

# “See Our World”

“An essential part of Plan’s work is to help create spaces for children and young people to discuss together the issues which affect their lives, then ensure adults respect their views so that children may be involved in community decision-making. This communication has been prepared with and by children directly and is intended to give a general sense of the kinds of issues children discuss and how they work together.”



One of our refuse sites

## Clean Environment

t of Lofa county in Liberia. We will share with you our poor sanitation and unhygienic practices. If this situation is not improved we will continue to suffer from diseases such as malaria, diarrhoea, yellow fever and a high death rate among us.

## The Challenges

Before  
safe dr

There  
defeca

of rubbish anyhow and anywhere; we do not have acces  
rains and streams.

To share with you a practical example, some of us  
sponsored children live close to Foya town near the  
Maya river. We fetch water from the river for cooking,  
drinking, bathing, washing and the disposal of solid  
and liquid waste.



Maya stream

## How to solve them

With the support of Plan Liberia those of us in the Children Advisory Board, Child Rights and Sponsorship Clubs have visited our sponsored brothers and sisters. The visit was to find out at first hand their challenges and how best we could solve them to ensure a clean and healthy environment for all of us.

We came up with the following:

- ◆ Create awareness on how to dispose our garbage and the need to be educated on water borne diseases.
- ◆ Organize child-to-child discussions on healthy living and participate in clean up campaigns in our areas.



**Faith**

Let us listen to Faith's testimony;

“Hello, my name is Faith D. I am 11 years old. I live in Foya Town, in the Foya District of Lofa County.

I am a member of the Children Advisory Board of Plan Liberia, a member of the Child Rights Club and an executive member of our Child Sponsorship Club. Recently, children from all the above-mentioned clubs visited most of our brothers and sisters living in Plan sponsored areas.

Our aim was to find out at first hand their living conditions. This took us to Maya also in the Foya District and Koworhun town in the Kolahun District.

We realized that the children did not have safe drinking water, latrines and refuse dumps.

As a result most of them practice open defecation and easily contract different diseases. It is our hope that the government and organizations like Plan Liberia would come to our aid”.

## The Way Forward

We have discussed our sanitation and health issues with our leaders and have come up with the following:

That the government of Liberia with the support of local and international organizations like Plan would construct and equip more health centres;

Train public health officers for each district;

Provide household latrines; build boreholes/hand pump not the least Identify and provide refuse bins and dump

**“This document was reviewed and edited by Plan Staff.”**



**We now have clean water**