## "LET COMMUNITIES OWN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT RELATED ACHIEVEMENTS". -REV. ONAGA, TRAINER, LOCAL FUNDRAISING

Rev. Patrick Onaga, trainer and facilitator, has urged implementers of the Philanthropy for Development (P4D) programme, particularly community facilitators, to let communities own the achievements made during the implementation of the project.

He explained that when communities mobilize resources, and actively participate in activities that transform their lives and communities, the people will be happy, own the achievements and this facilitates sustainable development. He added that when project implementers take credit for all the successes achieved, the communities feel their effort was never appreciated, and are likely to stop participating in community related activities.

"Let community members actively take part in the implementation of projects brought into their communities. When organisations and community facilitators facilitate the communities well, there will be big achievements, the communities will be happy, and own these achievements, and this will in the process promote sustainable development. At the end of the day, we want the communities to own development," Rev. Onaga said On the other hand, he also advised community facilitators to treat community members with respect, explaining that when some community members are treated with contempt, cooperation becomes difficult, and the facilitators may not achieve the intended objectives.

"Deal with community members in a professional manner. There may be positive changes in the community as a result of the dialogues and activities conducted, but some community members may not be willing to share such success stories because of the way you treated them while working with them. So, be professional. At the end of the 3-5 years of this project, we want to see a picture where communities are able to continue with development even if the Philanthropy for Development programme ends and there is no more funding," he noted.