

AMBASSADORSHIP CYCLE – 2 REPORT OF MARIAM LADI YUNUSA FOUNDATION AMBASSADORS

**IN GULAK /BAZZA MICHKA LGA,
ADAMAWA STATE.**

**FROM
19TH JUNE TO 1ST JULY 2023.**



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The second version of the Ambassadorship cycle training that commenced on the 20th of June 2023, covered three key areas.

- Agriculture
- Leadership Development
- Information and communication Technology (ICT)

AGRICULTURE

The team had an early arrival at Michika on 19th June 2023 to prepare for the commencement of the Ambassadorship Cycle -2. The training commenced on the 20th of June with eight of the ambassadors present and two absent due to the heavy downpour. Before the commencement of the training, the team leader introduced the team members and welcomed everyone present and encouraged the beneficiaries to put in their best as the training will be helpful to them, both now and in the future.



The training started with maize cultivation, where the facilitator Joshua Gamaraja took the girls through the processes in Module 1, which comprises of introduction of maize, site selection, growing condition, land preparation, planting of maize, selection of varieties, soil management for maize production, weed management, disease and pests control and harvesting of maize. After exhausting the sub-topics on maize, time was given for questions and answers were given in return.

The second day of the training continued with cowpea cultivation. We commenced with the recap of the previous topic, which was cultivation of maize and gave the beneficiaries opportunity to tell us what they learnt from the previous lesson. In Module 2 which was cowpea production, discussions on site selection, growing condition, land type and preparation, planting of cowpea, selection of varieties, soil management, pests and disease control and harvesting of

cowpea was made. Time was also allotted for questions and answers, which made the discussion very interesting.

Day three featured teachings on groundnut production. After having a recap of the discussion held on cowpea production, the topic commences from introduction of groundnut to harvesting. The discussion was interesting as all the girls participated actively. After the teachings, the girls were encouraged to ask questions to get clarity on the subject matter.

On the fourth day, a combined topic on both Climate Change and Climate-Smart Agriculture/Agriculture and the Environment were discussed. The ambassadors were given detailed introduction to climate change, the effect of climate change on agricultural production, contributions of agriculture to climate change, climate smart agriculture concept and systems to adopt in order to mitigate the effect of climate change on the planet and especially on food production. Furthermore, an overview of how the environment can affect agriculture if not properly taken care of coupled with discussions on soil quality, and erosion, biodiversity loss, how water is contaminated through pollution from pesticides, fertilizer and livestock were taught.

The discussion also covered Integrated Pest Management. The ambassadors were given an eye-opener that agricultural pests can be in form of plants, animals and fungus. Hence, an integrated pest management involves the selection and application of control strategies that minimize losses and maximize returns. Pests can be a constraint to agriculture, we discussed how pests' situation develop, pests damage assessment, how does IPM work, precaution on handling and benefit of IPM.



Distribution of farm tools and IPM materials.

On the final day, the facilitators and all the beneficiaries went to the farmland to put into practice what they have learnt in the theoretical session. They were showed the planting depth and spacing of maize and other crops and that preferably, planting should be done on a tilled land to allow aeration and proper management as the



Farmland practical instituted by the facilitator, Mr Gamaraja.

crops grow. Both the ambassadors and MLY-F staffs participated in the planting exercise on the ambassadors' farm in Baza. It was an exciting moment for all of us.

The training on Good Agriculture Practices was done simultaneously with the Leadership Development and the sessions were carried out successfully and all the beneficiaries were grateful for being chosen to be part of these exercises.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

The training commenced on the 20th of June 2023. By 2:30pm 8 girls were present and 2 were absent. The Leadership training began immediately after the agricultural session with Self introductions. The ambassadors were introduced to the definition of leadership, a leader, levels of leadership and qualities of a good leader.

The second day featured lectures on feelings and wellbeing with intriguing sub-topics like knowing that strong feelings are normal, knowing positive ways of dealing with strong feelings and how to deal with stress. Teachings on Our Relationships were the focus on the third day of the leadership programme. The ambassadors were enlightened on positive and Negative aspects of friendship, ways to resist negative peer pressure, practicing respectful communication with adults, how to solve disagreements with adult, distinguishing between healthy and harmful behaviour and understanding consent, and knowing the right response to uncomfortable circumstances.

The training continued the following day on safe and healthy relationship. The topic couldn't be completed on the third day because of the broadness of the topic. Therefore, the facilitator extended the topic till the following day, 3rd June. One of the most educating topics is the lecture on touch. The Ambassadors were made to understand the concept of good and bad touch. In his lecture, he reiterated that "We are all product of the past, but we shouldn't make ourselves prisoners of it", hence, Ambassadors have the right to say no to whatever they have given their consent to in the past. He furthered that everyone is allowed and wired to have a change of mind which means no one has the lawful right to force anyone into doing something against their beliefs and values. The training continued with teachings on Sexual Relationship and Reproductive Health. Discussions about changes that happen during puberty, having clear understanding of menstruation and cultivating an habit of menstrual hygiene and health, prevention and transmission of sexual transmitted Infections (STIs). As expected, the ambassadors asked a lot of questions and made immense contributions especially on issues relating to personal hygiene.

The penultimate day featured educative teachings on safety and violence, different types of violence and their consequences, ways to seek support in situations of risk violence, responding to violence, responding to situations of risk and violence, having a personal safety plan, and finally, gender-based violence against women and girls (GBV). The training session for the day was wrapped up with practical classes on liquid soap making which was undoubtedly a major skill acquisition for the ambassadors.

The final day was characterized by an evaluation exercise and a recap of the topics dissected during the leadership development sessions. Also, the manufactured liquid soap was shared among the ambassadors and other community girls.



