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sustainable environment, education & development

Interim Report

Project Malio (Year 1): A community-led approach to eliminating open defecation and facilitating sustained behavior change, Fort Dauphin, Southeast Madagascar

Activities conducted from November 2014 – April 2015



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1. Executive Summary

The 2015 Millennium Development goal to halve the proportion of people living without sanitation is estimated to be running 130 years behind schedule (WHO/UNICEF, 2014). In Madagascar, just 14% of people have access to improved sanitation (UNICEF, 2011) and the practice of open defecation is widespread, contaminating food and water sources, and perpetuating the incidence of diarrhoeal diseases. In the urban commune of Fort Dauphin in the southeast of the country, 4,470 cases of diarrhoeal disease were reported in 2013 (MoH, 2013), with thousands more likely to have gone unreported. With much of the town seriously overcrowded, water and sanitation infrastructure warrants immediate attention.

Project Malio is working to reduce the practice of open defecation and facilitate behaviour change and improved hygiene practices within Fort Dauphin, the urban centre of Madagascar's Anosy Region. The project is engaging the entire town in a high impact and broad scale behaviour change programme that focuses on defecation; motivating and mobilising the community to eradicate the practice of open defecation and supporting them to construct 800 latrines for the most disadvantaged families, and 14 school latrines for the town's public schools. SEED Madagascar [SEED] (formerly Azafady UK) anticipates project activities will directly benefit 38,000 residents, with the indirect benefits of a cleaner environment impacting the entire community of some 63,000 people by the end of the 3 funded years.

Project Malio is an expansion of SEED's pilot initiative, Project Soaiegna, which was previously funded by Guernsey OAC. In the second six months of Project Year 1 (PY1), the Malio team has been extremely successful. The team has worked hard to stimulate change throughout the whole of Fort Dauphin; supporting the construction of hundreds of household latrines, setting up open defecation elimination community plans, strengthening the capacity of the town's human resource sector, educating students on hygiene and sanitation best practices, implementing a mass media campaign and supporting the management of a public latrine. This report details the activities conducted during the second six months of Project Malio, from November 2014 to April 2015.

2. Activity Detail

2.1 Partner Association Capacity Building Training

Partner Association Training has allowed the Malio team to form a support network throughout the community, and has built the capacity of local groups whilst also developing the training skills of ONG Azafady trainers. The



ONG Azafady's Head of Community Health engaging partner association members during the Monitoring and Evaluation capacity building training

final two PY1 partner association trainings were conducted by ONG Azafady trainers in November and December 2014. Training session topics included activity design and development, and monitoring and evaluation (M&E) planning and implementation. In addition to these training sessions, the Partner Association Mentor (PAM) conducted 43 support sessions with each of the four partner associations to consolidate partners' understanding of training topics. Partner Association Satisfaction Surveys were conducted throughout Y1 to assess the popularity and effectiveness of the partner support provided through Project Malio. Of the partner association members

surveyed, 30/37 (81%) indicated that they found the training very useful to their job or mission. Additionally, 32/37 (86%) indicated that they feel confident implementing what they have learned in the training sessions, and 32/37 (86%) indicated that they found the training enjoyable. Whilst these results are extremely promising, it was noted that owing to the fact that it was the PAM who conducted this survey each month, members may not have felt completely comfortable answering honestly. This will be taken into consideration in the future, by ensuring that members of the Malio team who are directly involved with partner association activities are not the same as the members conducting monitoring surveys.

In addition to training provided by ONG Azafady trainers, the Mananjo Association and members of the Project Malio team attended a week-long puppet training in Fort Dauphin in February. This training was conducted by an organisation from Tulear which has a extensive experience using puppetry in Madagascar to convey important messages in an entertaining and engaging way. Following the training, Mananjo Association and Malio team members performed a sanitation and hygiene-themed puppet show for a primary school in Fort Dauphin. This was a wonderful way for the team to apply their newly acquired puppet skills to a live audience and was great practice for the puppet shows they will conduct in the future with Project Malio.



