

Kitega Community Centre Survey

Independent survey by Sophie Gauss, 2012

Aims of the survey:

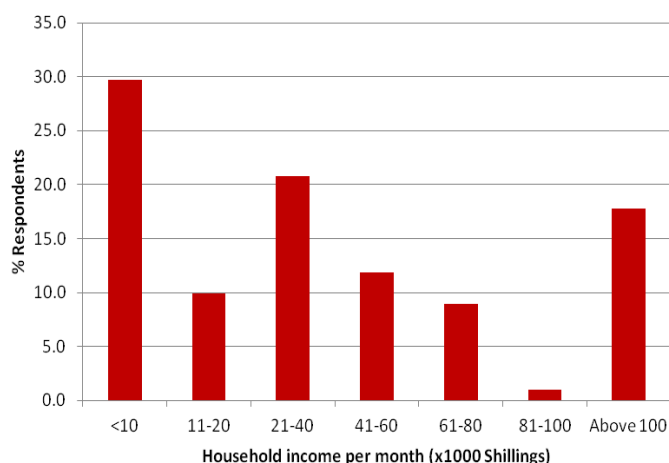
1. To ascertain how much the centre has benefited households.
2. To assess the impact of the centre on the disabled children.
3. To gather information that will guide the centre in future initiatives.

INTRODUCTION

The survey was distributed to beneficiaries of the centre. This included parents and guardians of the disabled and orphaned/needy children, as well as members of the local communities the centre serves. A total of 103 surveys were returned.

- Females 85% Males 15%
- Most were between 34-45 (35%), 26-35 (25%), and 46-55 (25%) years old.
- Nearly two-thirds provide an income to their household, or their partner does.
- 76% are a member of a village banking (VICOBA) group, with 10% saying their partner is.
- The average household has 7 people. The range was 2-20 individuals.

Household income per month:



BENEFITS TO HOUSEHOLDS

The centre has and continues to distribute beneficial items to families. One of the most important of these are mosquito nets, vital in the prevention of malaria and a disease that has caused lasting damage to a number of the children that now attend the centre. 67% of respondents have received mosquito nets from the centre, with a further 31% receiving toothbrushes, 30% receiving shoes and 3% receiving an animal.



Receiving new glasses, a donation from a previous volunteer and recently distributed by the centre.

At present tailoring and computer training classes are taught at the centre and are available to members of the community. 30% of respondents have attended tailoring classes, and 14% computer training. VICOBA training continues to provide village groups with the skills to save and budget to set up businesses.

- 66% have started a business since their involvement with the centre.



Brick-making, one of the many businesses started.

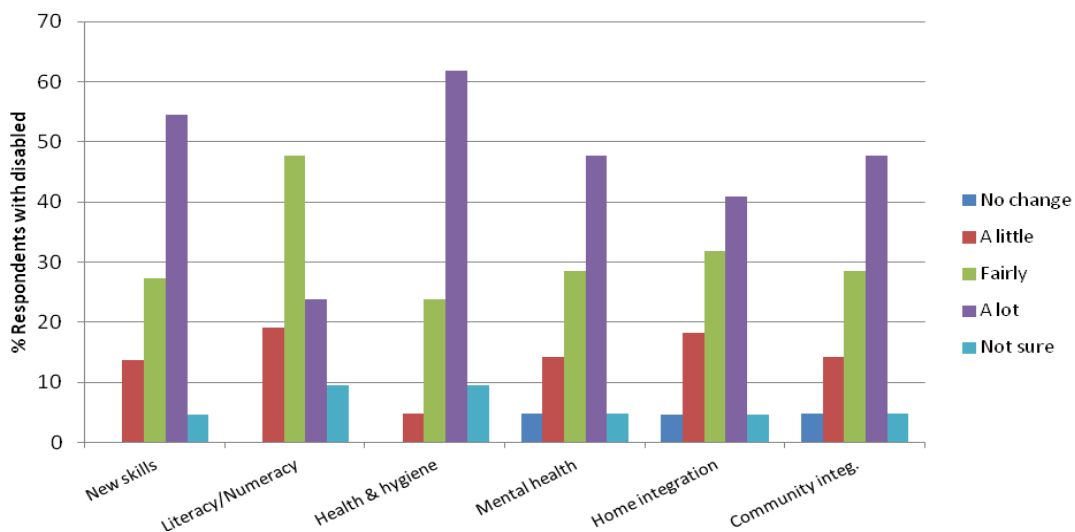
Most people (between 69-81%) felt their involvement with the centre had enabled them to improve their housing standard, health and hygiene, the paying of school fees, and buying clothes or other requirements, by either 'Fairly' or 'A lot'. These were the two highest categories.

