FUTURE FIRST GLOBAL IS NOW INHIVE.

THIS RESOURCE WAS PRODUCED PRIOR TO THE ORGANISATION’S REBRAND.
ALUMNI NETWORKS: UGANDA

OVERVIEW

Since January 2019, Future First Global has been working in Uganda with Private Education Development Network (PEDN) to integrate alumni networks into primary and secondary schools in Eastern and Central regions. Funded through Opportunity International’s grant within the UK’s DFID’s Girls’ Education Challenge (GEC-T) project, PEDN and FFG have introduced alumni into the lives of 92 schools at the beginning of the 2019 school year.

Our partner schools are located in 18 districts such as Kampala, Jinja and Wakiso. They serve young girls and boys from under-resourced communities and poor households for small fees.

Together with other activities, such as income-generating skills training or child-safeguarding, PEDN has been improving the quality of the education that these young people receive.

In June and July 2019, we conducted an evaluation of our alumni work with PEDN so far.

This included a survey with teachers from 78 of our partner schools, which give access to education to 5,721 boys and girls.

We also conducted interviews and group discussions with school leaders, learners and alumni. Here is what we learned:

OUR IMPACT

89% of our partner schools now have an alumni database with their records

69% of our partner schools started to think about alumni only after the PEDN project started

Alumni committees set out to address key challenges especially student absenteeism

More than 300 alumni participated in school activities, most of whom were under 35 and either studying or in education

14 schools received financial contributions from alumni

Alumni also promoted and advertised the schools, increasing enrolment and taught vocational and other practical skills
Within our project, FFG trained PEDN team in building alumni networks. PEDN staff and resource people then worked with teachers at participating schools to build alumni committees.

These committees consist of various stakeholder groups such as teachers, parents, local community representatives, alumni and students.

The committees have now been responsible for setting up, developing, sustaining and engaging the alumni networks at their schools.

93% of our respondents who are part of these committees feel either very or extremely confident about developing alumni networks.

As mentors and career guides

36 of our partner schools reported having career talks in the last 12 month, the vast majority were delivered by alumni, showing their unmatched impact on school to work transitions.

As after-school club assistants and attendance re-enforcers

20 schools where we work participated in after school activities that were run by alumni.

In addition to guidance, motivation and inspiration for the future generations, the alumni contributed to their former schools by:

Promoting and advertising the schools in the community and thus increasing student numbers.

Teaching vocational and other practical skills such as soap making, tailoring, and sanitary pad making.

Providing their time, effort and money to do repairs, constructions or donate equipment and other necessities.

We want to make more alumni involved at their former schools and increase their impact. We will use the remainder of the programme to increase their level of engagement and reach more young girls and boys.

We will continue supporting the committees in their community outreach, as well as creating communities of practice and alliances to gain more traction with local government and education authorities.

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