

AFCAP PROJECT: PRODUCTION AND DISSEMINATION OF A BOOKLET, 'CHILDREN, TRANSPORT AND MOBILITY'

FINAL REVIEW REPORT

Dr Gina Porter, Durham University, 21 July 2010

Summary

The booklet, produced by the Project Young Researchers, was professionally designed and prepared for printing in 2009. In 2010, 2000 copies were successfully printed and disseminated in Ghana and Malawi, with support from a collaborating team including the following: the young researchers, Professor Albert Abane, University of Cape Coast [Ghana], Dr Alister Munthali and Dr Elsbeth Robson, University of Malawi; Dr Gina Porter, University of Durham, UK, and Ms Kate Czuczman of the International Forum for Rural Transport and Development. The booklet has also been made available for free download on AFCAP's web site, IFRTD's website <http://www.ifrtd.org/en/full.php?id=480> and the child mobility project research site: www.dur.ac.uk/child.mobility.

Feedback from recipient organisations and individuals has been extremely positive. The project was delivered within cost but required extra time due to printing delays in Malawi.

Background:

The booklet is aimed at raising the visibility of the transport challenges faced by children and young people in sub-Saharan Africa through the medium of their own voices. It encourages debate around young people's mobility and the transport they need for accessing the services and other facilities and activities important to their lives.

Lack of attention to the challenges of meeting children and young people's mobility in Africa has been an extremely important omission, given that over half the population of many African countries consists of people under the age of 18. Improving mobility and physical access to health and education facilities for both girl and boy children is likely to have massive implications for their subsequent livelihood potential (Bartlett 2001) and is crucial to many of the Millennium Goals, notably universal primary education, promoting gender equality and women's empowerment, and reduced child mortality. It thus may play a vital role in helping to break inter-generational cycles of poverty.

The research conducted by Project Young Researchers formed part of a wider ESRC/DFID child mobility project [www.dur.ac.uk/child.mobility/] focused on Ghana, Malawi and South Africa. Within this project, the original and innovative research by our young colleagues made a crucial input into the broader programme, which is aimed at producing an extensive evidence base for policy makers and practitioners.

The booklet of 41 pages in final format was the work of 70 young researchers aged 11 -19 years who were recruited to work on our ESRC/DFID Child Mobility research project in Ghana, Malawi and South Africa. They undertook research on transport and mobility with their peers in 6 regions:

Cape Coast and Sunyani areas of Ghana
Blantyre and Lilongwe areas of Malawi

Eastern Cape and Gauteng/North West Province, South Africa.

The research was conducted in 2006-7. Nineteen of the young researchers subsequently came together in October 2008 in Mankessim, Ghana, to draft the booklet based on the experiences of the group as a whole.

In the booklet young people concerned about transport and mobility identify what they have discovered to be key issues among their peers and explain how they went about finding this out in their own words. Their voices speak directly to fellow school children and the communities within which they live. The authenticity of their voices also has the potential to bring young people's transport challenges to the attention of a wider group, notably practitioners and policy makers, in a way more conventional resources are unlikely to achieve.

Project outputs planned and delivered

1. Planned: Professionally designed booklet prepared in UK [30 pages A5, full colour cover, remaining text in black and white, ring binding].

Delivered: The booklet went through a series of drafts since the award of this AFCAP contract, involving all collaborators and the book designer, Krishan Jayatunge (www.kroworks.com), who was selected to undertake the design by Kate Czuczman of IFRTD together with Gina Porter of Durham University. The design was approved by AFCAP before being sent to the printers in Ghana and Malawi. It is 40 pages A5, full colour cover and has colour components across the 40 pages. It includes a selection of appropriate colour photographs and other illustrations.

2. Planned: 2000 copies printed locally in Ghana, 2000 copies printed locally in Malawi

Delivered: printing went ahead without problems in Ghana. In Malawi there were substantial delays associated with the printing process and local electricity failures: a full final print run was not completed until June 2010 despite the best efforts of Dr Elsbeth Robson in Blantyre. This delayed completion of the project.

