millennium Declaration and the Millennium Development Goals (SDGs) adopted by the UN General Assembly in September, 2010 as endorsed by 189 countries at that time came to an end in 2015. The MDGs hoped to achieve 8 measurable development goals covering poverty and hunger, universal primary education, good health and other areas.

- Africa made commendable progress towards several of the targets including in primary school enrolment, gender equality and tackling, incidence of malaria and HIV/AIDS prevalence.

- However, the persisting challenges in Africa still remains poverty and food security, high rates of child and maternal mortality, and recurring conflicts in some countries. (OSAA, 2015).

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The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

SDG 2- *end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture.*

- agriculture, forestry and fisheries can provide nutritious food for all and generate decent incomes, while supporting people-centered rural development and protecting the environment.
- Climate change is putting even more pressure on the resources we depend on, increasing risks associated with disasters, such as droughts and floods.
- Investments in agriculture are crucial to increasing the capacity for agricultural productivity and sustainable food production systems are necessary to help alleviate the perils of hunger.

SDG 3- *ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages*

- more than five million children still die before their fifth birthday each year.
- the proportion of mothers that do not survive childbirth compared to those who do – in developing regions is still 14 times higher than in the developed regions.
- Children born into poverty are almost twice as likely to die before the age of five as those from wealthier families.

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Role of Libraries in the implementation of the SDGs

Challenges faced by libraries

- Policy – country, institution, libraries
- Finance
- Capacity building
- Financial prudence and accountability
- Political stability

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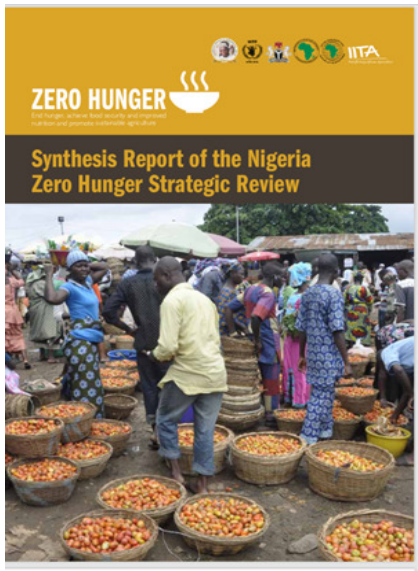
SDG 2 - Zero Hunger in Nigeria

1. Implementation of plans to establish home-grown school feeding programs across all 36 States of the Federation;
2. Commencement of the Nigerian National Social Investment Program e.g. N-Power, YouWIN etc.
3. Major agribusiness interventions like the Anchor Borrowers Programme, TraderMoni etc.



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SDG 3: Development and Implementation of *RHIMS* for Maternal-Infant Health Literacy of Rural Women in Niger State

- **Motivation** – IFLA guidelines for libraries on SDGs, UN SDG 3 especially targets 1,2,3,4, and 7.
- **Competencies and Skills** – my academic community, amalgamation of CPD training and materials.
- **Methodology**-
  - qualitative method using structured, translated questionnaire involving 200 purposively selected pregnant rural women from three rural communities namely: Gidan Mangaro, Gidan Kwano and Garatu;
  - 32 librarians from the **Niger State Public Library and the National Library of Nigeria, State Chapter**;
  - 3 community health workers from the **Niger State Primary Healthcare Development Agency;** over two years from 2016 till mid 2018.

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Findings

Identified health information needs:

1. Delayed Labor
2. Delivery
3. Diseases and Control
4. Hygiene
5. Infant Deformity
6. Infant Death (SIDS)
7. Medication
8. Miscarriages
9. Postnatal Care
10. Pregnancy Care

Preferred format of information

- Video
- Drama
- Talk show

Preferred Language

- Gbagyi and Hausa

Preferred timing and Strategy

- Antenatal days
- Outreach service days
- Husbands and the village heads.

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RHIMS - The Development

Rural Health Information Management Systems (RHIMS) is an information management system that comprise of open access, evidence-based articles, videos, and animations on the **ten previously identified areas of health information needs of pregnant rural women in Niger State, Nigeria.**

Boolean operators and structured queries were used to retrieve relevant information from open access repositories such as the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ), Omics Online, PubMed, and Google Scholar. Drama events, talk shows and animated series from YouTube.

