



PROJECT FOR THE RESTORATION OF LIVELIHOODS IN THE NORTHERN REGION (PRELNOR)

Mentoring of vulnerable Households transforming lives

In an effort to lower the vulnerability status of poor rural households in the Northern Region, PRELNOR program is engaged in scaling up a mentoring approach successfully tested under the District Livelihoods Support program. The intervention targets vulnerable households who lack capacity and self-confidence to harness development opportunities from within and outside their households. The aim of household mentoring is to support the vulnerable households to have food security and self-reliance and to build their self-esteem to enable them to join groups and benefit from the different development initiatives.

The program started by identifying and training 200 Household Mentors (half female and half male) who are community volunteers in all the PRELNOR parishes. Similarly, 50 Community Development Officers were trained to support the household mentoring process.

What HH Mentoring entails

Household Mentoring is a Developmental partnership through which one person (a mentor) shares knowledge, skills, information, and perspective to foster the personal, social and economic growth of household members (mentees). The Implementation of household mentoring involves a series of visits by mentors to the mentored households over a period of 1-2 years. The visits involve the wife, husband and adult children as well as other adult household members.

The mentoring process has five phases, starting with visioning of the household's current situation, and a vision of its expected situation at the end of the mentoring process and the road journey moving toward the desired future

situation. After making a simple pictorial action plan, household members begin to implement the action plan. After 5-9 months of successfully implementing some elements of its action plan, the household is encouraged to join a farmer group.

At the start of the planting season, the HH receives a small food security grant to assist in boosting household food production and / or providing opportunities to generate some cash income. The end of the process involves achievement of goals, weaning and graduation, subject to monitoring by the HH mentors. Graduation implies that the household has achieved most of the goals in its action plan, such as household food security, putting children back in school, improved living conditions, hygiene and sanitation, increased savings capacity, higher income, greater self-confidence and higher participation in community groups.

Success Story:

Mr Abwola Benson is married to Aryemo Joyce and are residents of Pabit in Nwoya District. Benson is 60 years old and was selected for mentoring on the grounds that he had taken 15 years in prison. At the time of selection, Benson was a desperate man who was staying at his brother's place, he owned nothing and had lost



Mr Abwola Benson HH head sharing a light moment with PRELNOR HH mentor



MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT



One year later after the mentoring process, the lives of the Abwolas are transforming. With the carpentry skills gained while still in prison, he is now able to provide for his household with food, upkeep and emergency. Mr Abwola has also joined a Village Savings and Loans Association group. Last season, he planted one acre of maize and another of cassava. After, the sale of the season's harvest, he acquired 2 goats and 15 local chicken.

The household has good sanitation and hygiene, (latrine, rubbish pit, hand washing facility), and the household members are working together, with a shared vision, jointly making decisions and share responsibilities. They have enough food reserves to last at least three months and also have a backyard vegetable garden. The household has a nice dwelling place, a neat compound, some fruit trees on the compound such as citrus, mangoes, Avocado, pawpaw etc.



The wife of Mr. Abwola with two (2) goats acquired after mentoring



Household mentee tippy tap hand washing facility.

Contact:

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