

THE PRIVATE EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT NETWORK

The PEDN Monthly Digest

AFLATEEN PLUS CARRIES OUT ENDLINE SURVEY

Special points of interest:

- EGE END OF Q4 ASSESSMENTS AND FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSIONS
- NIE PLAYING A BIG ROLE IN SCHOOL
- EGE CHILD PROTECTION DEBATES
- ENHANCED AFLA-TOUN LIVE IN SESSION
- YSFE LIVE IN SESSIONS
- EGE EXPOSURE VISITS

On 5th to 9th March, 2018, the PEDN MEL team conducted an Endline survey particularly field data collection in the 4 direct beneficiary districts of YLA-Aflateen PLUS Social and Financial Education Activity to collect data on 1,660 beneficiaries in Mbale, Masindi, Mubende and Gulu to assess the knowledge and skills that the learners had gained from the intervention with the main areas of concern being the soft and hard skills that were the basis of the program.

Assessments were largely quantitative in nature, aided by

well-structured questionnaires which the learners had to complete with their responses to enable us quickly and easily get a lot of information from the beneficiaries with the aid of the PEDN officials.

“What are some of the most important things that you have learnt from Aflateen PLUS throughout the different sessions that have been conducted in your school?” inquired Joshua Kimera (PEDN MEL Manager) after the learners had filled in the questionnaire in Gulu district.



Aflateen PLUS Endline in Mubende

The head teachers and teachers of the various schools visited only sang praises on the benefits that the intervention has had on the learners and the school as a whole.

PEDN CELEBRATES GLOBAL MONEY WEEK

PEDN joined the rest of the world in commemorating Global Money Week 2018 under the theme *Money Matters Matter* with lots of activities cutting across the various programs between 12th to 16th March, 2018. . Some of the activities done within this week included Focus Group Discussions, Exposure visits, radio talk shows, competitions for the best business plans, skills training, public lecture and so much more
“This year’s Global Money

Week has been fun packed with various activities organised under the different PEDN projects in the districts,” said Irene Mutumba (Country Director) during an interview with the PEDN Monthly Digest.

Schools under the Youth Empowerment Program (YEP) in Iganga and Mayuge districts were involved in a stiff competition of coming up with the most realistic and best business plans. Students from the winning school took home a cash



YEP 2nd runner up receiving her cash prize for her business plan

prize to enable them start up or boost their school-based business or enterprise.

Wakiso district on the other hand had a couple of activities lined up during the GMW celebrations and one of them was debates. It was great listening to young minds debate and presents their views about the theme of GMW under the motion “Money is the cause of family break ups”

EGE CARRIES OUT END OF Q4 ASSESSMENTS AND FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSIONS



FGDs with the girls in Mukono

A routine quarterly evaluation study of the Empowerment Girls' Education project was carried out in Wakiso, Jinja and Mukono district between 26th and 29th March, 2018.

The review also involved informants' interviews with head teachers and liaison teachers of the visited schools, to get a deeper understanding of how the implementation process was going, results so far registered

and key lessons from challenges that could have been faced.

"A total of 29 schools were visited and these have been used as a sample to represent the rest of the schools which have benefited from the first year of the EGE project," said Hiled Mugabe (PEDN MEL Director).

The schools visited were grateful to PEDN and its partners for the EGE project especially the vocational skills training where

the learners had an opportunity to learn how to make reusable sanitary towels, Vaseline, briquettes, etc.

"We learnt how to make daddies during the vocational skills training so my friends and I decided to make some every weekend, pack them and sell them at the canteen to make an extra income," said one of the learners from Progressive SS Buloba.

EGE CARRIES OUT EXPOSURE VISITS

Smiles, tears and joy cannot begin to explain the joy and pride of the EGE club members in the various schools as they boarded the buses to take them for the exposure visits on 22nd and 23rd March, 2018.

The EGE Project carried out exposure visits to Opportunity bank at various branches in Wakiso, Mukono and Jinja to boost the learner's familiarity with the banking systems and its operations.

Learners were taken through the



Learners inside the banking hall at Opportunity Bank

whole banking procedure, how to fill in deposit slip, how to open up an account and also had the chance to sit in the tellers booth and have a feel on what it means to work in a bank.

"When I grow up, I want to be a bank manager just like the lady who has just spoken to us," said one of the pupils from St. John Education Centre after the bank visit.

Learners also had the opportunity to ask as many bank related

questions as they possibly could so as to have a clearer understanding of the banking systems and some of the frequently asked questions included: What do I need to open a bank account?, What happens to my bank account when I die?, How do they use an ATM card?, Can children also own bank accounts and withdraw money?

YOUTH SOCIAL AND FINANCIAL EDUCATION (YSFE) PROGRAM KICK STARTS LIVE IN SESSIONS.

YSFE live in sessions took on a different twist this time round as students were very enthusiastic and eager to learn about the technical skills led by Industrial cottages a partnering organisation in the program.

Live in sessions in 10 secondary schools and one university so far this term.

"Sessions were participatory with support of the liaison teachers and the fact

that students are now learning a new skill besides the theory that they are used to," said Emilio Ssejongo (YSFE Program Officer)

The Makerere University Business School coordinator for the program Dr Rachael Mindwa was very grateful to PEDN for visiting the university to train learners in soft skills of financial literacy. She also proposed that the pro-

gram be extended to other branches of MUBS like Mbarara and Mbale.

