EGG Raises Secondary School Girls’ Enrollment and Achievement Rates

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 examines the impact on more than 22,000 girls who attended 50 government schools that participated in the EGG program from 2013 through 2015.

Introduction
After more than a dozen years leading primary education school reform, EGG launched a two-year pilot program in 2013 at 50 secondary schools in Uttarakhand, India. EGG mobilizes school officials, girl students, parents and community leaders to work together to improve their schools.

Methodology
To evaluate the program, EGG randomly selected 50 non-program “control” schools from the same district as the 50 project schools. Baseline and endline surveys were implemented with the same quota of girl students, administrators and teachers from both the project schools and control schools at the beginning and end of the two-year program.

Results
1. EGG schools retained a much higher percentage (98.9%) of girls enrolled in Grades 10-12, when compared to the statewide rate of 90.5%.

   - Girls make up the majority of students in government schools, accounting for 71%.
   - Fewer girls dropped out of school in 2015, especially beginning in ninth grade.
   - The number of girls enrolled in twelfth grade grew significantly in 2015, up 7.3% from two years ago. Senior girls represented a much larger portion (23%) of secondary school girls.
   - The drop-out rate typically seen in tenth grade declined as girls who did not pass stayed in school to repeat Grade 10.
   - Enrollment in ninth grade also increased as girls who dropped out re-enrolled in school or repeated Grade 9 if they previously failed.

2. A much higher percentage of twelfth grade girls are passing state exams after the EGG program, resulting in more girls eligible for college.

   - 73.7% of twelfth grade girls who took the state exams passed in 2015, compared to a pass rate of 61.4% two years before.
   - A larger percentage of twelfth grade girls scored in the first division after the EGG program, 16.1% vs. 7.1% before.
   - More girls in twelfth grade also scored in the second division (45.3%) in 2015 vs. 35.3% before the EGG program.

3. Learning gains were seen in several core subjects for tenth and twelfth grade girls who took the state board exams.

   - There were gains in pass rates by Grade 10 girls in English, Hindi, Math and Science. Math and Science showed the highest gains of 11.8% and 10.5% respectively.
Grade 12 girls also reported significant gains in English, Hindi, Math, Physics and Biology. The most notable gains were in Hindi and Physics, 13.7% and 11.0% respectively.

4. Girls in EGG schools are increasingly taking math and science and passing these courses.
   - Although still small, the number of twelfth grade girls taking math grew by 92.5%. The percent of Grade 12 girls passing math doubled.
   - More twelfth grade girls also enrolled in Physics, with 84% passing the exam.

**Our Approach**

EGG is accomplishing extraordinary results by empowering poor, rural communities to take ownership of government schools and reform them. Community mobilization is central to EGG’s success. Through a collaborative model, the reform program is supported by government leaders, school officials, teachers, parents and girl students.

Key elements of EGG’s reform model include:

- Girls Parliaments - Offer life skills training and leadership development to give girls’ a voice and build their self-esteem and confidence.
- School Management Committees - Provide members with organizational help and coaching to develop and implement action plans that improve the school environment for girls.
- Local Community Meetings - Held regularly to build social support for girls and sensitize the villagers about cultural traditions that are barriers to girls’ education.

**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](http://educategirls.org)

**NOTES:**
2. A ranking of first division implies achieving a result of 60%-100%.
3. A ranking of second division implies achieving a result of 45%-59.9%.