School Management Committees

Electing School Management Committees

As communities commit to education and take ownership of their schools, electing effective School Management Committees is key. In many areas, at least a third of SMCs are appointed by local officials and have no strong commitment. Many SMCs are ineffective. Experience shows electing SMCs can help build a stronger partnership among parents, students, and teachers. Within a year, nearly all EGG program schools elect SMCS.

Offering SMCs Training

EGG provides training to SMCs to strengthen their capacity to advocate for girls’ education, to foster stronger cooperation among SMCs, teachers, and students, and to plan and carry out “Whole School Development Plans” and projects. The result is a friendlier learning environment and stronger school facilities.

SMCs Take Action

Compared with SMC’s in non-EGG schools, SMC’s in EGG schools prepare and carry out far more Whole School Development Plans and contribute more themselves in time, in kind, and in cash to their schools. SMC’s often focus on water and sanitation. Many now work with Girls’ Parliaments and police to improve girls’ safety, a critical issue. SMCs also help finance additional books and computers and other equipment for students. Perhaps most important, SMCs, teachers, and students come together as a team to advocate for girls’ education and support students in their efforts to learn.

An Example: SMCs in EGG and nonEGG Schools

EGG reviewed the experience of SMCs in 50 EGG program schools and 50 non-EGG schools in 2015 after two years in EGG’s program in USN District in Uttarakhand:

- SMCs in EGG schools were elected, but a third were appointed in control schools.
- SMCs in EGG schools conducted three times as many planning meetings and spent far more time and resources to improve their schools.
- All SMCs in EGG program schools prepared “Whole School Development Plans” in the school year versus about 60% in nonEGG schools.
- SMCs in EGG schools carried out 640 plans -- 96% of the 664 that were planned and on average 12 per school. SMCs in nonEGG schools completed 118 action plans, about five times less, and only 61% of those they had planned.
- SMCs in EGG schools raised 54% more funds than control schools.
- Far more SMC members in EGG schools attended Government training and then trained other SMC members.