Puppet show conducted by members of the Malio team and Manan-jo at a local EPP

In order to assess whether the four partner associations were able to use the information that they had learned in training and apply them practically in their communities, an evaluation was conducted in early 2015. The PAM, with assistance from Malio's International Specialist and Head of Community Health, developed an evaluation plan whereby each partner association had one overall task with indicators for assessing the completion of this task based on the nine training sessions they had received. The goal for each evaluation task was to conduct the assigned task utilising specific skills learned from ONG Azafady partner training with the ultimate goal of promoting positive hygiene and sanitation behaviours. Partner association Mananjo Association was tasked with developing and implementing a mass mobilisation within two PY1 fokontany. They were



A member of Avotry Association presenting their plan to implement their evaluation task using learning from capacity building trainings

required to develop a communication plan and a budget with transparent explanations, write official letters to the commune, create weekly activity plans, design and implement a M&E system, explain their professional operating principles for the event, and write a report detailing the inputs, activities, outcomes and impacts of their mass mobilisation. The success of their assigned task was measured via their fulfilment of each of the indicators. The evaluation task for the Avotry Association focused on the management of the Amparihy public latrine and the linked business unit. The evaluation task for Association ASAF was to design, plan and implement a surf competition, while Association DCF was tasked with designing and implementing a beach soccer tournament.

In late February, each partner association presented a plan for their assigned task to the ONG Azafady trainers and the PAM. ONG Azafady trainers provided feedback on the plans, which included reviewing the ways in which each of the nine indicators would be met. The weakest aspect of each associations' plan was identified as the task to design a monitoring and evaluation plan, indicating that partners had not properly understood and that the M&E training needs to be adapted accordingly. Additionally, ASAF and Mananjo struggled to link their mass mobilisation activities with the themes of Project Malio. The PAM provided additional support to explain this connection and help the associations to incorporate positive hygiene and sanitation messages into their events. Details of these events can be found in Sections 2.3 (ASAF surf competition and Mananjo mass mobilisation) and 2.8 (Avotry public latrine management). Due to Association DCF's lack of effort to implement their evaluation task (the beach soccer competition), ONG Azafady has decided to not extend the partnership with this association into PY2. Additionally, during the implementation of Mananjo's mass mobilisation, it became evident that members were more motivated by the funding available through Project Malio than the core themes of Project Malio. For this reason, ONG Azafady will also not extend the partnership with Mananjo into PY2. New partners will instead be sought and will receive capacity building support in PY2 alongside Avotry and ASAF, who successfully applied their learning topics from training, and showed a high level of motivation to work with ONG Azafady and promote healthy hygiene behaviours in their communities.

2.2 Mass Advertising Campaign and Radio Broadcasts

Since October, 360 short radio slots relating to Project Malio activities have been aired on Fort Dauphin's three radio stations. Interviews with the Mayor of Fort Dauphin, heads of the fokontany of Ampasikabo and Esokaka, and a local doctor, were recorded in late February and broadcast throughout the remaining months of PY1.

December and January saw the development of a Fort Dauphin-specific drama series containing four, fifteen-minute episodes per series. The three series (twelve episodes in total) debuted in early February and were aired throughout Fort Dauphin until the end of PY1 in April. The drama series tells the story of ordinary people who locals can relate to, struggling with and overcoming sanitation and hygiene issues in Fort Dauphin. In April, the drama series broadcasts also included quiz questions about hygiene and sanitation with listeners invited to submit their answers to SEED's office, to increase community engagement with the series' messages. Out of the 36 people to submit answers, 7 people provided the correct answers to all questions.



The Project Malio lambahoany, designed by the Media and Marketing Officer



The Project Malio official t-shirt containing the project slogan, "Clean is Good, Stop Open Defecation."

In addition to Project Malio's extensive radio campaign, branded information education communication (IEC) materials were designed and produced in PY1. These included 2 billboard posters, 400 t-shirts, 3,000 pens, 1,800 buckets, 400 lambahoanys (sarongs), 6 banners, 3,000 bars of soap, 2,000 posters, and 3,000 exercise books. These will be distributed throughout Project Malio to beneficiary households, non-latrine beneficiary focus group attendees, members of the monitoring committees (see Section 2.4), CoSans (voluntary

government health agents), members of partner associations and participants in Project Malio mass mobilisations, competitions and media events.