Folder and filing system was used to arrange the retrieved information resources for easy management and sharing.

The content of the *RHIMS* was shared with community healthcare workers and librarians to inform and enrich their outreach services to pregnant women in rural areas

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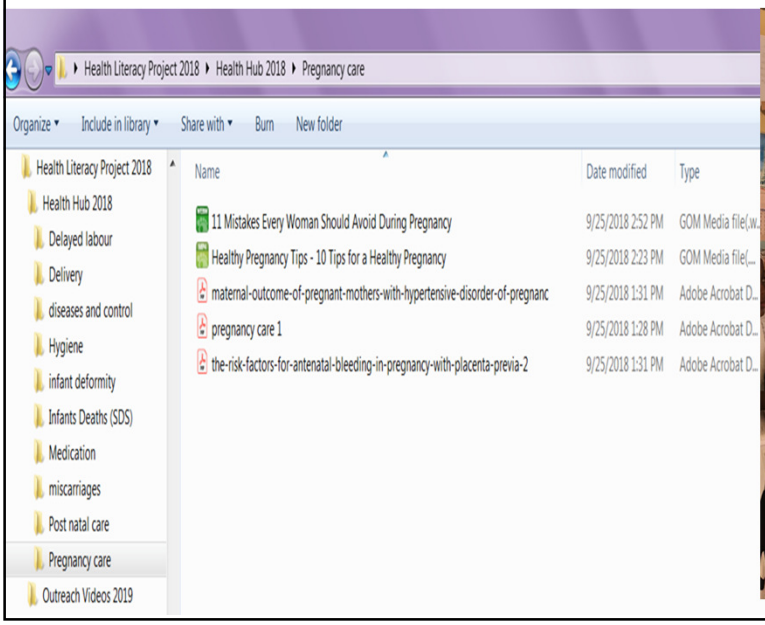
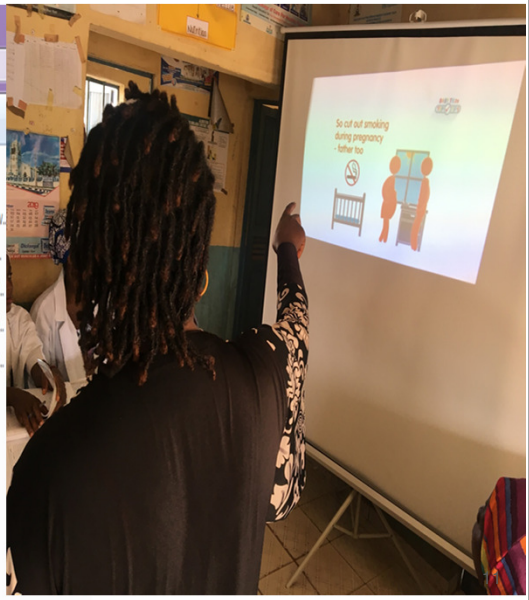
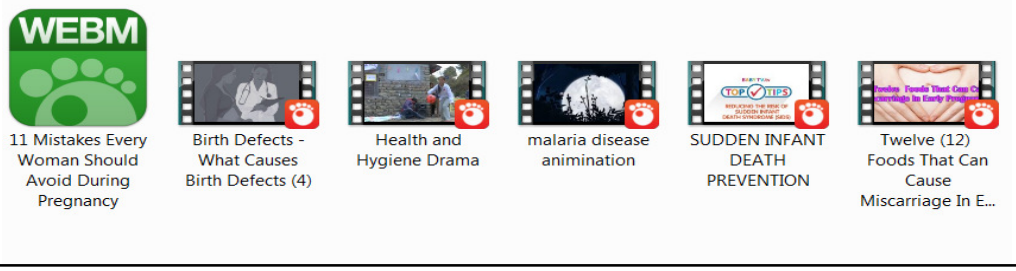
The RHIMS





The Sudden Infant Death Syndrome



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Implementation through Collaboration

