

YOUTH BICYCLE SKILLS TRAINING CENTRE

**NORTHERN SECTOR ACTION ON AWARENESS CENTRE
(NORSAAC)**

SECOND QUARTER REPORTS

SUBMITTED TO:

**TOOLS FOR SELF RELIANCE
(A UK BASED NGO)**

December, 2009.

INTRODUCTION

TRAINEES AT THE CENTRE

Attendance of trainees continues to be punctual as this makes the work of the instructor smooth. In the middle of the first quarter two trainees dropped out from the training for various reasons. One was no more interested in the skills and the other was not committed. Since their attitude would affect them after they are passed out, they were asked to assess themselves before they continue the training process.

They admitted and finally decided to take leave. This was in the third month of the project as such it was not possible to recruit new trainees to replace the dropped out trainees.

SECOND QUARTER REVIEW MEETING

During the review meeting, the following issues were discussed:

Recruitment of new trainees:

It was discussed at the meeting that the next batch of trainees be announced on radio, follows by community visits and identified drop outs interviewed before recruitment. This is to ensure full commitment towards the training. It is also good to try different ways of recruitment processes of getting trainees into the centre.

Introduction of welding works:

In the annual plan of the project, welding was part of the training process. It was however not possible in the first and second quarters of the project. This was due to the fact that the welding machine NORSAAC was expecting from Tools for Self Reliance was not included in the items received. There was therefore an enquiry made by NORSAAC to acquire one which is still in the process. It is therefore not possible for the first batch of trainees to go through the process as scheduled but will be called for a short training even after they are passed out.

Graduation of trainees

First batch of trainees to spend six months at the center were graduated within the quarter. It will be recalled that previous graduates spent close to 2years at the center. The duration was reviewed after several consultations with experts with regards to a duration needed to completely learn bicycle maintenance works.

The change of the duration did not affect the learning of the graduates at the center because the trainees were adequately equipped with the needed knowledge to establish their own shops.

Pass out of next batch of trainees:

This is yet another interesting part of the project. Trainees will be prepared to pass out in the early weeks of March after an external expert examines and confirms their levels competence. The expert will be consulted and is expected to take trainees through the training for a maximum of two weeks.

FUNCTIONAL LITERACY CLASSES:

The trainees have been attending functional literacy classes as planned in the project. They go through some lessons at 8:00am and end at 10:00am before the training instructor starts with his work. The lessons start from Monday and end on Fridays.

MONITORING:

The continued supervision of the trainees has really improved their attendance and also the work of the instructor and the functional literacy facilitator.

CHALLENGES:

- The instructor was dismissed which took the organisation a week to search for a new instructor because of misconduct which was affecting the trainees at the center.

ACHIVEMENTS:

- Functional literacy currently going on.
- The number of trainees at the centre now is encouraging as compared to the previous trainees.
- Trainees embarked on industrial visits and are exposed to bicycle works in other parts of the area.
- Trainees show a lot more commitment in the project (very punctual).
- New instructor contracted.

WAYFORWARD:

The trainees will successfully pass out in March instead of February as stated in the implementation plan. This is because the idea of the external expert was not considered in the plan but now necessary to include that.

The search for second batch of trainees will start in the early weeks of February. This will be announced on radios for aspiring trainees to apply after which an interview will be required to pick them for training.

SUCCESS STORIES

Anass tells his story few months after graduating from the center.

Anass is my name. I live in Suganaayili with my parents. I used to follow my father to farm since I wasn't attending school. I was interested in schooling but I did not get that opportunity.

Since I was enrolled as a trainee NORSAAC Bicycle training center, I have learnt a lot of things. At least I can dismantle and fix bicycles without assistance from anybody. I can also identify bicycle parts even though I have not been to school.

After my graduation from the centre, I have been working daily and I save not less than three Ghana Cedis (GHC3). I save two cedis a day and with what I get, I can sustain my life.

I have three apprentices.

I am very grateful to Norsaac and would like to express my profound gratitude to the organisation. I only want to appeal to them include other aspects of training such as welding, motor repair and sewing.



Director of NORSAAC supported by supervisor to handover tools to Anass after his graduation from the center.

I am Abass from Dungu. I dropped out of school when I was in class three due to my parents' inability to pay my school fees. While I was helping my father on his farm, I intended to get a trade that would make me self employed and fortunately NORSAAC received me for the bicycle training.

NORSAAC has really made an impact in my life. With the skills I have acquired, I earn some money for my living. I feed myself three times a day, buy some clothing for myself and also able to save some money.

My parents are very proud of me because I sometimes solve their problems with the little monies that I get. I have an apprentice who closes from school before he comes.

What can I say to NORSAAC, where would I have been without them? I can simply say God richly bless you for the work you are doing.

CONCLUSION:

The second quarter of the project did not encounter many challenges as such; the quarter was very smooth for the centre. There is however the need to renovate the centre since the wooden structure is being chopped by insects.