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HEALTH CLUSTER



Medical equipment for improving health care for newborn babies in Saudi Hospital

Activities for improving health services for mothers and newborn babies

K-TOP, together with health sector in Kassala government, supports two localities (Wad El Helew and Girba), the main activities include:

- 1- **In-service training for Village midwives.**
- 2- **Supportive supervision for village midwives.**
- 3- **Monitoring health information system in reproductive health.**
- 4- **Medical equipment management and provision of medical equipment.**

Medical equipment for improving health services for mothers and newborn babies. Provision of medical equipment (174 equipment) for four hospitals namely - Saudi Hospital, Kuwaiti hospital, Girba Hospital, Wad El Helew primary hospital.

These equipment were provided to support and improve the services in the following departments in each hospital focused on reproductive activities:

- a. **Nursery department**
- b. **Operation theatre**
- c. **Delivery room**
- d. **Intensive care unit.**

In the past, these departments were lacking such kind of equipment particularly nursery department.

- 5- **Emergency Obstetric and Neonatal Care (EmONC) training for medical Staff.**
- 6- **New referral system between Wad El Helew primary hospital and Girba locality hospital.**

(by Dr. Tarig Ali Khalid, K-TOP national staff)



HEALTH CLUSTER

Training of Facilitators: Toward Effective Coaching for Village Midwives (VMWs)

From July 1st to 12th, 2012, Health Cluster provided 10 days coaching workshop for 11 health visitors in Kassala in corporation with Mr. Atsunori Kume, a Japanese Expert in Vocational Training Cluster who has a rich experience of training on coaching methods for trainers. These health visitors are facilitators of in-service training for VMWs which K-TOP has supported (See also the article "Village Mid wives in- service training").

Although the health cluster has worked to improve the quality of the in-service training, to enhance the coaching method of facilitators has been one of the challenges to be addressed. Particularly, since most of the VMWs cannot read or write, it is necessary to consider an effective way of the training for illiterates.



Analysis of Required Abilities of VMWs:

Trainees conducted an analysis of required abilities (technique, knowledge and preferable behavior) of VMWs by using CUDBAS method with advice from Mr. Kume.

Create Job Sheet

After the analysis, trainees made Job Sheet on blood-pressure measurement, urine test and neonatal resuscitation. On one hand, the Job Sheets for literate persons described 1) Steps, 2) Key Points and 3) Why. On the other hand, those for illiterates showed photos of each step. It aimed to make easier to review the procedures by dividing in steps and to remember important procedures correctly with strong impression by indicating clear key points and the reasons for doing them.

Practice of Coaching based on Job Sheet

Coaching has four steps: introduction; presentation; practical training; and summary. Concerning the presentation, a facilitator repeats a demonstration three times in different ways.

- 1) Demonstrate promptly and well without explaining in order to make students grasp the whole picture of work and make them motivated.
- 2) Demonstrate the same procedures with saying the name of the step written on the Job Sheet. It is important to emphasize the numbers of steps, for example, by telling "this work is consisted of 8 steps". This has an effect for illiterate to make the impact for remembering procedures.
- 3) Demonstrate by explaining steps and key points in detail.

Village Midwives in- service training:

The JICA Health Custer Team conducted the fifth training batch for the in-service training of village midwives from June 11 to 17, 2012 in cooperation with the Department of Reproductive Health, State Ministry of Health.

The previous trainings held in the first year of the Project focused on village midwives in 2 pilot localities of Girba and Wad El Helew. The Most of village midwives in 2 pilot localities have been trained and received delivery kits and some consumables.

The Project will roll out the in-service training to other localities of River Atbara, New Halfa and West Kassala in the 2nd year. The target number for training in the 2nd year is approximately 140. The total number of village midwives to be trained will be approximately 220 through this 3-year project.

The training is intent on strengthening the technical capacity of village midwives who conduct the antenatal care, the delivery assistance, and the postnatal care for women and education of reproductive health for community people. The Project expects to reduce the mortality of mothers and neonatal babies through the training.