State Public Library

State Primary Healthcare Development Agency

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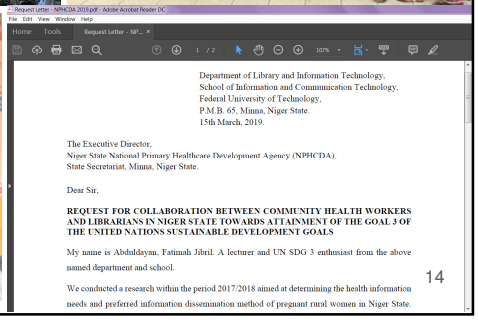
Outreach Service & its Impact so far…



Department of Library and Information Technology,
School of Information and Communication Technology,
Federal University of Technology,
P.M.B. 65, Minna, Niger State.
15th March, 2019.

The Executive Director,
Niger State National Primary Healthcare Development Agency (NPHCDA),
State Secretariat, Minna, Niger State.

Dear Sir,

REQUEST FOR COLLABORATION BETWEEN COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS AND LIBRARIANS IN NIGER STATE TOWARDS ATTAINMENT OF THE GOAL 3 OF THE UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

My name is Abdulkayan, Fatimah Jibril. A lecturer and UN SDG 3 enthusiast from the above named department and school.

We conducted a research within the period 2017/2018 aimed at determining the health information needs and preferred information dissemination method of pregnant rural women in Niger State.

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What Next?

- Prepare a proposal/presentation that will clearly show aspects of support needed from the state healthcare development agency.
- Design an implementable training package for community healthcare workers and librarians on research skills, information search skills, information management and delivery strategies.
- Expand my outreach network by forming *HealthforAll* group within the university community that will continue with the rural outreach services within Niger State and Nigeria at large.

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The Role of Libraries in the attainment of Sustainment Development Goal Agenda of Health for all by year 2030 in Nigeria

Olubanke Bankole
Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Ekiti State, Nigeria.

1

Introduction

The aim of Sustainable Development Goal 3 – Ensuring healthy lives and promoting well being for all at all ages.

The Nigerian government was a signatory to the MDGS and several bold steps in form of policies and actions were taken, this include : creation of Revised National Health Policy, that highlighted the objectives of the health care delivery system (FMOH, 2004 cited in NPC, 2014). the Midwives Service Scheme (MSS); the systematic PHC infrastructure upgrades and the National Health Bill (National Health Bill, 2014).

Despite these progressive steps, it was widely believed that many developing nations including Nigeria failed to live up to expectation in meeting up with the targets

For instance, the children under 5 years with fever that were given the right drugs was 32.7%, child death in Nigeria accounted for 14% of world total and that 30% of malaria cases and deaths was in Nigeria in 2013 (NACA, 2014).

2

Introduction

- The sustainable development goal offers a great improvement on the MDG. In a bid to attain these global goals, the Nigerian president appointed a Senior Special Assistant to the President who is to provide leadership and guidance on SDG, the collaboration of the SDG with the National Youth Service Corp, so that graduating youths can champion the cause of SDG in their places of national assignment. In addition, several advocacy groups were instituted in achieving the post 2015 goals.

- With the SDG coming on board coming on board with more ambitious targets, its achievement by the year 2030 is going to pose more challenge to the Nigeria government. To avoid the pitfall of the MDGs , all hands must be on deck .

- Inadequate/lack of access to information has been one of the major constraints to knowledge-based health care in third world countries. Therefore, universal access to health information is key to attaining the health for all in SDGs.
  Objective of the paper - to discuss the role of libraries in the attainment of the United Nations SDG of attaining health for all by 2030.

3

Methodology

Search engines used Google, Databases such as HINARI, and relevant IFLA links .

- Boolean operators : SDGs AND Library role, Healthy Living AND Library.
- The scrutiny of articles retrieved was also done.

