

MONTHLY REPORT SUMMARY – March 2023

RiWA Staff meeting –1st March 2023

The monthly meeting was conducted on the 1st. The meeting chaired by the Salvatory Suleiman the logistics and procurement officer started with all the staffs and volunteers available, Salvatory Started with an Introduction of each and every on, and encouraged co-operation among the staffs and volunteers so as to have a strong team for effective implementation of projects.

In the discussions,

Each team member also highlighted reports from their various departments, for the team to evaluate and see ways possible for re-adjustments, and discussed other issues and plans such as the preparation of RiWAs 3rd anniversary celebrations, and were ready to take on the month of February to deliver

Tande Elias he Programs manager highlighted and introduced the projects and monthly activities that are currently at hand, and encouraged the team to immediately consider preparations to ensure timely implementation of the current projects at hand most especially the schools mentorship programs.

Psychosocial support/wellness – 4th march 2023



Arrival and registration of participants started from 8:30 am till 9:00 am, with the presence of at least 24 participants, while others kept on arriving inclusive of new faces who had special invitations based on situations they were facing, in the other hand the plan was to take the same cohort through the series of the program, some few cohort members were missing for various reasons, there was a need to fill the gap.

The session kicked off with a word of prayer from one of the participants, followed by a welcoming remark from the RiWA programs officer who then introduced the facilitators to the participants. The facilitator requested the participants to go outside the room and introduced a small game of introduction were one steps forward and tells his/her name and a story about their shoes, this brought out many stories, for the new participants it created an environment of openness with no fear of each other and acceptance of a safe space to share.



The facilitator kicked off by highlighting a short discussion on stress saying that Stress can be defined as a state of worry or mental tension caused by a difficult situation, and said that it is natural human response that prompts us to address challenges and threats in our lives. Everyone experiences stress to some degree. The way we respond to stress, however, makes a big difference to our overall well-being.

These explanations prompted some of the participants most especially the new one to asking questions to deeper understand what stress looks like;

Topics of discussions included:

Stress:

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Sphere of control:

One of the ways to cope with stressful situations and to build your resilience now and for the future, is to identify what about a situation is in your control and out of your control in a situation. In a summary, below is a table of what the facilitator said is or is not in our control:

(More details, filed report "Psychosocial support activity report dated 4th march 2023)

Media Advocacy – 11th March 2023



As planned for the media advocacy, the team comprised of students from the empowered schools through our schools mentorship programs and the RiWA team kicked off from the RiWA office at 10:00 am and arrived at the radio station at 10:50 readily being waited for by the hosts of the radio program Teen Evolution (TEEN EVO) on 99.9 Advance digital.

In attendance were 4 girls and 1 boy student from Juba proper International secondary School, one of the schools where we conducted the schools mentorship program, accompanied by their director of studies.

We were welcomed and introduced on air by the hosts team and the discussions started;

As part of the introduction to the media advocacy campaign below are the points of discussions:

Each of the participants who were live in introduced themselves, who they are, what they do



The team from RiWA were also able to introduce RiWA in depth and some of the projects implemented within the organization objectives and goals eg the schools mentorship program, psychosocial support, economic empowerment, Digital literacy etc.

And other discussions were around:

- The impact of the mentorship programs on students mentored and they were able to highlight and shared their thought through what they learnt;
- Body and menstruation hygiene
- Career Guidance
- Avoid excessive use of pills when in their periods
- Body and environmental changes
- HIV and AIDS

- How boys also play a major role in helping their female counterparts the girls when facing their periods and discouraged them laughing and making fun of them when they are in these difficult times.
- The director of studies also expressed his gratitude towards the great work done by RiWA to cover in one of the most difficult areas and situation the school faces when it comes to special needs for the female students and encouraged more stake holders to share the responsibilities to ensure the girls are able to achieve in their education

(Detailed: Media Advocacy Report dated 11th march 2023)

Creative Leadership – 22-23rd march 2023



The two days' workshop was able to mobilize in time, and by the day of the workshop the ready and organized hall started reception and registration of Participants/delegates at 8:30 am, by 9:00 am present were 35 invited strong leaders of various communities, organizations, institutions and Schools, who were ready to kick of the workshop.

To kick of the workshop, Mr. Tande moderated the workshop, and started by welcoming the participants/delegates. before introduction, he requested each and every participant to draw or write their mood on a sticky note to understand how each and every one's mood as they arrived. 7/35 were un happy, 17/35 were happy, 4/35 were nervous, 3/35 were feeling insecure, and 4/35 were feeling confused.

The exercise led to an introduction remark of what RiWA is, activities, value, mission and goals as an organization.

In an opening remark, Asan Juma the executive director- RiWA South Sudan. welcomed the participants and appreciated them for creating time to come and attend this great training that may help shape their leadership skills.

Asan further told the delegates that, this Creative leadership training will strengthen their ability to create and realize innovative solutions especially in the face of structurally complex or changing situations in their communities. She said, the modules are prepared to refer to the leaders who are in the communities were all is shifting and new approaches are needed to create clarity of purpose in their leadership abilities.



In a conclusion of the opening remark, Asan emphasized that leaders need to seek to navigate and even benefit from the unpredictability environment around them, not just for the organizations or themselves, but also for society at large.

Topics discussed during the two days workshop included:

- Understanding Leadership
- Components of leadership
- Peace and conflict management
- Conflict sensitive leadership
- Understanding communication skills
- Management skills

(Detailed: Filed Report, Creative leadership report dated 22-23 March 2023)

Challenges and solutions:

Government Policy (Secondary leaving certificate)



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Strengthening Communities

The school's mentorship program which was to be part of the months activities and to be done on 17th March would not be able to be accomplished due to the secondary school leaving certificate which was being conducted across the country, This made it difficult for the team to carry on the mentorship program, but as a solution the team went back on the drawing table and rescheduled the mentorship program for the 14th of April A week after the completion of the secondary leaving certificates comes to a conclusion.

Price fluctuation which affected the exchange rate of the local currency against the dollar which affected market commodity prices, and also affected the project budget, leading to the team replanning to adjust to the current ever fluctuating prices inclusive of having limitation of the number of participants for the creative leadership training from 50 to 35 participants.

By Tande Elias

Programs Officer- RiWA South Sudan