3. Planned: Booklets distributed in Malawi and Ghana [through personal visits by project collaborators or associated staff, to ensure safe receipt] to:
 - a) JSS and secondary schools in each of the two study regions per country i.e. Blantyre and Lilongwe regions in Malawi; Cape Coast and Sunyani regions in Ghana [copies for library, teachers and one classroom set of 40 per school]
 - b) Communities and associated local authorities of each of the 8 study sites in each country [copies to community leaders, key Community Based Organisations, libraries, churches/mosques, health centres, transport unions].

The study sites are as follows:

Malawi, Blantyre region: Kanyola [remote rural], Namende [rural with services], Mpemba [peri-urban], Ndirande in Blantyre [poor urban neighbourhood].

Malawi, Lilongwe region: Kathelamo [remote rural], Chikanga [rural with services], Nathenje [peri-urban], Senti in Lilongwe [poor urban neighbourhood]. Ghana, Cape

Coast region: Antem hamlets [remote rural], Ebukrom [rural with services], Simiw [peri-urban], Abura in Cape Coast [poor urban neighbourhood].

Ghana, Sunyani region: Bamu hamlets [remote rural], Tainso [rural with services], Kotokrom [peri-urban], Sunyani 2 [poor urban neighbourhood].

- c) Relevant ministers and ministry offices [regional and national]: education, women and children's affairs, transport, health.
- d) Relevant key International NGOs, including Save the Children; key local child-focused NGOs.
- e) Other relevant organisations including donor agencies, UNICEF etc.
- f) Information officers at relevant media organisations: national radio; national television; major national newspapers
- g) All members of the child mobility project's Country Consultative Group.
- h) Every child researcher who participated in the study.
- i) University libraries [University of Cape Coast; University of Malawi] and education departments.

Delivered: In Ghana and in Malawi delivery of 2,000 copies was organised through personal visits of project staff but also through two booklet dissemination events with some of the young researchers in each country. These took place in or close to project sites and ensured educational, community, NGO and central and local government dissemination regarding the young researchers' findings. This took place in March 2010 in Ghana and in June 2010 in Malawi and has ensured substantial public attention including media coverage regarding the booklet and its messages in both countries.

4. Planned: Thirty copies sent from Ghana to UK for UK collaborators [Gina Porter and Kate Hampshire, Durham University; IFRTD secretariat] and distribution by IFRTD to National Forum Groups

Delivered: Copies sent by DHL to Durham from Ghana, as planned, April 2010; 12 copies delivered to IFRTD, London, April 2010.

Appendix 1: Ghana country report.

Appendix 2: Malawi country report.

APPENDIX 1

UNIVERSITY OF CAPE COAST, GHANA

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND REGIONAL PLANNING

CHILDREN, TRANSPORT AND MOBILITY PROJECT

A REPORT ON THE BOOKLET DISTRIBUTION AND ASSOCIATED

DISSEMINATION WORKSHOPS HELD IN GHANA

COASTAL ZONE-16TH MARCH, 2010 AT UNIVERSITY OF CAPE COAST

&

FOREST ZONE-19TH MARCH, 2010 AT EUSBETT HOTEL, SUNYANI



Participation at the dissemination workshops

Two main workshops were held on the 16th and 19th March, 2010 at the Cape Coast Metropolis and the Sunyani Municipality respectively. The workshop at Cape Coast which represents the coastal zone took place at the Sasakawa Centre which is located in the University of Cape Coast. The participants comprised the young researchers for the coastal, parents/guardians, adult researchers, teachers or representatives of schools that participated in the project, officers from the regional and district education directorates, the Ghana Library Board, the media and the Departments of Women and Children Affaires. The workshop for the forest zone was held at the Eusbett Hotel at Sunyani. The participants came from similar background as indicated under the coastal zone (See Appendices). In all, about sixty participants attended the two workshops.

Overview of the project

Prof. A.M. Abane and Mr. Augustine Tanle, the two collaborators on the project in Ghana, explained the objectives of the project as well as the various activities undertaken during the implementation stages. Their presentations focused on the inception workshop at Malawi, the children and adult researcher's components through the data collection process to the end of project workshop at Mankessim. They specifically dwelt on the children research component and highlighted issues such as recruitment, training, development of instruments, data collection methods and the request made by the children to compile their findings into a book at the end of project workshop at Mankessim. They commended all the partners and donors for their contribution to the successful execution of the project. They deplored the seemingly neglect of children in national development planning and urged development planners to actively involve children in the country's socio-economic development process because children are also capable of making diverse contributions to national development. They applauded the young researchers for their achievement and urged them to share the knowledge and lessons learnt from the project with their and other members in their communities and schools/workplace. They finally urged the participants to assist in disseminating the findings of their research which has been compiled into a book.

