

The 1st Annual National Students' Debate Competition on Girl Child Education 2018.

The project Background.

According to the Statistical Abstract 2014 of the Ministry of Education, Science, Technology and Sports, the Net Enrollment Ratio NER 97% of the Total population of the primary Going age in Uganda, 98% are female and 96% are Male. This indicates that girls accessing Primary Education are slightly higher than boys therefore attainment of gender parity between the male and female pupils as for every 100 pupils in primary, 50 were girls.

- But then, of the total HIV and AIDS cases in primary enrollment which reaches to 0.4% of the total enrollment, Girls make 51.44% of this, which alone starts their education curve to descend.
- Overall still, boys are more engaged in Co-curricular activities than girls with an average participation of 6.6% compared to 6.3% of the girls.

These, and many other factors entirely contribute to the girls' affected completion of education, this therefore calls for greatly attached interventions, like below.

- The **Education 2030 Incheon Declaration and Frame work for action. SDG 4 Target .1** 'By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys complete **Free, Equitable and Quality** Primary and Secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes.'
- The **Uganda Vision 2040**, states that "Emphasis will be placed on keeping Girls in School and improving their completion rates through addressing both institutional, gender and cultural barriers in collaboration with social, cultural and community groups." (Uganda Vision 2040 Chapter 5, Section 5.3, point 264)
- The **Second National Development Plan (NDPII) 2015/16-2019/20**, breaks it down to "(1) Increase the completion rate of primary 7 from 70.3 percent in 2013/14 to 85 percent in 2019/20; (2) Increase the transition rate to secondary from 73 percent in 2013/14 to 83% in 2019/20; (3) Increase net secondary completion rate from about 36% in 2012/13 to 50% in 2019/20"
- The **National Strategic Plan on Girl Child Education 2015- 2019** specifically calls for; Strategic Intervention No. 4.5 Calls for a specific focus on male involvement in supporting Girls' Education. Strategic Objective No.5 and its subsequent Guiding principles calls for Capacity Utilization and enhancement of key actors in Girls' Education particularly involving men to continuously support girls to Enroll, Remain. Complete and benefit from the education system.

Activities for proposed include; organizing male role models at community levels; organizing father protect Daughter campaigns; Increase sensitization of communities on the value of Girls' Education and more so **Including Boys in gender responsive actions at the school level.**

This comes in line with the already running 1st Annual Students' Art competition on Girl Child Education 2016 which is focused on the students in Secondary education which has close to 50 schools already taking part in the completion and close to 500 students in districts of Kampala, Wakiso, Mpigi, Mityana, Bulambuli and Tororo.

It is against this that we come up with the *1st Annual National Students' Debate competition on Girl Child Education 2018*, targeting sensitization and involvement of pupils in the primary section of learning.

The Debate:

A debate is a formal argument where groups or individuals present opposing views about particular issues according to a set of rules. In the honor of the many benefits of a pupil's participation in debates, here comes another opportunity to engage in efforts for supporting the Girl Child Education, therefore the pupils will not only gain skills like public speaking, cognitive and language abilities, research and debating, will also learn about the Crucial Global issue of concern which is **Girl Child Education**.

Competition Objectives.

- To have/create a team of self-motivated young ambassadors of Girl Child Education in the Uganda.
- To create a platform where young minds are given an opportunity to shape the future of Education in their country and how they can champion the cause to which they all value and contribute to: That's Girl Child Education.
- To set up a continuous trend of joint mobilization and commitment of young people towards working together to have all Girls In School in Uganda.

Expected Outcomes.

- Having a dedicated team of at least young people from all over Uganda ready to champion any cause aimed at having men and Boys champion having Girls in School.
- To set a precedent to have District preliminary competitions having young people from the participating districts and compete to select the best ones to represent the districts in the national competitions.
- Together as gathering young people make joint commitments in their capacities towards having personal goals aimed at measuring individual contributions towards supporting Girls' Enrollment, Retention, and Completion of Education.

A Special Issue

On a special note, all children matter and hence we are including in the **Special Needs children, the deaf, the orphans, and Refugee Children**. These are to compete on the same page as the other students, there needs to be a clear action undertaken to make people appreciate that disability is not inability and the deaf and refugee children can actively and effectively compete with other students in a debate competition.

It is also going to help bring them out of the blanket of the special needs students of thinking that they have to be confined in their villages alone or circles, they need to learn how to actively and on the same level compete for the wide equal opportunities just like the others, and besides, Girls' Education also includes the special needs students.

Although, they are to be given more sophisticated care and concern especially much help in the preparations, trainings and also special point bonuses at the competitions because of them being special needs students and being the fact that, many of them have low content absorbing abilities, so a more concentrated help prior and during the competitions, brings about the **Equity & Equality In Education** that GISI stands for.

The target participants:

The project targets to have 20 teams/schools from every district taking part in the preliminary one-day debate sessions in their districts that will see a selection of the best school representing the district in the national debate competitions.

Note: The preliminary sessions for the first competitions will take place only in the host country due to resource restraints and the subsequent years will see such sessions being held in all the participating countries so as to select the best debater.

The Methodology.

Students will be given a set of Motions or themes for the different competition rounds, the first motions will be given to schools 4 months before the competitions plus the materials to create bigger spaces for research and practice, only motions for the Semi and Final rounds will be given to the students just a day before the competitions.

There are to be 6 rounds of competition, 5 District competitions 1 in every District to select the best school to represent the District at the National competitions.

All the schools that confirm participation in the project will be given full information materials about Education globally, regional and National, materials on Educational research and statistics, special material on the education of **Girl Child**, debate guidelines, timeline, competition fixtures and other information but all redesigned and aligned to suit the Primary level pupils of public schools in Uganda.