Due to lower than anticipated participation in the fokontany-wide slogan competition, concrete signs which were intended to display community-designed slogans were not painted in PY1. More emphasis will be placed on encouraging participating fokontany to design and paint their slogan on concrete signs in the coming years of the project to ensure these accurately reflect community views.

An assessment on the reach and impact of Project Malio's radio activities and IEC materials was conducted with 39 Fort Dauphin residents selected randomly from 9 fokontany in the final quarter of PY1. The results of this were promising, with radio broadcasts in particular identified as an effective means for spreading project messages. 34/39 people reported having heard of Project Malio; 31/39 reported having heard the Project Malio drama series (with all 31 reporting that they found the series educational and only one person reporting not liking it); 32/39 reported having heard short slots about Project Malio on the radio; and 33/39 reported that the Project Malio media has changed their behaviour regarding sanitation and hygiene, with 25/33 people citing the radio specifically. Finally, 11/14 respondents provided correct messages about Project Malio that they had heard through the radio or other project media outlets.

2.3 Mass Mobilisations

October marked the beginning of preparations for World Latrine Day, which was celebrated worldwide on November 19th. The event was marked by Project Malio on three separate occasions:

- The weekend before November 19th, beach cleanups were organised by the four partner associations involved in Project Malio capacity building trainings. The cleanups took place on two local beaches in Fort Dauphin, with partner associations split evenly among the sites. These beach cleanups were well attended and illustrated how easy it can be for the community to improve their own environment.
- On November 19th itself, the Project Malio team broadcasted sanitation and hygiene messages throughout town via a tam-tam (a popular means of communication in Madagascar whereby a car drives around the town playing music and messages loudly). The event attracted sponsorship from multiple local businesses and advertisements of events the following weekend were broadcast throughout the day. The first games of the beach soccer competition were also played, continuing over the following week in the run up to the final match, held on November 22nd.



Members of the Malio team leading the World Latrine Day parade through Fort Dauphin

- On November 22nd, a large-scale town-wide parade was held, organised by the Malio team in partnership with local authorities, NGOs, schools and private businesses from across Fort Dauphin. The parade involved students from nine of Fort-Dauphin's schools, members of Malio partner associations, and Fort Dauphin residents. The parade was extremely well attended and drew a great deal of attention to the messages of Project Malio. The parade ended with speeches, choreographed dances, sanitation and hygiene quizzes and

refreshments, after which the final game of the beach soccer tournament was played. The game was also very well attended and sanitation and hygiene messages were announced throughout. 108 bars of soap, 15 buckets, 15 cups, 15 bottles of *sur eau* (a cheap, locally available water purifying solution), 72 pens, and 18 exercise books were given out to as prizes for the days' events.



Children participating in hand washing activities held at Manan-jo's mass mobilisation

In March, following the success of World Latrine Day, partner association Mananjo was tasked with developing and implementing a mass mobilisation to reinforce project messages in two of the PY1 fokontany, Ampasikabo and Esokaka. Mananjo took the lead on planning and implementing this mass mobilisation, with support from the Malio team to ensure that the event not only illustrated Mananjo's learning, but that it also effectively promoted the goals and objectives of Project Malio. The event, which predominantly attracted young people, included speeches from chef fokontanys, introductions to each fokontany's Project Malio monitoring committee¹ and community sanitation action plans, a puppet show, sanitation and hygiene quiz, hand washing demonstrations, and water-themed games. This well-attended and successful event

illustrated the potential influence that well prepared, competent, and motivated local organisations can have in Fort Dauphin.