Experiences and findings of young researchers

Messes Emmanuel Teye Owusu and Cyril Agbley, representatives from the forest and coastal young researchers respectively welcomed all participants for accepting to participate in the workshop and expressed appreciation to all partners for guiding them to write the book. Their presentations covered the research methods and processes, findings on journeys to school, markets, health facilities and water points. Also, they highlighted the knowledge and skills learnt through the project and made recommendations for further actions. According to them, the experiences learnt from the project are helping immensely in their current studies at tertiary institutions. Some of the young researchers who are now students at the tertiary institutions indicated that they are applying some of the experiences learnt from the project in their studies. For instance, Mr. Owusu Emmanuel mentioned that he has been able to assist a senior colleague to write his dissertation by drawing from the skills and knowledge acquired from participating in the child mobility project.

Launching of the book

The young researchers were commended for their efforts in producing the book. They were encouraged to use their research findings to further the discourse on integrating children into the national development process. The Director of the Institute of Education, University of Cape Coast and the Brong Ahafo Regional Librarian respectively launched the books in the coastal and forest zones workshops. They commended the young authors for producing that excellent publication and tasked all participants at the workshops to facilitate the dissemination of the research findings.

Discussion on book

The launch of the books was followed by an open discussion on the content of the book. This session was facilitated by the Country Collaborators and authors of the book. At the end of the session, the following points were raised for consideration and future actions:

- The book should be given a Copyright status.
- The Departments of children and women should hold further discussion on the findings stated in the book.

- The book could be used as reference material by all stakeholders, particularly teachers at the basic schools.
- Sensitization workshops should be organized for basic school teachers to discuss the findings of the research with them.
- There is the need to launch the book at the national level. The participants could comprise the speaker and members of Ghana's parliament, the relevant ministries and NGOs.
- More young researches should be trained by UCC to conduct research into other issues that affect the lives of children in Ghana.
- An article on the key findings of book should be published in the national newspapers.

Appendix 1A: Forest Zone workshop list of Participants

	Name of participant	sex	Institution
1	Yeboah Victoria	F	Young Researcher
2	Tabuaa Lawrencia	F	Young Researcher
3	Stella Boatemaa	F	Parent
4	Grace Koomson	F	Admin Assistant (Univ. of Cape Coast)
5	Augustine Tanle	M	Co- Country Collaborator
6	Owusu Teye Emmanuel	M	Young Researcher
7	Samuel Asiedu Owusu	M	Adult Researcher
8	Obeng Kwaku	M	Brong Ahafor Municipal Educ. Office
9	Kobina Esia Donkor	M	Adult Researcher
10	George Yaw Ankomah	M	Dept. of Children, Brong Ahafo Region
11	Borsa Aidoo Caniel	M	Young Researcher
12	Kumi Yeboah Eudia	F	Young Researcher
13	David Adu-Gyanfi Jnr	M	Teacher, Odomasi Presby Junior High
14	Fredrick Noble Baada	M	Brong Ahafo Regional Librarian
15	Baafi Emmanuel	M	Sunyani High School
16	Appraku Tuffour	M	Brong Ahafo Regional Education Office
17	Juliet Benewaa Assumeng	F	Brong Ahafo Regional Education Office
18	Albert Adoko	M	Ghana Broadcasting Corporation
19	David Agbezuge	M	Ghana Broadcasting Corporation
20	Owusu Darko	M	Ghana Broadcasting Corporation
21	Samuel Yamoah	M	Ghana Broadcasting Corporation
22	Teye K. Noah	M	Social Welfare Department, Sunyani
23	Eric Owusu Amponsah	M	Odomaseman Senior High School

24	Ben Kwaa	M	Odomaseman Senior High School
25	Anthony Asumah	M	Twene Amanfo Senior High School
26	Hanna Aamsah	F	Sunyani
27	Anthony Agbenyo	M	University of Cape Coast (Driver)