Role of Libraries in the Attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals of Health for all

Collection Development- Authoritative, timely, and information materials written in a simple language .
Purchase of ephemerals; newspapers carry announcement of opportunities of campaigns, immunizations and organizations that offer special health services

- Recommendation of books by librarians
- The integration of health related courses in the curricula-STDs , unwanted pregnancy, smoking, etc.
- Creation of awareness of the availability of such information in their libraries
  Teaching of health information literacy skills
- Engagement in health literacy initiatives, Locating credible information, Site licences or institutional subscription

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Teaching of health information literacy skills

TEEAL/AGORA Training –of- Trainers Workshop for selected Academic staff and Graduate students of Tertiary institutions in Ekiti State under the auspices of ITOCA and funded by Cornell University , ITOCA, South AFRICA , 25-27 April, 2016 at FUOYE

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Use of ICT to deliver health information

- Modern technologies could also be used to deliver health information electronically e. g distribution of DVD, power point
  Distribution of Digital video disks. At the community level where librarians gather people, audiovisual materials could be used

Through Presentations and talks

- Organize presentations- talks, debates, counselling and other forms of organized engagement on issues bothering on healthy living and diseases- My training informed the recommendation and facilitation of health talk session in a 3-day Training/Workshop for Academic staff of FUOYE on '' Pedagogy in Higher Education Service Delivery' from 19-21 April, 2017. The Chief Medical Director, FUOYE Health Centre ,Dr. Musibau delivered the lecture on 'Lecturers' Health, Life and Hapiness''.
- Health talk at Orientation programmes

Through the use of display media

- Some libraries currently use display media such as bulletin boards and posters to publicise and sensitise their clients on important health issues.

6

Partnership with other organisations working on health

- Partnership with stakeholders already involved in the production and dissemination of health information such as the NGOs, and Ministries of Health, booksellers, publishers, writers, universities for the delivery of health information services in a cost effective and sustainable basis.
- **Outreach :** Book mobile services, books, journals, slide shows and video shows.

Challenges faced by Librarians in the provision of health information

- Librarians are information disseminators not information producers
- The existing public libraries in Nigeria are few, and majority of them are found in urban centres.
- The library collections in Nigeria can only be used by the literates, thus creating the scenario of social exclusion.

Conclusion

- As we forge ahead in the implementation of the SDGs, it has become clear that Nigerian government and its development partners alone cannot shoulder the responsibility of ensuring the attainment of health for all by 2030.
- **Recommendation**

Training and retraining for librarians to be able to cope with the dissemination of health matters following best practices

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Thank you

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Achieving SDGs 2 & 3 in Ghana: The role of academic libraries in ensuring and promoting Zero Hunger and healthy sustainable life among the citizenry.

Setsoafia Afetsi Yao Humphrey-Ackumey
Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), Kumasi, Ghana

1

Motivation for Research

- Ghana's bid to achieve zero hunger (SDGs2) and health for all (SDG3) like most African countries is on a crossroad.
- Malnutrition among some Ghanaian communities (eg. Northern Region) is rife.
- **Health** care delivery system in Ghana has been struggling with **malaria,** infectious disease like cholera due to poor sanitation over the years. Lately, the situation has been worsened by increase in hypertension, diabetes, and cancer (Dadzie, Martin-Yeboah, & Tachie-Donkor, 2016). (**May be due to lifestyle changes)**
- To improve the Ghanaian situation, the GoG through MOH has adopted the **Regenerative Health Programme (RgHP)** (ie Shifting the emphasis from **cure** to **prevention**")
- Implementation of RgHP needs a multiple nested approach from all stakeholders.
- **the role** academic institutions (KNUST) and their libraries play in the achievement of food security and health for all in Ghana is relevant and revolves around its Core Mandate: **Teaching, Research and Service to the Community/Outreach**.

2

Research method

- **Simple literature review methodology** was used to **review relevant literature** sourced from **IRs, Academic Databases**, Websites etc on universities' and librarians' role in achieving SDGs 2 & 3 as well as their contributions and challenges in the implementation of these goals.

