

RECLAMATION OF ABANDONED PITS, A DOUBLE WIN FOR KHAYA PRIMARY SCHOOL

For over 4 years, Khaya primary school premises had some abandoned pits. Some had been dug with the intention of constructing pit latrines, but due to lack of finances the project was abandoned. With the little funding they had, the school embarked on constructing some temporary toilets with very cheap materials and after sometime, Toilet walls collapsed and the slabs fell in. The school unintentionally resorted to abandoning the sites and only kept cautioned pupils from playing close to the pit.

Since 2014, Students from Khaya had been exposed to great danger due to existing of the on campus. Young kids playing near the pit were always at danger of falling into the pits and breaking their bones. For the pits which had been once used as latrines for close to a year, some waste products were still in them and this also causes health hazard.

During the rainy season the pits were accumulating a lot of rain water and being stagnant malaria causing mosquitoes found a home to breed.



When the opportunity to construct 13 VIP Toilets under the Sanitation and Hygiene Project by CCODE with funding from DESWOS emerged, the school authorities did not hesitate to request the contractors and CCODE infrastructure personnel to consider using the already existing pits in constructing the new ones. Doing this would address multiple challenges. Through the construction of new Toilets, sanitation and hygiene at the school would be enhanced and finally, the Pits which had been causing great danger to pupils and their surrounding communities.

The usage of the already existing pits while tricky has greatly assisted in many ways. The work of digging pits for VIP Toilets construction was simplified since there was already existing pits and therefore the timelines for the actual construction was enhanced.



Once the 13 Integrated VIP Toilets are completed and are operational, the outlook of the premises will be enhanced.

And while there may be some other health hazards at the school, the authorities already have a sigh of relief since the pits which were a great danger to the life of Khaya 3714 pupils have been reclaimed and wisely used.