(by Ms. Nazik Mubark Elmahi, K-TOP national staff)

In-service training in the Reproductive Health



Capacity Development Project for the Provision of Services for Basic Human Needs in Kassala, the Republic of Sudan (K-TOP)

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PLANNING CLUSTER

Kaizen Training for the project clusters



Dr. Omer (right) is receiving his certificate from Mr. Gamal Mohammad El Hassan and Lecturer, Mr. Ayman (left)

It was a unique training course which made the participants to feel better after having it. All participants agreed the importance of *Kaizen* for continuous improvement at personal and work levels. *Kaizen* needs so much reference to talk about its benefits, however for myself and the other colleagues the followings are some of the precious points we earned during the training:

- 1) The concept of the *Kaizen* and how it can improve our lives, if we apply it properly taking Japan as a leading model at the global level;
- 2) Customer Satisfaction is the only way to assess performance; hence it will help us to choose priorities of intervention to improve the service quality which has a great impact on the reputation of the providers. At the end of the day, the customer satisfaction adds value to the service;
- 3) The Quality Control (QC) story results in an enhanced effect in our lives mainly by learning problem solving methods and techniques for how to summarize and present the report. By following the QC circles, we can improve the quality of products through focusing on upgrading the workers' level;
- 4) Before starting to solve any problem, we must identify the problem itself.

In short, we realized *Kaizen* is a precious methodology for

continuous improvement, since it always targets the quality of service, facility, process, system, management and employee.

In the practical point of view, *Kaizen* added much value to my personal life level by deeply touching my heart and soul, adopting it as a way of life. My colleagues also agreed that *Kaizen* improved their life in a better way and hoping to achieve all the best.

At the institutional level, we managed to make a recognized advocacy on *Kaizen* with a well noticed acceptance at all levels.

I think *Kaizen* is what we need to continuously improve our lives at all levels and our nation. Thus, we need to advocate about it by:

- 1) Starting to open *Kaizen* centre at the state level in the near future.
- 2) Having continuous training course on *Kaizen* in institutions at all level.
- 3) More visits for personnel from different institutions to Japan to feel *Kaizen* on the ground which will be encouraging.
- 4) Forming continuous inter-sector and inter-agency *Kaizen* training workshops.

I am so happy and grateful to be nominated as a counterpart, having a chance of *Kaizen* in my state and country.



(by Dr. Omer Suleiman, Director of Preventive Medicine)



AGRICULTURE CLUSTER

Rural Development Activities, for Women.



Women's vegetable production group training on how to use the water pump in El Karada

Agriculture and livelihood cluster provides rural development activities, mainly targeting women in El Karada and Abouda Sudanese villages in Wad El Helew locality (Mechanized Rain-fed Zone) and in South Sawagi (Horticulture Zone), in collaboration with TTEA Rural Development Section.

Main activities and achievements are as follows:

1. El-Karada village

Rural Development officers provided the awareness activity about household hygiene and health condition and the training in basic cooking skills for thirty women. These activities came from urgent and immediate needs prior to the vegetable production activity. The main objective was to get a small income as well as improve their families' nutrition condition by introducing the vegetable production.

The main vegetable to be cultivated by the women production group will be okra, onion, pumpkin, molokhia, cucumber, rocket and grawia (garwia is fodder which will be used for their livestock).

Revolving fund system will be introduced for the cost of a motor and water pump, provided with K-TOP support, to irrigate vegetable field while Rural Development Officers will give training in vegetable cultivation for the group. The vegetable farming and production process will start soon and will extended for four production seasons

2. Abouda Sudanese village

Rural Development Officers have conducted the training in basic skills of food processing for women between May and June 2012. A group of thirty eight women has acquired the skills of food processing such as jams, juice, biscuits, sweet, and bread. After the training, twenty four women have formed the women production group and shared a part of cost for equipment provided with K-TOP support. During Ramadan and Eid, good seasons for production, the group activity has been very active.

3. El-Ramla extension center

El-Ramla extension center is targeted to be a replicable model center; K-TOP provided the center with office furniture, food processing equipment, and sewing machines, and technical support.

Ten women are enrolled in sewing training and the training has started in July 2012. Rural Development Officers, who received the advanced sewing training at Kassala Vocational Training Center, are conducting the training. The training will complete at the end of September 2012. Ten women have formed the productive food processing group. The activity will start soon. K-TOP supports Rural Development officers by giving opportunities to receive training such as advanced sewing and textile painting at Kassala Vocational Training Center.



Tools and equipment for the food processing group in Abouda Sudanese village

(by Ms. Khadiga Mohammed Abbaker, K-TOP national staff)



Pilot activity for propagation of new agricultural machineries



Training on planter machine in El Karada

JICA started implementing a pilot activity for propagation of new agricultural machineries and co-management system in Wad El Helew in June, 2011. State Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Irrigation (SMoAFI) selected two villages, namely Abouda Sudanese and El Karada as pilot sites. TTEA rents tractors and new attachments for each village, and provides necessary service such as training on machinery and to establish co-management system by small farmers. Small scale farmers organized an association co-manage machineries, and provide machinery service for other small scale farmers around the village as an agent of TTEA. This system can help farmer to manage machineries on their own, can help them in timely work.