Appendix 1B: Coastal Zone workshop list of Participants

	Name of participant		Institution
1.	Kobina Esia Donkor	M	Adult Researcher
2.	Charity Tawia	F	Young Researcher
3.	Cornelius Ampong	M	Young Researcher
4.	Agbley Cyrill	M	Young Researcher
5.	Evans Egyir	M	Young Researcher
6.	Emmanuel Owusu Dankwa	M	Young Researcher
7.	Joana Ayensua Mensah	F	Future leaders International (NGO)
8.	Samuel Asiedu Owusu	M	Adult Researcher
9.	Grace Koomson	F	Admin. Assistant (Univ. of Cape Coast)
10.	Regina Obilie- Odei	F	Adult Researcher
11.	Augustine Tanle	M	Co-Country Collaborator
12.	Samuel Agblorti	M	Adult Researcher
13.	Nuhu Salifu Hammid	M	Eguafo Senior High School
14.	Dr. Simon Mariwah	M	Adult Researcher
15.	Israel Alaroborn	M	Department of Children, Regional Office
16.	Elizabeth Arthur	F	Cape Coast Regional Librarian
17.	Leticia Agbley	F	Parent
18.	Christopher Imbrah	M	TV-Africa
19.	Isaac K. Essel	M	TV-Africa

20.	Prof. A.M. Abane	M	Country Collaborator
21.	Florence K. Opare	F	Deans Office, Faculty of Soc. Sci
22.	Kofi Daniel	M	Parent
23.	Dorothy Tawia	F	Young Researcher
24.	Georgina Appiah	F	Ghanaian Observer
25.	Ex-Xonovsky A. Ntim	M	Young Researcher
26.	Ama Boahemaa	F	Parent
27.	Mercy Otsin	F	Adult Researcher
28.	Asana Gordon	F	Daily Dispatch
29.	Samuel Tsikwei	M	Parent
30.	Rose Dadzie	F	Parent
31.	Prof. J.A. Opare	M	Director, Institute of Education (UCC)

Appendix 1C: List of book recipients in Ghana

Individual/Institution/Department	Book quantity
Young Researchers (11@2 Copies each)	22
Adult Researchers (8@2 Copies each)	16
Parents/Guardians of Young Researchers (11@1 Copy each)	11
Personal Copies of other workshop participants (39@1 Copy each)	39
Antem Village (Coastal Remote Rural)	5
Ebukrom School (Coastal Rural)	20
Simiw School (Coastal Peri-Urban)	20
Abura Catholic and Ahamadiya Schools (Coastal Urban)	40
Baamu Village (Forest Zone Remote Rural)	5
Tainso School (Forest Zone Rural)	20
Kotokrom Schools (Forest Zone Peri-Urban)	50
Sunyani Experimental School (Forest Zone Urban)	20
Libraries in the Central Region	100
Central Region Libraries	100
Eyifua Community Library	15
UCC Children Library	20
UCC Main Library	20
UCC Dept. of Geography and Reg. Planning Library	10
5 Departmental Libraries in the Faculty of Social Sciences, UCC	30
5 Departmental Libraries in the Faculty of Education, UCC	50
Department in Faculty of Arts, UCC	55

Cape Coast Polytechnic	20
Breman Asikuma Secondary School & Asikuma Library	20
University of Education, Winneba	50
Edinaman Senior High School, Elmina	20
Brong Ahafo Regional Libraries	100
Kwame Nkrumah Univ.of Sci. and Tech. Junior High Sch. Library	20
Kwame Nkrumah Univ. of Sci. and Tech. Main Library	25
University of Ghana Main Library	50
Kwame Nkrumah Univ. of Sci. and Tech Faculty of Soc. Sci.	50
Kwame Nkrumah Univ. of Sci. and Tech. College of Art	20
Sunyani Polytechnic	20
Brong Ahafo Department of Women and Children's Affairs	15
Brong Ahafo Ghana Education Service	55
Catholic University, Sunyani	20
University of Development Studies	50
Eastern Regional Library	50
Greater Accra Regional Library	50
Northern Regional Library	50
Upper East Regional Library	50
Upper West Regional Library	50
Western Regional Library	50
Volta Regional Library	50
Eguafo Senior High School	10
Adisadel College, Cape Coast	20
Oguuaa Secondary/Technical School	20
Philip Quarcoe Boys Junior High School	10
Brong Ahafo Regional Social Welfare Department	10
Child Right International (NGO)	5
UNICEF	5