The final mass mobilisation event of PY1 was held on World Water Day (21st/22nd March) which partner association ASAF celebrated with a surf competition. The competition was deliberately held close to a popular open defecation site on Ankoba beach to highlight the negative impact of the practice and two wooden signs were posted at either end of the beach to remind people that open defecation is not allowed in the area. In addition to the main event of the surf competition, the two-day celebration included a beach clean up, sanitation and hygiene quiz, various other fun games, races and competitions, and a campfire. Throughout the celebration, messages about sanitation and hygiene and about the importance of clean and safe drinking water were announced over the large sound system. The event was moderately well attended and was a great learning opportunity for the inexperienced but highly motivated ASAF to build upon in the future.



Young people participating in the dance competition at the World Water Day celebrations hosted by Malio partner association, ASAF

2.4 Sanitation Action Planning

¹ Monitoring committees consist of local residents who are motivated to change the sanitation situation in their fokontany. The role of these committees is to assure fidelity and transparency of Malio activities, to serve as a liaison between the Malio team and the fokontany, and to assure sustainability of sanitation and hygiene activities after project activities have finished. They conduct visits to beneficiary households, similar to participatory monitoring walk-throughs, to observe the cleanliness and maintenance of household latrines, and ensure the enforcement of open defecation penalties.

As previously reported, motivated households were identified through community level triggering sessions held in each of the three PY1 target fokontany: Ampasikabo, Esokaka and Amparihy. Site inspections were conducted at each household interested in receiving Malio latrine construction support, with latrines allocated based on need and availability of a suitable site. As explained in the previous report, the criteria for this process meant that a number of interested households were unable to receive a latrine from Project Malio. In October and November, these households were invited to participate in focus groups to discuss ways to defecate safely without having a latrine, the importance of eliminating open defecation, the oral-faecal transmission cycle, and the importance of washing hands with soap. Bars of soap were distributed to all non-latrine beneficiaries to incentivise their involvement in the focus groups. Although many were initially unmotivated to attend because they had not received latrine construction support, the popularity of the groups grew and, by the end of PY1, 103 such focus groups had been conducted, attended by a total of 876 people (514 women, 362 men).



Chef fokontany and members of the monitoring committee of Esokaka express their interest in Project Malio

In January, a workshop to discuss the progress of fokontany sanitation action plans developed at triggering sessions was held for 27 chef fokontanys (heads of village clusters), CoSans, and members of Malio’s fokontany monitoring committees. Training on CLTS methodology was also provided to support the continuation of the behaviour changes seen as a result of Project Malio activities after the project ends. Fokontany monitoring committees met twice after this to discuss the ways in which to continue and supplement Project Malio themes using ideas introduced at the workshop.

Each PY1 fokontany sanitation action plan, initially developed at triggering and subsequently solidified at the monitoring committee training workshop in January, came to fruition in the final months of PY1. All three sanitation action plans included a “community discipline,” or financial penalties for those caught openly defecating to be collected by CoSans or members of the monitoring committee and given to the chef fokontany, who will keep record and use the penalty fines to make necessary sanitation improvements in the fokontany. These plans also set out measures to ensure activities are continued, with each community deciding that their monitoring committee, chef de fokontany, and CoSans will meet every three months to report on monitoring activities and to update the sanitation action plan.

In April, 13 hamlet level evaluation sessions were conducted to assess progress towards the three sanitation action plans, as well as to provide an opportunity for community members in each of the participating PY1 fokontany to provide both positive and negative feedback on Project Malio, and to provide suggestions and recommendations for the future. Common themes emerged from all three of the fokontany. Latrine beneficiaries in Ampasikabo, Esokaka, and Amparihy explained that the quality of the construction materials was



The Chef fokontany and monitoring committee members of Ampasikabo prepare to present Ampasikabo’s Community Sanitation Action Plan

lower than expected, especially those materials used for the top structure. Additionally, residents in all fokontany said that not enough latrines had been offered and suggested that Project Malio provide latrines to the households that still do not have one. Residents in Esokaka and Amparihy also suggested that Project Malio should conduct additional mass mobilisations in their fokontany to increase awareness of the project, and should review the 5,000Ar (approx. £1.25) payment for latrine construction, which was reported as being too expensive for many households.

