

EGG's School Reform Model Empowers Girls Through Education



Educate Girls Globally (EGG) partners with government schools to empower girls through education. With EGG's unique approach, girls stay in school longer, score higher in exams and are more likely to graduate from twelfth grade.

This research brief explores the changes in the schools' environment after adopting EGG's two-year program. What led to the rise in girls' enrollment, engagement and achievement in school? How do the program and "control" schools compare?

Introduction

After more than a dozen years leading primary education school reform, EGG launched a two-year pilot program in 2013 at 50 secondary government schools that were randomly selected in Uttarakhand, India. More than 22,000 girls in Grades 6-12 were enrolled in the EGG schools.

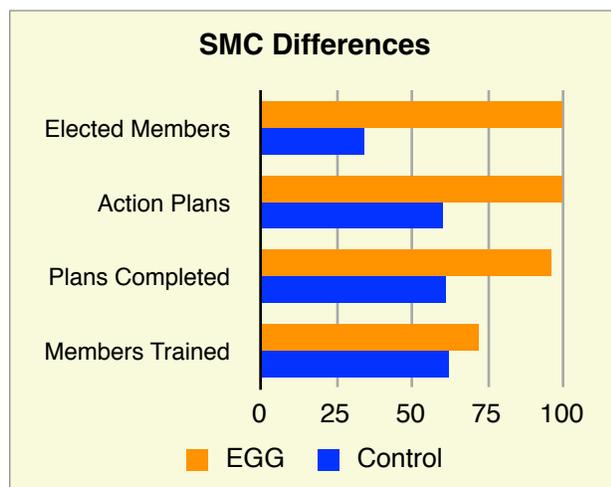
Methodology

To evaluate the program, EGG surveyed 50 project schools and 50 non-program "control" schools - all from the same district. Baseline and endline studies were conducted with the same number of girl students, administrators and teachers at the beginning and end of the two-year program. This brief compares the endline results of the program and "control" schools.

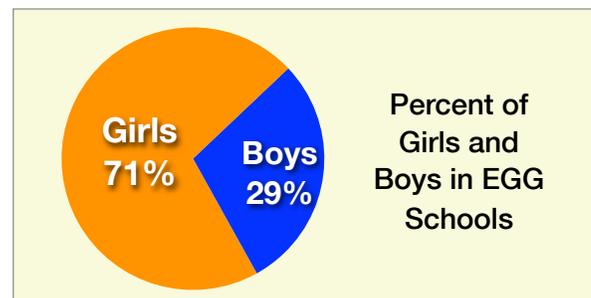
- All SMCs in EGG schools are elected, rather than appointed, compared to 34% in control schools. This leads to more qualified leaders and stronger community accountability.
- All EGG schools prepared action plans, compared to 60% of control schools. EGG schools also completed more of their plans compared to the non-EGG schools, 96% vs. 61%, respectively.
- A higher percentage of SMC leaders in EGG schools participated in training, 72% vs. 62%, in control schools. This has strengthened the ability of the EGG schools to meet their goals.
- SMCs in EGG schools raised 54% more in funds than the control schools, allowing them to add new improvements to their schools.

Key Findings

1. School Management Committees (SMCs) in EGG schools represent elected leaders who invest more time and resources in their schools, teachers and girl students.

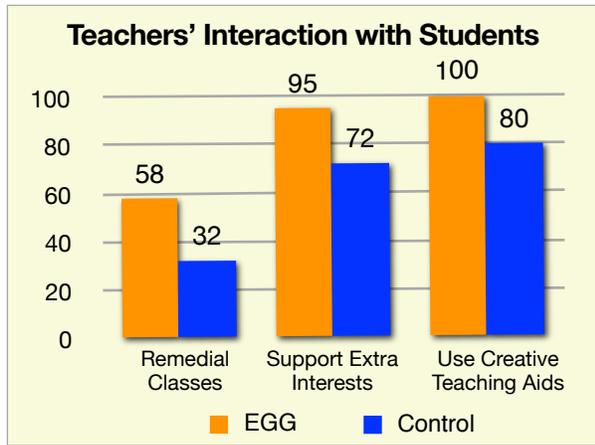


2. Girls Parliament in EGG schools prepares girls with leadership skills and self-confidence to speak out and stand up for their rights.



