

REPORT 1

SHORT TRAINING ON MOUNTAINEERING SKILLS

NARUMU WARD FROM 01ST DEC 2013 TO 21ST DEC 2013.

INTRODUCTION:

BUMACO CO. LTD through RUFIP has given support and consultancy in agricultural and financial institutions (SACCOS) in various districts of Kilimanjaro region. The problem of unemployment is hitting hard on rural Kilimanjaro region due to acute land ownership. To curb this situation, RUFIP has financed a training to equip youths with mountaineering and entrepreneurial skills. RUFIP is aiming to utilize Mount Kilimanjaro in creating employment opportunities to youths so as to increase the income of the natives around Hai district.

General learning objectives

RUFIP is aiming at inducting basic skills to youths, so as to enable them explore and utilize the surrounding opportunities as the way of creating employment that will increase their income and improve their life.

Following the current problem of unemployment, it will be useful particularly to the youths to have appropriate skills equipping them for self-employment.

The growing population of youths from primary and secondary schools has been a challenge to us on how to create employment opportunities by using resources such as Mount Kilimanjaro, fertile land and conducive climate, all these resources can be utilized to enable people employ themselves instead of depending only on getting employment from formal sector.

As a part of this program, RUFIP conducted a training of 39 youths in Narumu ward from 01st Dec 2013-21st Dec 2013.

Four facilitators tutored 6 subjects i.e Tourism and mountaineering skills, entrepreneurship, HIV/AIDS, First aid, communication skills and drug abuse carried out this training.

These courses were carried out in three weeks and the following results were achieved:

TOURISM AND MOUNTAINEERING SKILLS

Under this subject students were trained basic tourism concepts in relevant to Tanzanian attractions and Mount Kilimanjaro in particular. Park regulations, types of tourism,

mountaineering skills, customer care, hospitality/host-guest relationship and other basic tourism concepts were covered.

Methodology

In teaching this subject, we used participatory method, where students discussed after being facilitated with basic knowledge. Students who were already having mountaineering skills through experience lead the discussion.

Teaching Aid

Different mountain equipments such as sleeping tents, mess tents, tables, sleeping bags, and others were used. Students were able to demonstrate on how to use those equipments.

Evaluation

The lesson interested the trainees; most of the students understood the subject. Relevant questions were well answered by most of the trainees, group assignments, tests and final examination results were good.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

This course aimed at equipping youths with basic entrepreneurial skills so that they could manage to utilize the little they earn in developing themselves. The concept of small business management skills, marketing, innovation and quality management were covered.

Methodology

In teaching this subject, we used participatory method/student centered approach. Trainees were asked to give their opinion on how they understood the concept of entrepreneurship.

Evaluation

Trainees were so interested with entrepreneurship and marketing concepts. The subject was well understood by most of the trainees. Relevant questions were well answered, group assignments and final examination results were generally good to most of them. Most of the trainees were also able to identify the surrounding opportunities and resources as well as analyzing and developing business ideas of their interests.

FIRST AID

This is vital knowledge due to the environment and nature of the job they are expecting to implement. First aid concepts were well covered. The major aim here was to enable all trainees to understand practically how to offer first aid to victims suffering from different health

problems such as mountain/altitude sickness, muscle cramp, insect/snake bites, fracture, shock and other inconveniences.

Methodology

We used participatory method in teaching first aid, unlike other subjects, most of the trainees had previous knowledge of how to offer first aid and this enabled them to understand more about first aid knowledge.

Teaching Aid

First aid Kit was used as teaching aid. The students were able to see all necessary medical utensils and medicines which are basic for giving first aid.

Evaluation

The subject was familiar to most of the trainees. Most of them were able to explain procedures of giving first aid to victims suffered from different problems. Final examination results were good.

COMMUNICATION SKILLS

This was a core subject in training. Considering the fact that, we were training porters/prospective guides who will be communicating with foreigners.

Basic English commands were covered. Parts of speech, reading, writing and speaking English was insisted in this course.

Methodology

Since most of trainees were poor in language, we didn't use participatory method continuously.

Teaching Aid

Cards, flipcharts and pictures of different occasions taking place were used. Students were able to interpret those pictures and reading cards.

Evaluation

Honestly, language is still an obstacle to most students in Tanzania. Among all courses, this was seen difficult to most of the trainees in both reading and writing, some of the students still face problems in speaking English fluently. However facilitators have played their role in teaching language, Examination results were good.

HIV/AIDS

Among the burning issues in the world today is HIV/AIDS pandemic. As tourism stakeholders, these trainees are part of the population that is working on risk environment. With unknown health status, tourists from different nations in the world meet with these stakeholders. Therefore we have decided to introduce this course in their curricula to increase their awareness and sensitize them about this problem.

Methodology

Since AIDS is not new to most of the people, we have used participatory method in discussing this problem with trainees.

Evaluation

It is clear that, most of the youths are aware of this disease and some of them have been affected in one way or another by this problem. While discussing this problem, trainees were able to identify risk behaviors, transmission, symptoms, prevention measures and effects of HIV/AIDS to the society. This subject was meant to top up their knowledge as well as increasing their awareness about the problem.

MOUNTAIN CLIMBING

In This training, we agreed with trainees about 2 days trekking. We decided to climb Mount Kilimanjaro for at least 2 days as a part of practical training.

On 24th Dec 2013, we wrote a letter to chief park warden and got a reply on the same day with Ref No. KNP/P.1 allowing us to climb on 27th Dec 2013. We expected to climb free of charge but unfortunately, park regulations have changed and we were charged for all trainees, facilitator and tour guides.

We expected that all students will participate, unfortunately one student was not able to climb but the rest of 38 trainees climbed successfully and camped for one night at Machame hut (about 3000M a.s.l) The journey took about 20KM.

The most interesting occasion while trekking, we meet about 11 guides and porters whom we had trained in previous BUMACO trainings, which reveals that, our training is useful to them and is delivering.

They started climbing in the afternoon and reached Machame hut in evening, on the way one girl suffered from muscle contraction but she reached camp successfully. Early next morning we walked upward for 5KM and had memory pictures before taking breakfast then we started trekking down and reached Machame gate around 1:15 pm.