One of challenges in agricultural activity in Wad El Helew locality is that small scale farmers have lack of access to agricultural machineries. Depending on machinery service provided by large farmers, they are unable to cultivate their land at the appropriate time. On the other hand, TTEA have not been able to provide machinery service in this area because these villages locate in remote places.

Co-management system which is introduced in this pilot activity aims to tackle these challenges. First of all, pneumatic planter and sprayer was considered as new machineries which can increase productivity and decrease the cost of culture practices. In order to train farmers on the machineries, cooperating with Central Trading Company (CTC) Agrochemical, JICA conducted training for target farmers.

Moreover, for demonstrating effectiveness of new machineries in this area, we implement three trial farms in two villages using new machineries such as the chisel plow, sprayer, planter and other attachments for better productivity of major crops and cost-effective cropping system.

In the future, associations are expected to be autonomous body to provide machinery service. Though technical supports by TTEA are still necessary for association, there is an improvement in their management capacities in the second season.

(By Ms. Esra Mohammed, K-TOP national staff)

The chisel plough in the three targeted areas

With cooperation between Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Wealth, Forest and Irrigation (SMoAFI) and JICA, a workshop was held in Aroma town in 27th October 2012 to discuss the necessity of introducing cash crop into Gash scheme.

Thirty two participants from the relevant stakeholders, Water User Associations (WUAs) and others concerned with gash scheme participated in this workshop. All of them appreciated this initiative and recommended introducing three crops, namely, sunflowers, cottons and pigeon peas. After this workshop, JICA in collaboration with TTEA decided to establish demonstration plots in Gash scheme in this agricultural season, 2012. Three blocks were selected for demonstration: Kassala for pigeon peas; Degain for sunflowers; and Tendili for cottons. Each block allocates five feddan for the newly-introduced crop.

The first step of capacity development for introducing new crops was holding training sessions in three days, from 1st to 3rd July 2012 to the extension officers who will conduct and follow-up these demonstration plots.

The lecturers of the training sessions were specialists from Kassala University and Agriculture Research Corporation (ARC). The second step was selection of five feddans in each block and cleaning the land by eradication of mesquite trees (i.e. cutting and uprooting) and ploughing by chisel to make the soil ready for irrigation. Now, the areas were covered by the flood of the Gash River and it will be cultivated in the coming days by the three targeted crops.



The targeted area after the digging by the chisel plough in Degain

(by Mr. Omer Seid Ahmed, K-TOP national staff)



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WATER CLUSTER



*More Computer courses in
State water Corporation (SWC)*

PC Training:

The PC training comes within the activities of the capacity building program of K-TOP Project to raise the technical capacity of the State Water Corporation (SWC) staff.

It aims to raise the efficiency functional by teaching computer skills in some government organizations and their different localities in Kassala State.

On the other hand, the training will assist the SWC accountants in inputting financial data into computers by on-the-job (OJT) base.

The computer skills are essential for building customer database and input accounting data, in order to replace hand-writing documents to computers database, the JICA Team has started to conduct computer skill training in July 2011.

The participants in the first year were from SWC staff Central, East and West offices and they learned Windows, Excel and Power Point. In the second year, we train the staff at each office in New Halfa, Girba and Aroma Offices.

(by Mr. Edres Abdalla Yabt, K-TOP national staff)



PC Training in Aroma

TOT (Advanced Geophysical Survey-2D Resistivity Imaging)



Geophysical Training of Trainers (TOT) in Khartoum

K-TOP project conducted TOT training of (ADVANCED GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY-2D Resistivity Imaging) during the period from 8 to 12 August 2012 in Khartoum. The purpose of the training was to equip geologists, hydro geologists and engineers related to the field of water with knowledge, skills and technical aspects related to the geophysical survey. The instructor was one of the water cluster counterparts who got extensive training from the K-TOP project in Kassala and the participants were from Darfur, White Nile and Sennar States.

After the training above, the TOT course was applied in Kassala to the water cluster Engineers and other staffs from State Water Corporation (SWC) in order to maximize the picture of the training goals.



