

EDUCATION

EAST AFRICA



Girls have greater opportunities for education than ever before, largely due to supportive national policies and a growing social value placed on girls' education. Still, girls in school face safety, access, and quality issues, as well as higher risk of drop-out than boys. Poorer girls and girls in rural areas are most likely to lack access to education, across all five countries. 50% of out-of-school girls in sub-Saharan Africa are never expected to enrol in school.

NATURE OF THE PROBLEM FOR GIRLS



LEARN

Reasons for girls dropping out of school include lack of money for fees, books or uniforms; schools being too far or unsafe to reach; time poverty; lack of social support for girls' education; and early marriage or pregnancy. The provision of quality education especially in public schools remains a challenge affecting both girls and boys.



EARN

Girls with less education have fewer economic opportunities and are more likely to work in casual labour.



STAY SAFE

Girls who drop out of school are more isolated from social networks which can be both protective and a source of information. They are more prone to early marriage and early childbearing.

Girls who attend school risk harassment or assault from teachers, fellow students, and men and boys on the route to school.

DEPTH: WHAT IMPACT CAN A SOLUTION BRING?



Education is a key factor to increasing earnings, with benefits accruing into adulthood. Girls with more education have better economic outcomes and increased ability to save, but also have access to key information about health, services, rights and safety.



Girls with more education are able to better advocate and protect themselves from outside risks, are less likely to become pregnant, have higher self-confidence, stronger relationships and networks, and have higher aspirations.

SCALE: HOW MANY GIRLS CAN BE REACHED?

KENYA



87% of girls aged 6-13 attend primary
56% of girls 15-19 have completed primary
34% of girls 14-17 attend secondary

ETHIOPIA



65% of girls aged 7-14 attend primary
21% of girls 15-19 have completed primary
13% of girls 15-18 attend secondary

RWANDA



92% of girls aged 7-12 attend primary
57% of girls 15-19 have completed primary
32% of girls 13-18 attend secondary

TANZANIA



81% of girls aged 7-13 attend primary
66% of girls 15-19 have completed primary
25% of girls 14-19 attend secondary

UGANDA



81% of girls aged 6-12 attend primary
40% of girls 15-19 have completed primary
18% of girls 13-18 attend secondary

FOCUS: WHICH GIRLS WOULD BENEFIT THE MOST?

At-risk and poorer girls would benefit from solutions that improve education, as more affluent girls are already able to pay for different and/or better options. Depending on the solution, girls who are at-risk, out of school, rural or single mothers could benefit, if programmes are designed to target these populations. Solutions that take into consideration the particular barriers that young mothers and wives are likely to face have a better opportunity to address the needs of the hardest to reach girls.

SPRING PARTICIPANTS WORKING IN EDUCATION