Note: The competition will have Pre-activities which will include **The School Food Tree Program** and **Girl Rising Movie Screenings** (Details herein attached).

Competition Timeline:

District Competition Dates:

Wakiso: 6th/June/2018 (In commemoration of the Day of the African Child)

Kasanda: 7th/June/2018

Bundibugyo: 8th/June/2018

Kyangwali Refugee Settlement: 12th/June/2018

National Competitions: 10th/October/2018 at Makerere University kampala.

Cerebration of winners and Award of Presents and Gifts: **International Day of the Girl Child. 11th /October/2018.**

Prizes:

First School/Team: Primary Debating Perpetual Trophy, Debaters' **Gold** Medals. Gifts and Certificates.

Second School/Team: Debaters' **Silver** Medals. Gifts and Certificates.

Third Team/School: Debaters' **Bronze** Medals. Gifts and Certificates.

All participants: Certificates and Gifts.

Special Recognition.

The overall best debater and the best Junior Judge will join **Girls In School Initiative Team** to:

- A first class all expenses paid annual GISI retreat in **Kigali Rwanda** in August 2018 with Modern Coast Bus.
- A Cappuccino and Agatogo Rwanda experience at Camellia Café in Kigali City Center.
- A visit around the city of Kigali.
- A free yoga Class with Aline Mazimpaka.

The judges:

The whole debate competition will have a total of about **120** sessions of debate and these are to be handled with a total of 40 judges. This will include 20 high school student judges (Junior Judges) and senior judges prior selected by GISI depending on their expertise in debates and public.

The main reason for including the junior judges is simply to have a young generation trained into the GISI debating style and them being secondary school students, they are simply to be ambassadors in their respective schools where the GISI gospel of men and Boys Championing Girl Child Education.

Volunteers:

The competitions cannot be smoothly run without the helping hands of diligent and committed volunteers, the projects target to use the support of 100 volunteers for the whole duration of the project including the debate sessions. These are targeted to be mostly from secondary schools to so much give an involvement of the students into the general concern and involvement in Girl Child Education.

Call for partnership/sponsorship.

Ways of project partnering with GIS;

- **Publicity:** This is one of the main tasks and areas of cooperation, reaching the competition information to prospective participants; it involves taking messages to the schools and linking on as many schools as possible.
- There shall be visits to 100 schools in and around Kampala which schools are expected to participate in the competition, this will involve gathering all students and teachers on an assembly or main hall.
- The project will print competition guidelines and posters which will be pinned to different stations like schools, public offices or any other places where students and school authorities can access/find.
- Spreading the message can be in any other way deemed possible like adverts in the media, circulation in circles, social media, at functions etc, all are welcome.
- **Sponsoring Prizes for the competition winners.**
The competition has a set of prizes for the participating students as displayed below.
 - The gifts proposed can be of any kind, from scholastic materials, school fees and other personal belongings.
- **Working with GISI in the judging of the competition sessions.**
The competition projects 400 participants to take part in this and this means 100 teams with 6 days of intensive debates and the judging, monitoring, mentoring and supporting the participating students will need a lot of support in terms of man power and expertise.

- **Working with/Involving GISI in the Organization of the International Day of the Girl Child 11th/October/2018 which is the awarding day.**

The awarding ceremony will be on 11th October and GISI seeks partnerships/involvement with other relevant stake holders in the field for involvement and inclusion of GISI in the 2018 day commemorations.

- **Good will partnership.**

GISI is an early advocacy Organisation which needs introduction and cementation into the Girl child related advocacy and support programs. And with this competition being the first public involvement activity, having many concerned partners as Good Will partners will be an added advantage.

- **Any other ways of partnering or sponsorship of the cause/project will be greatly appreciated and welcome.**

Benefits to Sponsors and Partners.

- In all the organization and project publications like posters, students' certificates, T-shirts, gifts, scholastic materials and all other relevant and ongoing materials, **sponsors and partners'** publicity names and logos will be given a high visibility value.
- Partners and Sponsors' information materials and adverts will be clearly displayed at all functions, events like displays and exhibitions in Schools, public places Art Galleries, Award ceremonies and any other subsequent events pertaining Girls in School Initiative.
- Online platforms like Organization Websites and blogs, social media addresses, local and international radio and TV appearances of Girls in School will have clear display of Partners and Sponsors' information.
- Sponsors and partners into the competition will be fronted as the guardians for the Girls who will be supported to attain their education through the support that will be given to them by Girls In School Initiative through the earlier mentioned initiatives like the Scholastic and financial support to Less privileged urban poor and the rural girls.

The team:

1. Project Manager

(For sponsors and partners, coordination of international judges.)

Magezi Bashir:

Founder and CEO Girls In School Initiative.

Email: gisinitiative@mail2girl.com:

Tell: +256780239066, +256758685575

2. Debate Manager:

(For local and junior judges and action debate coordination)

GISI Statistician

Olwenyi Ronald Ryan

Email: olwenyironad@gmail.com

Tell: +256-701024788

3. Media and Publicity representative.

(For media presence and representation of the project and handling project public relations.)

Najib Sekikubo

GISI Media and Communications Specialist.

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Tell: +256-702859664

4. Volunteers and Retreat Coordinator.

(For coordination of volunteer invitations, trainings and coordinating the annual GISI retreat.)

Sembatya Hassan

GISI Refuge Education Coordinator

Email: ssembatyahassan45@gmail.com

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5. Logistics coordinator.

(For coordination of all project logistics in designing purchase and distribution).

Sekamwa Hussein

GISI Projects Coordinator

Email: ssekamwahussein28@gmail.com

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6. Debaters' support trainer.

(For overall training of debaters in the GISI debating format supported by the printed Booklet)

Bahat Ibrahim

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All info available on

www.gisinitiative.webs.com