GPRTU National	5
Regional Health Directorates (10 regions @5 copies each)	50
Office of Ghana's Speaker of Parliament	10
Ministry of Health	5
Ministry of Education	5
Ministry of Road and Transport	5
Ministry of Information	5
Ministry of Women and Children' Affaires	5
National archives	5
The Daily Graphic	5
The Ghanaian Times	5
Radio Central, Cape Coast	5
ATL FM, UCC, Cape Coast	5
Joy FM, Accra	5
Peace FM, Accra	5
Adom FM, Tema	5
Colleges of Education in Ghana (38 Colleges @5 each)	190
Undistributed stock	47
GRAND TOTAL	2000

REPORT OF AFCAP-FUNDED COMMUNITY DISSEMINATION OF YOUNG RESEARCHERS' BOOKLET FOR 'CHILDREN, TRANSPORT AND MOBILITY' PROJECT IN MALAWI



Report prepared by

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BACKGROUND

The ESRC-DFID funded 'Children, Transport and Mobility in Sub-Saharan Africa' research project was conducted in Malawi collaboratively by the University of Durham, UK and the Centre for Social Research, Chancellor College, University of Malawi and known as the '*Ana ndi Mayendedwe*' (lit: children and movement in Chichewa) project. The research project took place simultaneously in Malawi, Ghana and South Africa. The three-year project began in 2006 with one strand of the research being conducted by trained secondary school students – young researchers. At an end of project workshop in 2008 representatives of these young researchers wrote what became a 40 page booklet about their research, the findings, their experiences, lessons learnt and messages they wished to convey to parents, teachers, other young people, donors, organisations and governments. AFCAP provided funding to Durham University for the Centre for Social Research at Chancellor College to facilitate printing of 2,000 booklets in Malawi, and their distribution to young researchers, schools, communities, local authorities in the study regions, relevant government ministries (regional and national), NGOs, donors and national media in Malawi.

CONDUCT OF COMMUNITY DISSEMINATION FACILITATED BY CENTRE FOR SOCIAL RESEARCH

In order to launch the booklet, facilitate its distribution and message dissemination in the study regions two community dissemination events (see Appendix I for programme) were held on 25 June 2010 at Mwatibu Community Day Secondary School in Nathonje (Lilongwe rural district) and 26 June 2010 at Mpemba Community Day Secondary School in Blantyre rural district. These were the peri-urban schools whose former pupils participated in the '*Ana ndi Mayendedwe*' project as young researchers in 2006-7 and the booklet-writing 2008-9.

The events were held entirely in Chichewa - Malawi's most widely spoken vernacular language.

Organisations and individuals specifically invited to the events included young researchers, teachers, schools, government, NGOs, donors, local churches and health centres - a full list of representatives and recipients of booklets is given in Appendix II.

Overall attendance at the Nathonje event was around 200-250 persons. Unfortunately the same day a measles prevention campaign was being held at Nathonje Health Centre requiring all children from 6 months to 15 years to go for vaccination. Thus, the number of children and adult parents/carers who attended from the local community was not as high as might otherwise have been anticipated.

Attendance at the Mpemba event was around 300 persons, predominantly children and young people because there was a funeral the same day for a close relative of the Group Village Head.

A drunken man was disruptive of the proceedings at Mpemba and had to be removed by teachers on several occasions causing distraction for the participants.

Interactive Drama Input by Nanzikambe

To enhance the community dissemination events with some lively edutainment, drama was provided by Nanzikambe - a well-established theatre arts for development NGO based in Blantyre. Five Nanzikambe actors performed two short dramas highlighting the issues identified by the young researchers in their booklet (Box 1 & 2).

Box 1 Sketch of Drama I performed by Nanzikambe

Characters: A father (de facto single parent), his daughter Ruth who attends upper primary school, a teacher/neighbour who lives alone

Drama:

The father comes home to find the house empty. He calls for his daughter Ruth asking her where she's been and why there is no food prepared. She replies that she has been to school and there is no maize flour in the house for her to cook with. The father's manner is angry and reprimanding. Continuing to shout he orders her to go to the maize mill immediately although she is clearly tired. Reluctantly, Ruth picks up a basket of maize and is leaving carrying it on her head when a woman approaches. It emerges from the dialogue that the woman is a neighbour who is a teacher and is also on her way with a basket of maize to the grinding mill. At the father's suggestion Ruth is given the teacher's basket and sets off doubly burdened. Blithely failing to notice how Ruth is overloaded the father and teacher chat together. The teacher says how she harvested a lot of maize because she punishes children who arrive late for school by making them work in her fields.