- Personal observation and experience

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Implementation of SDGs 2 & 3 in KNUST and its Impact (Training/Teaching, Research and Outreach programmes)

Teaching: *KNUST, locally Trained emergency Nurses @ KATH-Accident and Emergency Center (CoHS)*

Integrated aquaculture system for fresh Tilapia and veggies

Research: Ensure zero hunger and Healthy lifestyle

Safe Water For Food Project- aims to **propose** means of **reducing health risks** of farmers, **consumers,** animals and **foods exposed** to low quality water

Nutrients for Rural Children project *(*Eggs **fortified** with Omega 3 fatty acids called Designer egg)- ***Sch. Feeding Programme***

4

Service to the Community or Outreach Programme

Library's Stand: SDI-Food fair Exhibition (14th February, 2019

HIV Aids control education and promoting healthy eating

Communicating Research findings to a community through drama

5

Challenges academic libraries encounter in the Implementation of SDGs 2 and 3 in Ghana

Inability of information on: ***Agricultural production technologies,*** **improved seeds varieties *developed*** *by research institutes* not packaged and delivered in the appropriate form to farmers either directly or indirectly through agricultural extension officers

- Insufficient number and quality of teachers, small size of libraries with outdated books, inadequate classrooms and accommodation affects delivery of quality personnel in the form of graduates to help in the achievement of quality agriculture to ensure food security

Who **validates** health information churned out from **librarians**

- Role conflict of stakeholders as well as the inherent issues related to the traditional role as information managers
- Funding, credibility of information, and community acceptance
- Client's understanding of certain medical terms used in health information

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Recommendation

- "*Librarians and information workers should participate actively in disseminating agricultural and health information to farmers and health workers in Ghana using audio-visual materials, Web 2.0 tools and Information Communication Technologies*".
- Libraries could use marketing skills and modern technologies to reach out to their patrons as a means of providing evidence-based agricultural and health information and services in real time,
- The Ghana Library Association could ensure the inclusion of information on food security and health-related matters in all the seminars, conferences and continuous professional development programmes
- Universities running Librarianship courses in Ghana and elsewhere could revise their curriculum to incorporate the SDGs and how the new trainees could help in ensuring, promoting and achieving the SDGs in Ghana
- Information on degenerative health should be disseminated in varied format
- More advocacy on the consumption of healthy Ghanaian Dishes

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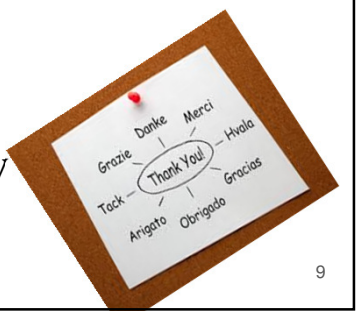
Conclusion

- Information professionals and Academic libraries in Ghana are aware and have been supporting in traditional ways to enable Ghana achieve the Sustainable Development Goals 2& 3 through:
  - Healthy consumption of locally grown agricultural produce,
  - Health and wellness promotion,
  - Preventive medicine education
  - Collaborate in diverse ways with other stakeholders through Technological advancement
- Ghanaian government must support financially and invest in librarians to motivate academic libraries since they are appropriate partners in the achievement of the SDGs
- **In a nutshell,** academic libraries as information repository play vital and leading roles in identifying, capturing, repackaging, preserving and proper dissemination of agriculture and health information to Ghanaians to achieve sustainable food security and health for all by 2030.

Appreciation

- Carnegie Corporation of New York and the UP Team
- Federal University of Technology Minna
- Department of Library and Information Technology
- My Undergraduate Project Students and Outreach Team
- The Niger State Public Library Board
- The State Primary Healthcare Development Agency
- Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology



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Towards attainment of "Zero Hunger" and "Good Health for all at all levels" in Uganda: The Role of Lira University.