Vocational practical during the leadership development session

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

The intensive training for information and communication technology began immediately after the leadership training concluded. Our beneficiaries underwent comprehensive computer training that went beyond basic computer operation. They were immersed in a rigorous curriculum covering a range of major computer programs, including Microsoft Office packages such as MS Word, MS PowerPoint, and MS Excel. They also learned internet navigation skills like emailing and conducting research. Despite the initial challenges posed by the beneficiaries' limited knowledge of computers, both the beneficiaries and the facilitator demonstrated unwavering determination and preparedness, allowing them to overcome these obstacles.



To ensure an environment conducive to focused training and supervision, the Mariam Ladi Yunusa Foundation facilitated the acquisition (rental) of a well-ventilated and suitable building for intensive training. The trainer introduced the ambassadors to various computer concepts, including computer definitions, booting a computer system, and identifying computer parts such as the CPU and monitor. The availability of computers on-site greatly enhanced the practical sessions, and self-explanatory handbooks were provided to support the ambassadors' learning.



During the training's second and third day, the ambassadors delved into Microsoft Word Office, applying the concepts they had learned with the assistance of Mavis Beacon. They were assigned a short story to type on the Microsoft Word workspace. Despite varying speeds and individual progress, all the ambassadors successfully completed the given task. This achievement was remarkable considering the ambassadors had no prior experience with MS Word. The knowledge gained from this training will benefit not only the ambassadors aspiring to further their education, starting with the JAMB Computer-based exams, but also the entire community, as they can now engage in computer-related work in nearby villages.

On the fourth and fifth day, the ambassadors were introduced to Microsoft Excel. Although challenging, they rose to the occasion under the guidance of the instructor.

The trainer meticulously explained the intricacies of Excel spreadsheets, which are essential for the ambassadors who are new to this application. Notably, this training equips the ambassadors with the ability to calculate, organize, and evaluate quantitative data. These skills can be valuable to schoolteachers and principals in their communities when computing results if they delegate these tasks to the ambassadors.



The penultimate and final day of the training focused on intensive lessons and practical sessions on PowerPoint and internet usage. The ambassadors, who previously had no knowledge of surfing the internet, utilizing search engines, or conducting research, have now become computer-literate. We are proud that the MLY-F ambassadors can confidently send and receive emails within their local community without any hindrance. Each of the ten ambassadors who participated in the ICT training has acquired the ability to independently engage in these activities.

CHALLENGES/RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Late coming by the ambassadors to the training venue due to the season
2. Some of the ambassadors do not assimilate fast which makes the training time consuming.
3. Training should commence before the onset of the rainy season to curtail late coming.
4. The training should take place when schools are on holiday preferably.
5. A topic on Team Building should be included in the leadership training manual, looking at the ongoing project of maize farm in Bazza.

APPRECIATION

We sincerely appreciate God Almighty and The Mariam Ladi Yunusa Foundation for giving us the opportunity to serve in this capacity and the entire team members for their relentless effort, especially the Programme Director for her tireless support in organizing the team for a successful delivery. May the lord bless you all, long live The Mariam Ladi Yunusa Foundation.



Mariam Ladi Yunusa Foundation Ambassadors CYCLE -2

APPENDIX

MLY-F STAFFS IN ATTENDANCE

1. Joshua Gamaraja
2. Papka Yohanna
3. Hyaduwa Bake
4. Blessing Abbas

ATTENDANCE/ AVERAGE PERFORMANCE SHEET FOR MLY-F AMBASSADORS IN AGRIC. TRAINING IN BAZA, MICHKA LGA. FROM 19TH TO 24TH JULY 2023.

S/N	✓ NAME	TUE.	WED.	THUR.	FRID.	SAT.	AGE	SIGN	SCORE %(s)
1	Glory Patrick	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	18		95
2	Joy Samuel	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	17		99
3	Gertrude Wada	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	16		83
4	Hussaina Mohammed	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	17		40
5	Sa'adatu Mu'azu	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	18		40
6	Maryam Usman	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	19		60
7	Rashida Adamu	✓		✓			20		Absent
8	Faith Clement	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	16		96
9	Anna Moses		✓	✓	✓	✓	18		51
10	Joy Daniel	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	16		40

TEST QUESTIONS FOR MLY-F AMBASSADORS ON LEADERSHIP IN BAZZA, MICHIKA LGA, ADAMAWA STATE

INSTRUCTION: ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS

1. What is leadership?
2. A good leader must be kind, humble, compassionate
and.....
3. What is the name of your leadership coach?.....
4. How do we deal with stress?
5. How do we deal with stress?
 - a. talking to a friend
 - b. by drinking alcohol
 - c. by running away
6. What do you say to anyone who touches your body in a bad way?
 - a. No/Stop
 - b. Yes/ok
7. We need to build confidence to be
 - a. farmers
 - b. Good leaders
 - c. Students
8. What do you want to be in future?
.....
9. How many times do we need to take our bath to maintain good menstrual hygiene
 - a. 5 times a day
 - b. 3 times a day
 - c. 10 times a day
10. There are 4 types of violence
 - a. physical violence
 - b. emotional violence
 - c. sexual violence
 - d.....

TEST QUESTIONS ON AGRICULTURAL INNOVATIONS

INSTRUCTION: ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS

1. Give three uses of Maize?
2. What is the best soil for maize cultivation?
3. What is the planting depth and spacing for maize?
4. Give three uses of cowpea?
5. Give the full meaning of the following
 - a. FAO
 - b. IITA
 - c. PH
6. What is the best soil for cowpea production?
7. Which is the best for sowing all crops? a.) zero tillage b.) tillage
8. What is climate change?
9. Mention three categories of pests?
10. Mention three (3) benefits of integrated pest management?