

**SEP NEWS LETTER 1<sup>ST</sup> EDITION: SEPTEMBER 2011.**

Society Empowerment Project (SEP) has a number of activities being implemented. This News Letter is one of the new programme communication platform with its stake holders. It is therefore expected to create an interactive opportunity with other Network members through reading the articles and in the best case, giving of feedback to the issues addressed herein. The News Letter will be produced on quarterly basis.

**SPORTS**

Like any other organization all over the nation, SEP uses a unique football approach to empower youths, hence ensuring gender equality is promoted. This year, the approach to football matches played during the annual tournament incorporated many teams for promotion of social interaction. Cultural beliefs eradication and prompt education contributed towards the understanding of girls' football. Football in SEP doesn't only mean kicking the ball and scoring goals but it is a major tool in developing skills through peace, love and unity towards a positive living and understanding of each other.



***Reagan Odhiambo, SEP Players celebrating victory during the SEP event 2011 at Kotieno Grounds.***



***Final match between SEP and KWOYO Boys' F.C***

**GIRLS' PARTICIPATION**

one of the primary objectives of the event is to promote gender equality; hence females are empowered using football approach. Girls in Oyugis region were fully involved in this event and quality matches were witnessed by the community, as the girls displayed their football prowess.. Quite a number of young girls had a chance to take part in football. Towards the end of the event people were proud to watch SEP girls' team playing a final match against Suba Lakers.

***Far end is YSDAK Player displaying her soccer skills during SEP Event, 2011.***



SEP girls have so far participated in many tournaments apart from the home event. Of these events they have only lost in two competitions which are:

Habbat Ojwan'g Cup, YSDAK Match in Kusumu and two consecutive annual events. This truly shows the power of football as a tool to gender development.

### **EDUCATIONAL COMPONENT: WASH PROGRAM**

The WASH program was a new project this year which was done by Travel2change from Austria. Among the volunteers/ travelers implementing WASH was a young energetic girl from the USA. WASH programme focused on sensitizing the community on house hold water treatment, increased access to clean drinking water and hand washing with soap.



Travel2change group taught young children through litter games; this game expounds on how germs are spread through hand shaking. They were also trained on how to wash their hands and the importance of washing hands. On the other hand, the teenagers were taught on how to make soap using simple chemicals. They were also taught on household water treatment methods with the aim to eradicate waterborne diseases. The WASH program was readily welcome by the community.

*WASH Class during SEP Event, 2011*

### **THE VOLUNTARY MEDICAL MALE CIRCUMCISION (VMMC) PROGRAMME**

In the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of SEP Annual event, SEP collaborated with Nyanza Reproductive Health Society in Oyugis sensitize the youths and community members in general, on the advantages of Voluntary Medical male Circumcision. They also used the platform to explain how circumcision reduced the risks of contacting HIV virus. It was confirmed that VMMC reduces the risks by 60%. The uptake for VMMC was quite impressive, with youths still accessing the services

### **TECHNICAL SUPPORT: SHOOT BACK TEAM - MYSA**

Unlike the previous years, SEP annual event, the third edition moved to another advanced level. This was characterized by the involvement of the shoot back team both at SEP and MYSA.

The shoot back team from both organizations comprises of young professionals from GLEN. Their main duty was to do video coverage during the whole event and this proved fruitful, as it improved on our ability of documentation. Though there were challenges experienced due to changes in weather condition, everything went on awesomely great. Their support made the event livelier than it was the previous years.

You can also access more information on SEP at [www.streetfootballworld.org/network/all-nwm/society-empowerment-project](http://www.streetfootballworld.org/network/all-nwm/society-empowerment-project)