A practical training on how to use the Geophysical equipment in Khartoum

(by Mr. Almedani, K-TOP national staff)



VOCATIONAL TRAINING CLUSTER

Training of Trainer (TOT) in Cooperation with Company

In Kassala Vocational Training Center (KVTC), K-TOP provided Training of Trainer (TOT) in corporation with a company in two courses, "Basic Course on Electronic Fuel Injection System" and "Basic Course on Hydraulic System" from 11th to 28th June 2012.

At first, we conducted the two courses toward trainers in KVTC. After completing the courses, we provided opportunities for the trainers who earned the way of training to teach the same courses in a company.

This approach aims to strengthen the connection between KVTC and companies that has job opportunities for graduates, through the diffusion of technology from Japanese to KVTC trainers and from KVTC trainers to the company.



Training on electronic fuel injection system taught by KVTC trainer (center) in SSC. He is teaching how to use the electronic tester



Training on Electronic Fuel Injection System in KVTC

This time, Sudan Sugar Company (SSC), a national company which has a large sugar cane field and many agricultural machines, cooperated to conduct the course in the company. We are now trying to establish give-and-take relationship. On one hand, KVTC offer training opportunities for the company employees.

On the other hand, SSC accepts OJT (on the job training) for KVTC trainees. Furthermore, for KVTC trainers, the training courses in the company made them confident that they are able to provide training courses in the technical level the company requires.

The ideal thing is, for all students, to have a job each person wishes to do. However, to find a place of employment is not easy. We think TOT in corporation with a company will be one of the effective measures. Although the time for the project is limited, the techniques which have transferred will remain in people and help Sudan. We believe the major players are Sudanese and our aim is to support to make a better society where young persons are able to start their jobs with hope.

(by Mr. Ryoichi Kimura, K-TOP Japanese Expert)



VOCATIONAL TRAINING CLUSTER

Kassala Vocational Training Center (KVTC) Strategic Plan 2011 – 2014



KVTC and K-TOP staff discussion the issue of strategic plan in vocational training cluster

One of the significant missions of Vocational Training Cluster in JICA K-TOP is to develop a realistic, doable and flexible strategic plan for KVTC. This is the first strategic plan for KVTC, thus it is a breathtaking achievement.

The strategic plan defines the directions (five strategic goals/areas) of KVTC and making decisions on allocating its resources to achieve KVTC vision and mission. KVTC vision is to be the model for best practices in teaching and learning in vocational training in Sudan, and the mission is to train a diverse and effective workforce that supports the economic growth and social stability of our state. The strategic plan was developed by KVTC staff with technical support from JICA K-TOP experts in partnership with Kassala industry.

In order to implement the strategic plan, KVTC formed Strategic Plan Implementation Committee (SPIC), composed by five persons in charge of each strategic goal and the Director of KVTC. For implementation, the consideration of various aspects such as time, person in charge and cost is very critical to make the action realizable and timely. Although the SPIC members are senior staffs of KVTC who have rich experience in technical education, they are new to such administrative management. Now, together with JICA experts, SPIC members are working very closely to put the strategy into action. This experience of planning for achieving the set target is expected to equip the SPIC

members with very good management skill.

Five KVTC Strategic Goals / Areas

- 1) Good training
- 2) Highly performing KVTC staff
- 3) Safe & innovative learning environment.
- 4) Effective management.
- 5) Effective use of our money.

(by Mr. Ibrahim Adam Idris, K-TOP national staff)

KVTC Women Activity Section First Graduation on textile painting course

On 30th July 2012, KVTC celebrated the graduation of women trainees on the textile painting course. The course was supported by JICA and UNDP in providing sewing equipment, furniture and facility. Around forty graduates received the certificates. Besides the ceremony, there was the exhibition for trainees' productions like Sudanese women tob, bed sheet, covering table and so on. Since the establishment of KVTC in 1993, the first women activities section was formed. It provides training to meet women's need of income generation based on the KVTC strategic plan (See above article).



Exhibition of trainees' productions in vocational training

The Ceremony started with appreciation from a representative of the graduates, Ms. Kawser. She firstly thanked KVTC, JICA and all participants of the ceremony and mentioned that, in addition to the sewing training, there was the most important lecture, "How to start your business", which encouraged the trainees to start a business. State Minister of Finance, Mr. Abdo Elmiz, also attended the ceremony and expressed his hope toward the continuation of KVTC support to women activities and said the government also supports them, because women capacity building benefits families and society.

(by Mr. Salih Mohammed, K-TOP national staff)

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