

EVALUATION REPORT- GIRLS' EDUCATION

May 2017

Implemented By



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Evaluation Report

Project Title: Go Girl Go

Project Number: 317.012-D14/00089

Name of the Organization: NEEDS

The evaluation of this project was undertaken by ZabiDarnei and Eddy Kujur from 18th to 20th May 2017.

Process followed

- Perusal of project proposal, and previous reports.
- Discussion with Mr.MurariChoudhury (Director), Mrs.Payal (Project Coordinator), Mrs.RinkuPathak (Social Mobilizer), Mr. Ajay Mishra (Social Mobilize), and the teachers.
- Field visits to Madransare, MadhurMuskan Blind School, MS Chandana, Coaching Centre, Pachudih, Raiband, Baijukura, Manikpur.
- Interaction with Adolescent Peer leaders, SRC children and teachers, the SMC, BalSansad, and The Visually Impaired Children and Teachers.
- Seeking clarifications and sharing feedbacks by having meeting with the project staff.
- Finalising the report

Goal of the project

All girls under the age of 18 years have access to quality of education and out of any form of gender discrimination while empowered for protection of their body and any form of gender and sexual abuse.

Objectives of the project

1. 276 Government schools would have impact on 9621 children through quality education inputs in 3 years of intervention with special attainment among girls children i.e.all girls of 6-14 age group would be enrolled in school and retained.
2. All girls of 10+ and upto 18 years would continue in school (beyond RTE framework of India) and acquire life skills to ascertain their rights for life of dignity i.e. 7021 girls of 14+ age groups till 18 age group.
3. Reduce gender discrimination, gender violence at home, school and community level, Child Protection Committee (CPC) are proactive in monitoring any form of abuse and violation and record protests and secure protection, while making every girl accretive.

FINDINGS AND COMMENTS ACCORDING TO THE OUTPUT OF THE PROPOSAL:

1. Baseline study and Micro-planning

Finding:

Baseline study had been done in the identified Government schools and target areas for identifying girls out of school. Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) and group interaction methods were used for collecting data of the target areas. The findings (High rate of school drop outs of Girls) of the baseline study are disseminated during the discussions and monthly meetings with community, parents and local bodies like CPC, PRI and SMCs.

2. Ensuring enrolment and retention of all girls those are never been to school or dropped out of school (age 10+ and ensured that they retain in education system for at least 10 years in school or through open school.

Finding:

12 School Readiness Centre (SRC) has been formed in Sarwa Block and 8 in Sonarathari Block. The centres visited at Sarwa Block are actively functioning. SRC programme runs for 2 hours also, after the Children's formal school Schedule. Children of 6 -14 years age group and drop out children attend the classes.

The social mobilizers and the teachers of the identified schools and SRC teachers use Teaching Learning Method (TLM), Teaching Learning Activity (TLA), SMS Story, for teaching. The children are taught about Children's right, RTE, Child Marriage, Good Touch – Bad Touch, cleanliness and hygiene, basic number counting, alphabets, basic vocabularies through action song, rhymes, games, video screening, arts etc.

The Children of SRC were smart and outspoken. The Children were very much involved in the SRC programmes. The impacts of NEEDS activities were clearly visible in the field. NEEDS has mainstreamed and retained about 203 students through remedial classes / Coaching centres.

Comments from evaluation team:

- The SRC programme is a success; the TLM& TLA methodology of teaching children using creative and innovative methods is building more interest in learning for the children and in attending the classes.
- The attendance of the school has improved after the implementation of SRC programme for the Children.
- The children are active and are well empowered to stand up for their rights. They play an important role in bringing their friends to the centre and in re enrolling them in schools with the help of NEEDS staff.
- Besides creating self-teaching methods and materials, the evaluation team found that NEEDS is incorporating many other ideas, methods and materials for teachings from Magic Bus, Community Youth Collective (CYC), Childline - 1098 etc. which is adding to the success of the SRC.

3. Assuring Quality Education in Schools catering to the children of the project area.

Finding:

NEEDS intervene in the School Management Committees (SMC) and Bal Sansad of 276 Government schools by strengthening and capacitating them with various trainings on TLM &

TLA methodology, Right to Education, and creating joyful learning environment for children. With the intervention of NEEDS, most of the Government schools are functioning well; teachers are regular to school and collaborating well with NEEDS. NEEDS facilitate and participate in the monthly SMC and Bal Sansad meetings for effective monitoring of the collaborated schools.

Proper library and computer classes are initiated in the different schools with the help of the Government officials like the Block Development Officer of the area and the Deputy Commissioner with an objective to assure quality education in schools.

Campaign on Child Marriage, Child Labour, Child Rights and Girls' Education, sanitation and basic hygiene were organised for mass awareness building.

