AED Center for Gender Equity – Current Projects

Sub-Saharan Africa

Ambassadors’ Girls’ Scholarship Program (AGSP) (2004-Present). As part of the President’s Africa Education Initiative, the AGSP is addressing socio-economic barriers to girls’ schooling by awarding scholarships, establishing mentoring programs, promoting HIV/AIDS awareness, and mobilizing communities in support of girls’ education across 15 African countries. At the end of program year 2009, approximately 164,000 scholarships will be distributed to girls from disadvantaged backgrounds, including 7000 scholarships to boys. *Funder: USAID*

Protecting Futures in Africa Program (2009). CGE will provide additional services to 20,557 girls in six African countries through the Ambassadors Girls Scholarship Program through the provision of sanitary napkins and puberty education, aimed to positively impact their learning opportunities and outcomes. The puberty education materials developed by Procter & Gamble will be used as a companion to the *AGSP Mentoring and Life Skills Guide*. Approximately 800 active mentors will be trained to use these materials during mentoring sessions. *Funder: Procter & Gamble*

Improving Girls’ Primary Education Project (2005-Present). CGE is implementing this project in three primary schools in Guinea, Tanzania, and South Africa. The project improves retention and quality of education for students, with a special focus on girls, through scholarships, mentoring, tutoring, and teacher training. The project provides scholarships in the form of educational materials to all students, while providing mentoring and tutoring specifically to the girl students. The first generation of the project has benefited a total of 1,020 students, including 524 girl students. *Funder: Kenora Family Foundation*

Girls’ Secondary Education in Guinea and Tanzania Project (2007-Present). Improving Girls’ Secondary Education provides scholarships to 1,885 girls in 12 secondary schools in Tanzania and Guinea in the form of uniforms and textbooks, mentor training and girls’ mentoring, and teacher training. The scholarships are provided in the girl scholars’ first three years of secondary school to improve access to education and alleviate the economic burdens of continuing their education. *Funder: Johnson & Johnson Foundation*

Four Pillars in Kenya Project (2008-Present). This project works to improve the quality and relevance of education for students, with a special focus on girls and vulnerable children at the primary level. The project is grounded in the Four Pillars model, which is comprised of scholarships, mentor training and mentoring, teacher training, and community participation. The project is providing 486 scholarships to girls and other vulnerable children; training 81 teachers; benefiting 5,000 students as a result of improved teacher pedagogy; training 20 mentors to teach pertinent life skills to girls; and providing mentoring to 500 girls in school to improve their knowledge of health-related issues including HIV/AIDS. *Funder: General Electric Foundation*

Nigeria Schools of Excellence Project (2008-Present). This project works to increase Nigerian girls’ access to a quality and relevant education by creating Schools of Excellence that focus on Excellence in the Classroom: Scholarships and Teacher Training; Excellence through Supplemental Educational Activities: Girls’ Mentoring and Life Skills Lessons; and, Excellence in the Learning Environment: School Infrastructure Improvement and Access to Clean Water. *Funder: ExxonMobil Foundation*
Improving Girls’ Employment Opportunities in Tanzania Project (2009). AED aims to train approximately 250 girls for employment after they have completed the last year of lower secondary school. This process includes conducting labor market research and finding internships for girls in the health and tourism sectors; developing a Life Skills to Work Skills Mentoring Guide; training teacher mentors to use the guide and organizing girls mentoring sessions; coordinating and monitoring internships; and organizing a campaign to mobilize community efforts, particularly those of mothers, to address the challenge of transportation of girls to school and to work. Funder: Johnson & Johnson Foundation

Middle East & North Africa

Qatar School Support Organization Project (2005-Present). Since 2005 CGE and the U.S. Education and Workforce Development (USEWD) group have worked in partnership with the Supreme Education Council (SEC) as a school support organization committed to achieving the SEC’s vision of creating a high-quality, high-performing, and self-sustaining education system. Having trained 700 teachers in 22 independent schools, CGE and USEWD have observed significant improvements in teaching, classroom management as well as school management through its work with administrators. Funder: Supreme Education Council of Qatar

Advancing Learning and Employability for a Better Future (ALEF) (2004-Present). At the core of the USAID/Morocco education and training strategy is the ALEF Project, a five-year initiative aimed at helping the education and vocational training sectors prepare graduates better to meet Morocco’s current and future workforce needs. ALEF works with four Moroccan ministries to support adoption of its key education strategies in more than 475 primary and junior secondary schools and four agricultural training centers, reaching over 300,000 students in four of Morocco’s sixteen regions. During its fifth year ALEF is working with the government to spread its activities to an additional five regions, reaching more than 50% of Morocco's schools. Funder: USAID/Morocco

Women’s Literacy in Morocco project (2008-Present). This project builds upon literacy work funded by MEPI under the USAID Advancing Learning and Employability for a Better Future Project (ALEF). The project promotes awareness of women’s rights under Morocco’s new family code and works with the Government of Morocco to institutionalize mother tongue literacy into the official national literacy program. Funder: MEPI

Yemen Basic Education Support and Training project (BEST) (2007-Present). BEST is a five-year associate award with USAID under the EQUIP2 mechanism. This project builds on the successes of the 2004-08 Yemen Basic Education project and includes activities such as infrastructure renovation, adult literacy support, teacher professional development, and community participation. In addition, the project supports and enhances educational policy reform by bringing lessons learned to the Ministry of Education’s institutional systems and processes, enhancing information systems for more informed decision-making, and making improved practices available for broader application throughout Yemen. Funder: USAID

Yemen Student Councils Project (2007-Present). The Yemen Student Councils Project is a cooperative agreement with the U.S. State Department’s Middle East Partnership Initiative to create student councils in 102 schools in Yemen. Implemented by AED with support from the Yemen Ministry of Education, the project is assisting schools in the creation of new student councils, helping to promote elections at the classroom and school levels, training new student leaders, and supporting councils in planning for their first phase of activities. Funder: USAID

Asia

HumanTrafficking.org (2002-Present). www.humantrafficking.org is one of the premier Internet-based resources for information on human trafficking in Southeast Asia, and globally. It provides information on prevention, protection, and rehabilitation activities to combat trafficking to organizations and government agencies in 18 countries in Asia, and the United States. Funder: U.S. State Department, East Asian & Pacific Bureau

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