Report on the "Epuka Uchafu" Campaign at Busia One-Stop Border Post (OSBP)

Date: 1st October 2024 Time: 10:45 AM - 12:00 PM

Introduction

In commemoration of World Environmental Health Day, the Busia Port Health Office led a clean-up event branded "Epuka Uchafu" at the Busia One-Stop Border Post (OSBP). The campaign aimed to enhance sanitation and raise awareness on hygiene and disease prevention.

Participants:

- A. Health workers from Port Health & Wellness Clinic
- B. Cleaners from contracted company
- C. Members nominated by the Border Management Committee (BMC)
- D. Security agencies and clearing agents
- E. Kenya Revenue Authority officers
- F. Agriculture food Athority officers
- G. Kenya Fisheries officers
- H. Immigration officers

Activities:

- 1. **Solid Waste Collection:** Collection of litter and proper waste disposal.
- 2. Drainage of Stagnant Water: Draining stagnant water to prevent breeding of mosquitoes.
- 3. **General Sweeping**: Cleaning of common areas to improve hygiene.
- 4. **Health Education**: Talks on general cleanliness, Mpox and Marburg virus prevention, and hand hygiene.
- 5. Precautionary Measures: Emphasizing safe handling of waste to prevent contamination.

Requirements - Tools and Protective Equipment

The following tools and protective equipment were used to ensure the safety and efficiency of the clean-up activities:

- 1. Protective Gear: Masks, face shields, heavy-duty gloves, gumboots, and coveralls.
- 2. Bin Liners: For collecting and disposing of solid waste.
- 3. Brooms, Slashers, and Machetes: For sweeping and cutting overgrown grass.
- 4. Wheelbarrows: To transport waste to the collection points.
- 5. Spades and Jembes: For removing debris and stagnant water.
- 6. Drinking Water: To ensure participants stayed hydrated throughout the event.

Conclusion

The "Epuka Uchafu" campaign was a successful event that brought together various stakeholders in a collective effort to improve the environment at the Busia One-Stop Border Post. The health education sessions were particularly impactful, addressing key health concerns and promoting a clean and safe environment. The Busia Port Health Office commends all participants for their dedication to creating a healthier, cleaner community, and encourages the continuation of these efforts beyond World Environmental Health Day. Putting in mind Cleanliness is next to Godliness.

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Barnabas Kilel

Busia Port Health Officer IC