The next scene portrays Ruth painfully making her way alone with two heavy baskets on her head when she is startled and frightened by the sudden appearance of two strangers. They attack her and run away with her maize. Crying loudly Ruth returns home without the baskets which have been stolen. She is too hurt and upset to explain through her tears to her father what has happened to her. The teacher/neighbour comes in and finally Ruth explains. Both adults are angry at the theft and loss of their maize and scold Ruth without concern that she has been injured and traumatised.

Box 2 Sketch of Drama II performed by Nanzikambe

Characters: secondary school girl, adult man (rapist)

Drama:

In the second dramatic sketch a rural school girl is on her journey to school walking alone on a short cut through a forest. She is struggling to find her way through the thick vegetation.



She is nervous by being alone and startles at the sudden sounds of birds. She almost steps on a snake. A man appears intent on doing her harm. He rapes her and disappears. In pain and distress the girl leaves the forest, but on her way is confronted by a very unstable and dilapidated bridge. As she crosses the bridge it proves inadequate and she falls into the water below.

The dramas performed were well received by the audience who responded by paying close attention. They listened quietly, watching the action closely, at times breaking into laughter, cheers, applause and even shedding silent tears (Photos 1 and 2).



Photos 1 & 2 Attentive audiences at Mpemba and Nathenje

After each short drama was performed a member of the Nanzikambe team interacted with the audience asking them various questions to provoke discussion and debate about the transport issues faced by young people which were portrayed in the drama. He started by asking whether the audience had understood the story and whether such things really happen in their communities. Then he proceeded to challenge the audience by asking questions after the first drama like *'What should the father do if there is no food and he and his child are hungry?'*

Responses included:

'It is a girl's duty to go to the maize mill because a child is child' (said by an adult man)

'We as kids we also get tired, we are also hungry but then forcing her to go to the maize mill, maybe she should have been given time to rest a little bit' (an answer from a child)

'They should look for options not just thinking of maize, perhaps they have some other food in the kitchen which can be found for immediate cooking e.g. potatoes' (male adult)

'Teachers should have the opportunity to use children as form of punishment because at school there may be no tasks to be performed – teachers should be allowed to take children from school to work in their home as a form of punishment because teachers' homes are considered part of the school' (a parent maybe a teacher).

The actors responded in role:

The father: *'I can't go to the maize mill because I have a child who can go, that is why we have kids and we have gone through that as children ourselves, that is how our parents raised us.'*

The teacher: *'Every worker enjoys their position, so a chef enjoys good food, as a teacher we benefit from the work children do for us.'*

The child Ruth *'My rights are being violated because as a child I feel my home is not my home, I do not feel safe at home, at school, on the road, with other adults – where should I go?'*

Some members of the audience responded that it is her parents who are responsible, others that it is everyone's responsibility to ensure children are safe as they move around the community.

Following the second drama the audience were encourage to consider the question 'How can we make sure children are safe as they move around?' Debate ensued with some responding that it is the responsibility of teachers and schools because children spend much of their time at school and on the way to/from school. Others expressed the view that parents need to take care of their children. Government was said by some to be responsible for ensuring that roads are good, schools are near to villages and bridges are in good condition. One adult disagreed:

'No, it is not possible for government to do all this so it is up to us as a community to do work and then to ask the government for help where needed such as to provide teachers after the community has built a school.'

One young person said that *'Adults should have a conscience not to rape a child'*. The head girl of Mpemba CDSS (Photo 3) said that children should be escorted on the way to/from school. Another suggestion from a boy was that children should wait for each other and walk to school in groups (photo 4).