Isaac Mukungu
Librarian, Research & Technical services
Lira University, Uganda

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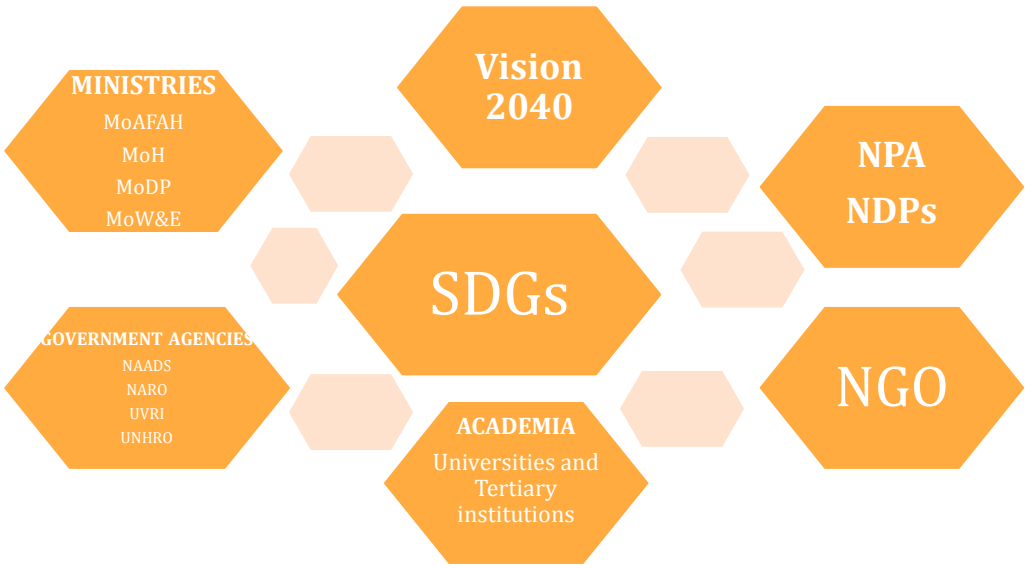
UGANDA



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Lira University

Lira University (LU) is a public university in Northern Uganda which started as a constituent college of Gulu University but later attained autonomy in 2015.

Methodology
Use of interview to solicit responses from key stakeholders in the university was the main method. Observation and desk research were also used. Respondents included University administrators, library staff, students' leaders and students

Enshrined in its core functions

Lira University on SDG 2 : Zero hunger
Lira University has taken a number of strides to ensure that zero hunger is achieved especially in Lango Sub region including:

1. Agriculture literacy programmes
2. Offering land to community members for farming
3. Community Information literacy programmes
4. Offering food stuffs to locals
5. Giving seedlings for planting
6. Tree Planting in the community
7. Food and Fruit Processing plant

3

Lira University on SDG 3: Good Health and wellbeing

Health is a prerequisite for an active and productive mind and body. Lira University having been established to offer majorly health sciences education to the community has walked the talk of ensuring good health for all at all levels. Several strategies have been taken including:

1.Training of practitioners

2.Subsidized medical treatment
Teaching hospital

3.Free medical services
Immunization, screening for HIV/AIDS, Cervical cancer and hepatitis B

4.Health literacy campaigns
Hygiene, health living, diet and nutrition talks.
Slashing bushes to keep away mosquitoes, sensitization on waste management as well as the wash your hand campaign. Tippy taps construction and use

5.Domiciliary medical students' attachments
Health issues relating to the mother and baby until the newborn is six months old.

6.Blood donation

7.Health Information repackaging
Translation of information into local languages, written to audio clips for Whatsapp groups

8.Medical camps

4

Lira University Library initiatives:

1. Information Repackaging
   Translation to local languages – Creation of Audio clips

2. Providing Library spaces for community members
   Information utilization platform

3. Increased scope of Library collections
   Including magazines, flyers, brochures, government and NGO publications on health and Agriculture

4. Social media use and integration in information services WhatsApp

5. Community Information awareness
   Sensitization on role of libraries, available information products on health and agriculture, use of information resources

Future projects
1. IR set up and management
2. Lira University Mobile Library
3. Lira University Library call center

5

Challenges

1. High illiteracy levels in its rural setting
2. Information poverty
3. Low budgets
4. Delayed funding (funds)
5. Poor commitment from locals on community projects
6. Limited number of skilled Information Professionals
7. Inadequate library spaces
8. Language barrier

In conclusion, Lira University has a role to play and has continued with its support in the implementation of the UN agenda 2030 by adopting a number of strategies from inclusion in the university curricula to research and community outreach endeavors that have seen improvements in different areas of SDGs 2 & 3. Although challenges exist, SDGs 2 & 3 can be achieved if the different stakeholders play their roles well.

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