2.5 Household Sanitation Support

After site assessments, household payment, and adjustments to the waiting list, the final list of latrine beneficiaries for PY1 was confirmed in mid-November. Final figures listed that 148 households in Amparihy, 44 in Ampasikabo, and 74 in Esokaka (266 in total) were chosen to receive latrine construction support. These allocation figures differ slightly from those previously reported following the decision to reallocate some latrine support from unmotivated or unqualified households in Esokaka and Amparihy to highly motivated households in Ampasikabo.



Household latrine beneficiaries conducting participatory monitoring with their peers

Latrine construction support started in Ampasikabo in November, and followed in Esokaka and Amparihy in January and Amparihy respectively. During the construction process 5 households dropped out, resulting in a total of 261 latrines built in PY1.

To complement construction support, household support visits began in Ampasikabo in November to provide one-on-one advice and encouragement, and to stimulate motivation towards continued use of latrines. These were subsequently run in Esokaka and Amparihy, with a total of 1,411 household support visits provided by Malio CLOs by the end of PY1. The CLOs also facilitated a total of 49 focus groups for 26 groups of latrine beneficiaries (5 in Ampasikabo, 7 in Esokaka, 14 in Amparihy). Topics of the focus groups included faecal-oral transmission, what it means to openly defecate, latrine maintenance, and latrine emptying. Absence rates for both household visits and focus groups were low, indicating a high level of motivation among the latrine beneficiaries.



One of the many well-built and well-maintained latrines supported through Project Malio

Once participants had become familiar with the focus group support structure, participatory monitoring activities were introduced in February during which members of each focus group walked around each other's latrines and rated them on cleanliness, maintenance, and hand washing station upkeep. A total of 38 such participatory monitoring "walk-throughs" were conducted in PY1, with the results of each session written up on public boards set up in the participating fokontany in order to instil a sense of competition amongst participants. Results showed the majority of latrine recipients were using and looking after their new facilities well. At the end of

PY1, community members awarded the “Gold Standard” rating, which indicated the highest level of achievement and was the ultimate aim for households, to 20% of households for latrine cleanliness; 37% households for latrine maintenance; and 61% households for hand washing station upkeep.

2.6 School Activities

Following completion of the school baseline monitoring and planning period in December, educational school sessions began in January. By the end of PY1, Malio’s School Liaison Officer (SLO) had conducted 137 educational sessions for 7,938 students across 8 participating EPPs (primary schools).

Three different sessions were run. The first contained an overview of the importance of latrine use, latrine maintenance, and hand washing. Activities included drawing what students thought were appropriate latrines followed by discussions on why or why not students maintain their school’s latrine. The second two sessions focused on how to maintain and manage a latrine. The SLO facilitated discussions with students on how often they thought latrines needed to be cleaned, who should be responsible for cleaning, when cleaning should take place, what specific tasks needed to be completed when cleaning a latrine, and what materials were needed. Additionally, sessions included hand washing demonstrations, emphasising the use of soap and highlighting the times at which hand washing is crucial. These discussions will serve as the foundation for school latrine management and maintenance planning which was conducted in two schools by the end of PY1, and will follow in the remainder of target schools during subsequent project years (see Section 2.7).



EPP students participating in interactive activities during their SLO-led hygiene and sanitation sessions

With educational sessions now underway at primary schools across Fort Dauphin, similar sessions tailored for older age groups will begin with students at the public CEGs and Lycée in PY2. PY2 and 3 will also see the team expand school activities to include educational puppet shows following their associated training (see section 2.1). The students present at the initial trial-run puppet show were highly engaged and thoroughly enjoyed the show, so the team are very much looking forward to incorporating puppet shows into future school sessions.