Photos 3 & 4 Input by young people during interactive drama

Input by Young Researchers

Those young researchers present (five at Nathenje, four at Mpemba) also spoke (Photos 5, 6 & 7). They explained how they conducted the research, the skills they learnt and the challenges they met. They expressed being glad and feeling honoured that the book has been produced. Furthermore, the young researchers articulated awareness that they have learnt and gained a lot, with respect to personal self-development, experience, training. All of them spoke with confidence and little trace of shyness – a marked change from when they first got involved with the project in 2006.



Photos 5, 6 & 7 Young researchers speaking at community dissemination events

Unfortunately it was not possible for all of the original 24 young researchers to take part because some are away studying at university (2), have left the country (1), or are simply untraceable although reasonable efforts were made to

contact them all through their former schools and telephone contact details where given in 2006.

Reactions to the Booklet

TA Somba (a chief at sub-district level) (photo 8) commented:

'We hear a lot about child abuse and child labour, but we never even thought of children and mobility – we need to be thinking in new angles. This booklet has opened our eyes to new ideas. This book has all the information – we can see that the problems are the similar in Ghana and South Africa so if we work together we can overcome them. Until now we just were sending our kids to school but not thinking about what they meet on the road.'

A teacher said that *'It is good that the work the kids did is now in a book form so others can hear their message more widely'*.



Photo 8: TA Somba giving his positive reaction to the booklet

Press Notification

A press release (Appendix III) was prepared before the events and delivered to the two main national newspapers and five radio stations – at least one radio station did announce the event. The press release was also submitted to Malawi Development Exchange (an online information exchange <http://community.eldis.org/malawi>).

Appendix 2A Programme for Community Dissemination Events

‘ANA NDI MAYENDEDWE’ PROGRAMME FOR COMMUNITY DISSEMINATION – NATHENJE/MPEMBA

- **Gathering** – music from PA, Nanzikambe – drumming & songs
- **Opening prayer**– invitation for prayer
- **Welcome the invited guests** – TA, GVH, VH, CCG members, NGOs, FBOs, schools, teachers, young researchers etc
- **Welcome remarks** – Dr Munthali, CSR
- **Nanzikambe drama performance I**
- **Community interaction** – facilitated by Nanzikambe
- **Platform for young researchers**
- **Nanzikambe drama performance II**
- **Community interaction** – facilitated by Nanzikambe
- **Input by schools/young researchers**
- **Presentation of booklets**
- **Remarks & thanks from headteacher** of hosting school
- **Remarks by invited government representatives**
- **Closing remarks & thanks** - Dr Munthali
- **Closing prayer**
- **As guests disperse music & drumming** [children invited to dance]

Invited guests retire to classroom for ‘administration’

Appendix 2B Participants & Booklets Distributed at Community Dissemination Events

The following organizations were represented at the community dissemination events and received booklets:

	No. Booklets received
NATIONAL GOVERNMENT	
National Commission for Research and Technology	6
National Youth Council of Malawi	2
Malawi Rural Travel & Transport Programme, Ministry of Local Government	2
National Road Safety Council	1
LOCAL GOVERNMENT	
Lilongwe Agricultural Development Division, Ministry of Agriculture	1
TA Somba	2
Village head & group village head Nathenje	2
NGOS	
World Vision	3
Plan International Malawi	
Youth group rural library, Chadza	2
Travel & Transportation Centre, departmental and main libraries, Polytechnic, University of Malawi	9
AYISE	5
Samaritan Trust	7
MAP (Malawi against disabilities)	2
Community Health & Environmental Care Trust	1
SCHOOLS	
Mwatibu CDSS, Nathenje (library, teachers, head pupils)	45
Chadza CDSS	46
Biwi CDSS	4
Mpemba CDSS	45
Ndirande Hill Secondary School	46
Sanjiko CDSS	41
Madziabango CDSS	41
Blantyre Islamic Mission Secondary School	40
Mwatibu primary school Nathenje	1
Nathenje primary school	1
Nchuchu primary school	1
Chilembe Primary School	1
Bango primary school	1
PROJECT PARTICIPANTS	
Participating teachers	3
Young researchers (9 in total)	21

The following organisations were also invited, but failed to attend:

Save the Children (US)
Ministry of Education
Plan Malawi
YONECO
UNICEF
DFID
Zingwangwa Secondary School
Nathenje & Mpemba health centres
Local churches and FBOs

The following organizations and individuals have also received booklets:

	Booklets received
PRESS	
5 radio stations – MBC, Capital FM, Zodiak, Joy Radio	5
2 national daily newspapers – Nation, Daily Times	2
HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS	
Chancellor College, University of Malawi - libraries (including education department)	✓
Bunda College of Agriculture, University of Malawi – library copy	1
Centre for Social Research, Chancellor College, University of Malawi - resources centre, publications distribution	✓
Domasi College of Education	✓
Lilongwe Technical College	1
NGOs	
Society of Malawi Library & Archives, Blantyre	1
Nanzikambe Arts	12
SCHOOLS	
Our Lady of Wisdom Secondary School, Limbe	44
Zingwangwa Secondary School, Blantyre	45
GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS	
All district commissioners offices (through Ministry of Local Government)	40
National Archives, Zomba	✓
National Library Service, Falls Satellite library (Biwi)	1
PROJECT PARTICIPANTS	
Other young researchers (2) unable to attend dissemination events	2
Participating teachers (1) unable to attend dissemination events	1

It is intended to request the Ministry of Education to distribute the remainder of the booklets to schools and teachers and other educational institutions.

Appendix 2C Press Release

PRESS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, 24 June 2010

This week the **Centre for Social Research of Chancellor College** with the help of **Nanzikambe Arts** is hosting two community dissemination events to launch the publication of a booklet entitled 'Children, Transport and Mobility'. The booklet's printing has been paid for by a UK-sourced grant from **AFCAP** (the Africa Community Access Programme).

The booklet is an outcome of the three year '**Ana ndi Mayendedwe**' (children and transport) project which was undertaken collaboratively by academics at the Centre for Social Research of Chancellor College, University of Malawi and the **University of Durham** in the UK with funding from DFID/ESRC (UK government) and the National Commission for Science and Technology in Malawi. Parallel projects were also conducted in Ghana and South Africa in the three-country study.

The aim of the research project was to develop a child-centred evidence base on the transport and mobility challenges faced by children in sub-Saharan Africa to improve policy and change thinking across the continent.

The **Children, Transport and Mobility** booklet was written by the young researchers of the project who in Malawi comprised 24 secondary school students from government schools in the Lilongwe and Blantyre.

Through their booklet the young researchers **appeal to governments and donors** to construct more schools to reduce long journeys to school and to provide more boarding facilities to prevent dropout by those unable to travel far each day. They would also like to see more school buses, better roads and bridges.

The booklet includes **messages for parents** – not to overload their children with chores that make them late for school, too tired to study, cause headaches and other pains.

The booklet features examples of the work the young researchers undertook in their communities to find out for themselves about how children travel to school and other places.

The Children, Transport and Mobility publication authored by young Malawian researchers is to be **launched** at:

- **Mwatibu CDSS, Nthenje, Lilongwe district Friday 25th June 2010 (1pm)**
- **Mpemba CDSS, Mpemba, Blantyre district Saturday 26th June 2010 (1pm)**

Invited guests, government and NGO stakeholders and the local communities will be informed and entertained at the above community-dissemination events by lively drama to be performed by Nanzikambe Arts. Booklets will be donated to all schools and pupils who took part in the project, libraries, relevant government ministries and child-focussed NGOs.

The 40 page **Children, Transport and Mobility** publication takes the reader through the children's research findings highlighting the difficulties children face walking to school, market, church, farm health facilities, to fetch water and firewood. The challenges highlighted are many and various including:

- Long distances to school, to fetch water and firewood.
- The problems of crossing rivers without bridges in the rainy season.
- The hazards of dogs, snakes, weather and dangerous people encountered on their journeys.
- The lack of affordable public transport, especially in non-urban areas.
- The heavy burdens of portage chores demanded of children (girls especially) taking maize to/from the maize grinding mill, headloading water, carrying goods to market and so on.
- Poor condition of roads full of potholes, not passable in rainy seasons, lack of pavements, absence of roads in remoter rural areas, dilapidated or missing bridges.

By reading and acting on the information gathered by young people stakeholders including communities, parents, teachers, government, NGOs, donors and transport planners are encouraged to become more aware of the ways young people travel in Malawi, the challenges they face and how their difficulties can be alleviated.

More information about the project can be found at www.dur.ac.uk/child.mobility/ including a link to freely download the **Children, Transport and Mobility booklet**, other reports and publications.

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