

### Girgir primary school (January 2012)

In a perfect world, school children would grow up to be happy, healthy, functioning adults. However, there are hundreds of influences that they will encounter throughout their early lives that will have an impact on their development - both in negative and positive ways. Pastoralist children, one will bet with me that they face more problems compare to the other children.

There are various *issues* and *disorders* that *adolescents' girls and boys* may face in the turbulent times of their teen years. An adolescent feels all kinds of pressures - from parents, school and peers. They are in a transitional period where they are moving from *childhood* to *adulthood*. As well, the influence of peer pressure and the introduction of such pressures from drugs, alcohol and the opposite sex take charge on any teen. For all these reasons, there is need for adults-parents/guardian and concerned person to guide, talk to them and be there for them so that they cannot feel lost. Parents, Teachers- who stay with them for a long time in schools and NGOs which work with the girls' issues and adolescent issues need to cheap in, in helping these girls to grow.



*The girls listening to the presentation on life skills*

Indigenous information network as of the NGOs saw the importance of girls education and the problems pastoralist girls face, and started the programme of interacting with the pastoralist schooling going girls, talking to them, advising them and ensuring that they are comfortable in their schools environment and that the daily problems that faces them like sanitary problems, health and education does not affect their performance but rather improve in their education and discipline.

Girgir Primary School is one of the largest day and boarding schools in Archers post Samburu south: it has a total of more than 1000 pupils when meals are available. The number of pupils attending school decreases when meals are unavailable, as many pupils forgo the lengthy distances they have to walk to school and stay home instead.

The girls in Girgir primary school which is located in archers post samburu in Isiolo County face several challenges as well as the obvious challenge of living in an arid area. The children in school lack sanitary towels which often cause them miss school during their menstrual periods. With the help of the Indigenous Information Network (IIN), some of the students who do well in school have received sponsorships after sitting for their Kenya certificate of primary education (KCPE) and has performed well.





*Pupils receiving the sanitary towels*

Due to the above-mentioned problems facing the Samburu schools and the community as a whole, Indigenous Information Network (IIN) visited Girgir Primary School in Archers Post, Isiolo on 27<sup>th</sup> January 2012 to present its routine assistance packages and to give hope to the hardworking pupils especially the girls. Last year 2012, Girgir primary school performed very well in the KCPE exams. The first boy got 358 marks and was admitted to alliance boys secondary and girl 337. Several girls were called to good provincial schools like Nakuru girls, St. Georges among other school and the entire school was very happy.

All this success has come through the efforts of the school management and the helping hand of indigenous information network. It was commendable job done and the teachers, parents and pupils were happy. the issues of indiscipline cases especially among the girls has reduced and as indigenous information network is not going to tire to help the girls and will always wish to help large group ;,day scholars and boarders.