- All EGG schools set up Girls Parliaments (GP) where girls receive valuable life skills training.
- Elected GP Ministers build and lead teams for safety, health, sanitation, SMC, science, culture, sports and environmental impact.
- Girls in EGG schools report enormous gains in attendance, self-esteem, health awareness, life skills, safety and commitment to education.

3. Teachers at EGG schools work much more closely with girls, and more girls actively seek their help with lessons and other interests from writing to debating.



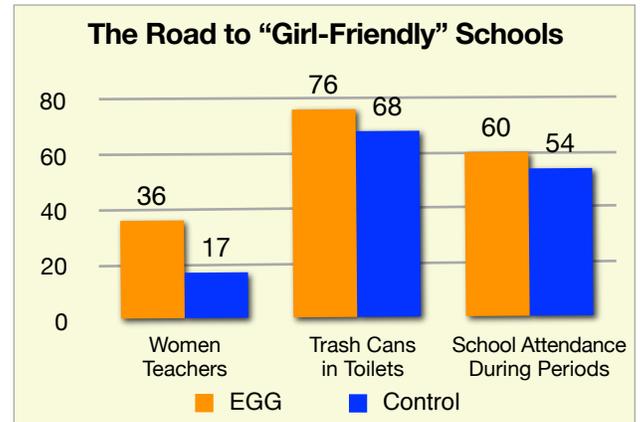
- 58% of girls in EGG schools report they attended remedial classes and their teachers were willing to help them with their studies. This compares to only 32% of girls in the control schools.
- In EGG schools, 95% of girls say teachers help them with outside interests like writing and debating, compared to 72% of girls attending control schools.
- All girls in EGG schools say their teachers often use creative teaching aids. Fewer girls (80%) in non-EGG schools reported that their teachers do.

4. EGG schools report greater access to technology and equipment for students.

- EGG schools have 92% more computers than control schools (320 to 167), with 44% of girls using them in EGG schools compared to only 25% in control schools.
- EGG schools have 66% more library books than control schools. In the 2014-15 year, EGG schools also purchased 46% more books than the control schools.
- Over one quarter of EGG schools have physics and chemistry labs for students compared to 8% of control schools.

5. EGG's program leads to greater sensitivity towards gender issues and the needs of girls, creating "girl-friendly" environments that keep girls enrolled and engaged in school.

- EGG schools have 41% more approved teachers compared to control schools; plus, 36% vs. 17% are women respectively. The percentage of female teachers who are hired is also higher in EGG schools.



- Clean sanitation matters. More EGG schools have private girls' toilets with water and trash cans. 78% of EGG schools have trash cans in toilets for girls to dispose their sanitary napkins. Fewer control schools (69%) have the same facilities so that over half of girls must carry used sanitary napkins home.
- In EGG schools, 60% of girls are in school during their periods compared to 54% of girls from control schools who attend classes.

Outlook

After completing its first two-year pilot program in secondary education, the project expanded to 100 schools, serving approximately 35,000 girls. The Uttarakhand Government has asked EGG to further broaden the reform program to all secondary schools in the state. EGG is also receiving interest from the Gujarat and Rajasthan State Governments. To offer its school reform model into other countries, EGG is developing a cadre of expert trainers to improve girls' education around the world.

About Educate Girls Globally

EGG transforms the lives of girls through education, leading to large-scale, sustainable social change throughout the developing world. As a valued partner, EGG leverages underutilized government investments in education and encourages all stakeholders to promote school reform. Since 2002, EGG's model has benefited over 600,000 girls and nearly one million total students in India. In 2013, EGG launched a new empowerment program for girls in secondary schools that boosts their confidence and leadership skills while improving the access and quality of their education. <http://educategirls.org>