Comments from evaluation team:

- The regular intervention in the Government aided schools has built up steady functioning of schools. NEEDS as a well known organization is able to get good attention and help from the local administration like the BBO, DC, etc.
- The evaluation team feels the School Management Committee (SMC) can take actions and seek help directly from the local administrations by themselves and NEEDS can help in following up so the school authorities are not dependent upon NEEDS.

4. Strengthening Community participation in schools and protection of the girl child and male involvement for environment building.

Finding:

Awareness has been created to the community (parents), local Government bodies, School Management Committee and a large section of male in the community on gender discrimination, gender violence, Child Marriage, Right to Education, Child rights and protection, etc. NEEDS facilitate and conduct Open house and Community meetings at the village level.

Comments from evaluation team:

- The strategy used by NEEDS is effective. Though NEEDS intervention with the target groups is just 3 years, they created awareness and managed to empower the parents, local government bodies and the community at large. They are the strength of the NEEDS success.

5. Creating opportunities for Adolescent girls to take charge of their life and career.

Finding:

NEEDS has intervene in 10 Remedial / Coaching centres by providing study materials like books, suggestion books, sample questions etc. helped to enrol the students with less fees or free of costs for the remedial/ coaching classes. The coaching centre teachers are also kept abreast of the students' improvement in their studies. Remedial Centre Children have gained

confidence in their studies. The Centre, in which the evaluation team visited, had students of Classes IX and X about 16 and 18 respectively. NEEDS support to students for remedial/coaching classes basically for subjects like Maths, Science and English is helping many girls to get good marks and in getting admission for their higher secondary education.

20 Adolescent peer groups has been formed from the 2 Block. The peer educators are provided knowledge on Early Marriage, Right to Education and Protection, Reproductive health, Cleanliness and Hygiene where these leaders pass on their learning to the group members. They conduct regular meetings and bring their issues for discussions during their meetings. The adolescent leaders shared they have acted and taken action in the community level such as stopping child marriage cases with the help of Child-line, enrolment of children in schools, stopping child labour, etc.

Special coaching on spoken English, computer literacy and karate trainings are also provided as part of life skills. The adolescent girls expressed their desire to learn tailoring.

Comments from evaluation team:

- The evaluation team found the need and has made recommendation to the NEEDS staffs for proper career guidance programme for the girls of class IX and X as they are in the crucial stage of decision making for their future career.
- The adolescent peer leaders are active, smart and outspoken. They are well versed with their roles and responsibility, Rights etc.
- NEEDS has created a huge impact on the life of the girls by giving self-defence training and various knowledge on health and education. The adolescent girls are independent and now act as responsible member in their family and their communities.

6. Opportunities created for vision impaired children (boys and girls) of the age group between 6 to 18 years would be provided with age specific coaching on brail and in use of Joyce software.

Finding:

There were about 20 visually impaired Children in Madhur Muskan Blind School at the time of the Evaluation Team visit some of them had gone home for holidays and to attend marriages in their villages. The Visually Impaired children were provided brails, Abacus, other writing materials and game materials from NEEDS. The Team interacted with the Children and the children showcased their singing skills, brail reading skills, calculation skills through the use of Abacus.

As shared by the Murariji, Director of NEEDS, NEEDS has intervened and worked together with the Government in bringing about the Visually Impaired School for the Children. NEEDS is looking for MUSIC Teachers for the Children so as to improve the children's talent in Singing and Playing Music Instruments.

Comments from evaluation team:

- The evaluation team was surprised to see the students very smart and some were good at speaking English. However, the team saw the need for more support and trainings for the visually impaired children to bring out their talents in different field.

Summary of the Evaluation:

Relevance:

This project intervention is highly relevant as it addresses to the needs of the target groups who are lagging behind in all aspects of development especially in quality education, life skills, Rights and Entitlements.

Effectiveness:

The project has brought considerable qualitative impacts on the life of the target group: Bal Sansad, drop out girls, adolescent girls, Teachers and SMCs, PRI members. The project is a long term impact oriented. The organisation has also impacted other stakeholders like Government Teachers, Local Authorities (PRI members), Block Officers and District Commissioner.

Efficiency:

The project has an efficient and experienced staff both in office and field. The project activities were managed well.

Sustainability of the Project

NEEDS has very good network with the Government Departments and Authorities. NEEDS as an organisation is a consultant to the government in the fields of Education, Agriculture and Child & Women Empowerment. We see that there are lots of possibilities and capabilities within the organisation to continue the project also with the help of the Government.

CONCLUSION

The project is innovative, interesting and is running smoothly. NEEDS has created a lot of impact among the target groups especially the SRC and the adolescent girls. The older staffs of the project are very efficient in the field and are highly committed. However, the evaluation team feels the new staff though professionally qualified and well experienced, they needs to build more connection with the people in the field. The evaluation visit schedule was well planned. The Evaluation team also shared the need to be more flexible, create free space for the DKA team to interact and learn more from the target groups.

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