2.7 School Latrine Provision

Following analysis of the school baseline data collected at the end of 2014, EPPs (primary schools) Centre I and Centre II were selected as the first schools to receive latrine repair support from the Project Malio construction team. Both schools showed high levels of motivation to improve their sanitation and hygiene, and participated in the drafting of a detailed Management and Maintenance Plan for the long-term upkeep of their latrines. These agreements are central to the sustainability of the school latrines and are essential to encourage continued good use, detailing tasks such as who is responsible for cleaning the latrine and how the latrine will be maintained after the end of Project Malio activities. The project team stipulated that each of the 14 participating public schools in Fort Dauphin must have a School Maintenance and Management Plan before any repairs or construction can begin at that school. A meeting was held in April with members of the regional Ministries for water and education, directors of EPPs Centre I and Centre II, and senior Malio team members to present the

final version of the Latrine Management and Maintenance Plan and a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for school latrine construction support to each school. The two MoUs were signed in mid-April by the headmasters and representatives from both the district and regional levels of the Ministry of Education. At this meeting, the government “School Friends of WaSH” scheme, which all schools will be encouraged to achieve during PY2 and 3, was discussed and decisions were made by the regional Ministries for water and education regarding the criteria and verification process.

With the management procedures agreed and in place, repair of latrines at EPPs Centre I and II began in April and will continue into PY2.

2.8 Public Latrine Action Planning

Ownership of the business unit linked to the Amparihy public latrine, the rent from which is designed to support the latrine’s operating costs, was officially reassigned to the Urban Commune of Fort Dauphin (local authorities) in December. A MoU clarifying roles and responsibilities with regard to the business unit and public latrine was signed by the Commune, Avotry Association, and ONG Azafady in January. It was agreed that the Commune would be responsible for the management of the business unit as well as the collection and distribution of the rent money to Avotry Association, whilst Avotry Association is responsible for using the rent money to manage the daily maintenance of the public latrine. Avotry Association is also responsible for monitoring the use and observing the status of the public latrine and reporting these data back to ONG Azafady. This MoU was updated in April to include the roles and responsibilities of the business unit tenant, Fort Dauphin-based organisation Association Milazaka Development (AMD), following their lease of the business unit. AMD are responsible for paying 100,000Ar per month, 50% of which will initially go to Avotry for the upkeep of the public latrine, and the remainder of which will be spent by the Commune on repairs needed for the business unit.



The Amparihy Public Latrine. Maintained and managed by the Avotry Association

Avotry Association presented their management and maintenance plan for the public latrine in February, as their task assigned through the partner association evaluation (see Section 2.1). A review of Avotry Association’s daily financial records indicated that all money made from the 50Ar charged for using the latrine was put towards the daily upkeep and functioning costs of the latrine. The presence of transparent and accurate financial records was positive evidence that the association had gained the

ability to put training topics into practice and increased their capacity to operate as a professional Project Malio implementing partner. In the month of February, for example, public latrine user fees generated a total of 114,250Ar, of which Avotry Association reported using 83,800Ar to cover expenses including the purchase of toilet paper, water, telephone credit, coffee for the guardian, and the salary for the guardian. A “profit” of 30,450Ar was made during this month and was rolled over into the next month’s earnings. That the latrine is generating income in this way is an extremely encouraging sign and means that, with proper management and the addition of rental income from the business unit, funds will be available to support larger maintenance costs such as latrine emptying which will inevitably be needed in the future.

Monitoring data collected each day by Avotry Association and summarised by Malio's Partner Associations Mentor (PAM) showed that the public latrine averaged 2,443 users per month from October 2014 to April 2015. Usage rates were boosted by a community event hosted by Association Avotry over a weekend at the end of April at which participants repainted the public latrine and cleaned the surrounding area.

Whilst usage and financial management has progressed extremely positively, however, further work is still needed to improve the public latrine's cleanliness. From March, a daily rating of the public latrine's cleanliness was obtained by the PAM and indicated that, out of the 31 days monitored, just 2 days received the rating of "very clean," 12 days received the rating of "clean," and 17 days received the rating of "dirty." This will be addressed in PY2.