THE CHILDREN

Respondents were asked the numbers of each type of dependent they had in their care and how many of these attended the centre (either weekdays or weekend), and how many attend Kawolo or Katungulu schools, both of which work closely with the centre.

- More than half (55%) have one or two orphans/needy children. Eleven respondents had 4 or 5.
- 29% have one disabled individual
- 25% have one elderly dependent
- 85% have one or more attending the centre
- 87% have one or more attending Kawolo or Katungulu school

Some of the disabled children that can be integrated into the schools are done so, whilst the majority come to the centre during the week. Parents of disabled children rated how they felt their children had improved in the following: New skills; Literacy/numeracy; Health and hygiene; Mental health; Home integration; Community integration. The results are in the graph below.



Everyone was asked how they felt attitudes in the community had changed positively towards the disabled children. The level of interaction between these children and able children and adults can be a good indication of how well integrated they are in society.

Although the group without disabled children was double the number of those with, responses were reasonably similar.

- 63% (with disabled) and 69% (without disabled) said community attitude had changed positively by 'A lot'.
- 60% (with disabled) and 72% (without disabled) said overall improvement in interaction with the disabled was 'A lot'.

Actual interaction with adults and other children (playing) was rated slightly worse with people being divided between 'Fairly' and 'A lot'.



Engaging in an album launch at the centre

AGRICULTURE & LIVESTOCK

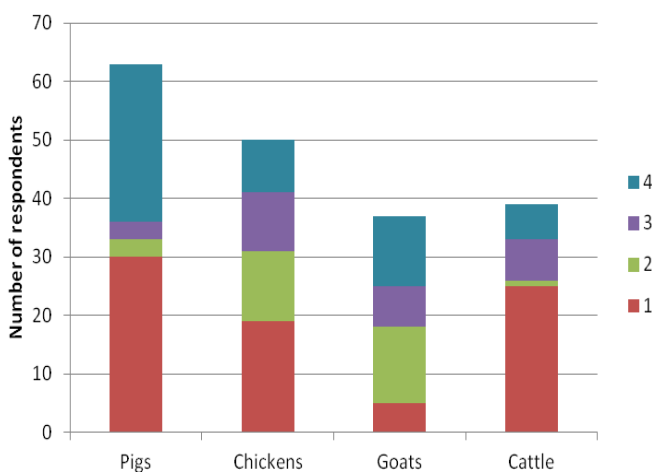
Land ownership varied, with equal numbers (each 20%) of people owning ‘less than a plot’ and ‘greater than an acre’. 34% said they owned ‘a plot’. Nearly all respondents (92%) are involved in some form of agriculture with two thirds of this having enough food to feed the family. 49% also receive some income from it.

The range of crops grown is large and most people farm a selection including maize, beans, cassava and sweet potatoes (84-94% of respondents). About half of respondents grew matooke and fruit, and 39% grew coffee. Other less popular crops noted were tomato, cardamom, avacado, yam and eggplant.

- 92% are interested in engaging in commercial agriculture but 41% of these people do not have available land.

Pigs, chickens, goats and cattle are all widely owned, with chickens being the most popular (63% of respondents owned these.). Pigs came second, goats third, and cattle last at 30%. Everyone that answered, was interested in commercial livestock farming, though the degree to which they can manage this in practice was not determined.

When asked to rank what they would most and least like to own in order of importance, they said the following:



Preference of owning each animal (1=most preferred, 4=least preferred)

Not everyone answered the ranking fully, with ranks 2 and 3 often being left out. A significant number of respondents ranked chickens, goats and cattle but left pigs blank. These were included in the data set as a 4 (least important). It is likely that many of these respondents are Muslims. Although the start-up costs are often greater with pigs and cattle, they are generally more profitable and this is probably reflected by the preferences shown here.



Pigs were both the most and least popular

HEALTH

Despite the low income of many households, the majority of respondents answered the highest categories in the health questions. 78% fall sick more than five times a year, and 43% have to spend more than 100,000 shillings per year on the medication. The amount people are willing to invest in health insurance per person per year varied greatly however, with 30% saying they would spend more than 12,000 shillings, and anything between 12-22% prepared to spend on lower amounts. This no doubt correlates with differences in income.

FURTHER NOTES

An open-ended question at the ends tells us the community most want the things we all value – adequate health care, easier access to water, and help with increasing standards of education for their children. Many people said they find it difficult to get to a hospital, and getting to a well usually requires a walk to a neighbouring village. Although it is difficult to address all these needs, the centre is optimistic that they can use the current data to continue progress in what they have already achieved.