"The knowledge imparted in these students is so beneficial especially in their day to day lives as they manage their finances. This is why I propose that the program should reach out to all MUBS students at the various campuses around the country," Dr Rachael Mindwa affirmed .



YSFE members at Eden High School learning how to make liquid soap

ENHANCED AFLATOUN CURRICULUM AND QUASI EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN KICK STARTS LIVE IN SCHOOL SESSIONS

The joy and excitement of the learners across the four intervention districts was a sight to behold as each of the club members under the Enhanced Aflatoun Curriculum and Quasi Experimental Design received a learner's handbook that would act as a guide during the live in sessions.

A total of 3,000 hand books were delivered to 80 schools in Mubende, Masindi, Mbale and Gulu and these have proven to be very helpful during

the live in sessions that were started during the first week of March

"We are very happy about the new Aflatoun program because it sends us messages every week as teachers on what we are supposed to be guiding the learners with. This is a very good innovation," said one of the teachers in Nabumali Boarding Primary School.

PEDN developed a new approach so as to keep in



Aflatouns in Mubende during a session.

touch with the teachers in the various schools where the activity coordinators may not be able to reach through the use of weekly messages that are shared with the teachers

"As a project, we believe that this new approach to live in sessions to the learners will not only provide a feedback platform for us as PEDN but also act as a means to ensure that schools own this project even after we have exited the schools," Joy Mukisa (Technical Support Manager) further explained.

EMPOWERMENT FOR GIRLS' EDUCATION (EGE) PROJECT CARRIES OUT CHILD PROTECTION DEBATES



One of the outstanding pupils from Murona Junior receiving her certificate

Learners under the EGE project can now ably and confidently define safe and unsafe places following the debates and essay writing competitions that they participated in on 16th March, 2018 under the motion *"Not all safe places are safe."*

The impact the child protection sensitizations sessions were evident during the Child Protection debates as learners displayed of high level of confidence, leadership skills and critical thinking in the

way they clearly brought out their points.

"One of the opposers said that all safe places like home are safe, however I disagree because some of us are mistreated at home therefore a home is not a safe place," argued a proposer from Hillside Secondary School.

Learners from the primary section were required to write an essay on the same topic and key aspects like articulation, rhythmic flow

and proper tense were used as a basis for judging the best learner.

At the end of the debate and essay the outstanding participants were awarded with certificates as a sign of appreciation for a job well done.

"I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who have actively participated in these debates. I am very impressed with the arguments from both the proposers and opposers and I hope that you will continue to sensitise others about child protection," said Jalia Nabasumba.

NEWSPAPERS IN EDUCATION (NiE) PLAYING A BIG ROLE IN EGE SCHOOLS

Over the course of the term, Empowerment for Girls' Education (EGE) project schools have eagerly waited for the delivery of the NiE pull out from the New Vision for the EGE learners every Wednesday. The pull out contains a various topics ranging from sanitation to hygiene as well as a section on financial literacy on the different topics covered during the club

sessions.

A total of 5760 copies of newspapers have been delivered in term one and schools are grateful to having been beneficiaries of the NiE because it has boosted the reading capabilities of the learners in the different schools.

"We as a school are very grateful to PEDN for these newspapers, some of the learners have been able to

learn new words from reading these newspapers and they have a quiz every Friday and the winner is given a prize," said the head teacher of Standtall Education Centre.

The officers have also noticed a commendable change in the articulation of certain words especially during sessions ever since the learners started reading newspapers.



Pupils of Nsamo Mixed during the NiE session

Success story

FORMER AFLATEEN MEMBERS COMPETE IN HARVARD DEBATE



The debate team posing for a photo after the debate at Harvard

On 24th to 26th March, 2018, the world participated in this unique and dynamic tournament at Harvard College that has a highly interactive style of debate that allows debaters to engage each other.

“We are very proud to represent Uganda in such an international debate. Some of the key aspects we learnt during our Aflateen sessions were very useful as we argued out our points during the debate,” said David Bakka one of debaters.

The team of nine including PEDNs very own Country Director Irene Mutumba travelled on the 20th of March aboard Qatar airways to the United States of America where the debate was to be held. They were accommodated at the prestigious and magnificent Hyatt Regency Cambridge Massachusetts hotel during their stay.

Three former Aflateen members (David Bakka, Wise Rodney Musinguzi and Banza Birondwa) from Kings College Budo represented Uganda at Harvard College during the

What to expect next month

April 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- ◆ YEP close out
- ◆ EGE Q4 report
- ◆ Enhanced Aflatoun wrap of live in sessions
- ◆ YSFE Sessions wrap up
- ◆ EGE Steering committee meetings



Start Early Succeed Young!

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Start Early Succeed Young

The Private Education Development Network (PEDN) a local Non profit organization in Uganda has contributed to empowering young people through delivering interactive, student-centered and practical learning methodologies in Ugandan schools and training teachers in using the same. Since its inception in 2002, PEDN works with the Ministry of Education to change the traditional rote-learning style in Ugandan schools. PEDN has reached out to over 800 teachers and 500,000 Primary and secondary young people in eleven districts of North, East, and Central Uganda.

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