A member of Association Milazaka Development building a traditional Malagasy Chair

3. Monitoring and Evaluation

A thorough monitoring and evaluation framework through which to measure the progress and impact of Project Malio was established at the start of PY1, and will be implemented throughout the project. In PY1, monitoring activities included a baseline study at the start of the project to inform activities and provide a benchmark against which to measure change; several ongoing activity-specific monitoring exercises to assess activities as they were implemented; and an end-of-year evaluation to assess changes achieved during PY1.

Key findings from the baseline are summarised below; the full baseline report can be provided on request. A Baseline Household Survey was conducted at the start of the project with a random sample of 385 households across all 10 of Fort Dauphin's fokontany. This survey comprised a combination of self-reported questions and interviewer observations which assessed the following themes: educational level, incidence of child diarrhoea and associated school absenteeism, hand washing practices, defecation practices, ownership and maintenance of a latrine, knowledge, attitudes and practices regarding hygiene and sanitation, water storage, mass media impact, and public latrine use. Key results included:

- 21% of households reported 4 or more incidences of diarrhoea in under-fives in the last month
- 84% of households reported using a latrine at home, despite interviewers observing a latrine in only 69% of households
- 21% of adults who used a latrine reported having a child who does not use it
- 95% of adults and 85% of children reported having washed their hands on the day of the survey; however, 65% of adults and 36% of children who washed their hands reported not using soap every time
- 94% of households responded that using a latrine is both healthier and better than open defecation.

Whilst latrine observation suggested that latrine use was higher than originally anticipated, discrepancies between data highlighted the pitfalls of reliance on self-reported data. Households displayed a high knowledge of the importance of good sanitation and hygiene practices and may have provided answers they thought interviewers "wanted" to hear rather than reveal the true situation. However, data such as the above noted

proportion of adults who use a latrine yet report having a child who does not use it and the low rates of soap usage in hand washing underline how significant improvements to daily practice are still needed.

An Endline Household Survey was conducted among the project's latrine beneficiaries and also among a random sample of Fort Dauphin residents who were not latrine beneficiaries. The survey used among the random sample was a slightly altered version of the survey used with beneficiaries, who were asked directly if, when, and how they emptied their latrine. Additionally, the team wanted to assess beneficiary households' maintenance activities in the period after their involvement in Project Malio finished, and such questions would have been inappropriate for the random sample who did not receive latrine construction support from SEED. Data for the end-of-year evaluation was collected up until the end of April and is currently being analysed. This data will be used to demonstrate changes between baseline and endline among Malio latrine beneficiaries and the larger community of Fort Dauphin.

Data from ongoing activity monitoring is summarised in Section 2 alongside details of respective activities.

4. Conclusions and Lessons Learned

The second six months of Project Malio have proved busy but rewarding. The Malio team worked hard to complete the numerous and varied activities of the project whilst implementing a thorough monitoring plan to assess their effectiveness. Monitoring data was continually reviewed and any data that warranted team discussions was addressed in a timely and organised fashion. The monitoring data allowed the team to adapt project activities effectively to better serve participants and allowed for continual capacity building among team members. All lessons learned throughout the project have been documented and recorded in the "Project Malio Lessons Learned" Log, as mentioned in first six-month report. This log has proved extremely useful in preparing for the second year of Project Malio.

One of the main lessons learned from PY1 was related to the timing of the latrine-beneficiary focus groups and the construction of latrines. As these were not concurrent in PY1, the topics discussed at focus groups and household support visits were not as relevant to households that had not yet started latrine construction. The purpose of focus groups is to give beneficiaries the opportunity to ask questions about latrine use and maintenance. With no latrine to use or maintain, the effectiveness the focus groups was reduced. Similar problems were faced in Malio's pilot, Project Soaiegna (also co-funded by Guernsey Overseas Aid Commission), highlighting the challenges associated with the delicate balance between implementing a truly participatory approach alongside a practically implementable schedule of construction support. Although further improvement is still needed, Project Malio has made significant progress towards finding this balance and looks forward to sharing learning on this with other organisations working towards similar goals. The Malio team are very excited to apply what has been learned in this first year to the successful implementation of the project in the following two years.



Student from Fort Dauphin's public high school participating in the World Toilet Day celebrations