



Global Education Partnership

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RE: Update on Global Education Partnership (GEP) Tanzania

Since 2005 G.E.P Tanzania has been conducting various activities as listed here under:

Girls Education: in 2004 when the G.E.P Washington resolved the Board of Directors and we received directives from the former G.E.P Washington's Executive Director Francis Kihanya that G.E.P country offices in Guatemala, Kenya, Indonesia and Tanzania have to run as separate organizations or else close down we at G.E.P in Tanzania decided to continue with G.E.P. name. We amended the constitution. During that time we were completing a project financed by the Flora Family Foundation on girls' education.

Computer studies: About 3,500 youths aged between 15 and 35 years of age have been trained on how to use the computer especially with the Microsoft office programs. They use the computer for keeping records of their businesses. We thank Jonathan Berkey who was a former GEP Washington Board member in 2004 gave G.E.P Tanzania US\$500 that assisted G.E.P Tanzania in purchasing a power generator which is used in the student's computer laboratory during power blackouts here in Lushoto, Tanzania.

Business development and village community Bank training: Through a series of McKnight Foundation grants we have been training more than 3,000 young entrepreneurs especially young mothers aged between 18 and 35 years of age in business development in order to polish their skills in doing business. We also trained them on village community bank skills. A village community Bank group is a group of 30 women who contribute their shares and take loans from the shares they have contributed. The loan size depends on the amount of shares a member has contributed. These loans assist them as sustainable means of getting capital for business expansion. They repay the loans on interest. These village community bank activities are conducted in cycles of one year each. We very much thank McKnight Foundation for these grants because assisted G.E.P Tanzania in paying office rent, staff salaries, water, telephone, internet and electricity bills. Now McKnight Foundation has changed their grant mission. They will no longer assist women in East Africa instead they will work on crop research. We have many success stories of women from this grant.

Jatropha plantation: G.E.P Tanzania was assisted by the Eco-Ventures International to received funds from the Artemisia International both US based organizations that assisted women to have an alternative source of fuel for the kitchen. Funds from The Artemisia International assisted G.E.P Tanzania to purchase 20 computers from the World Computers Exchange (Timothy Anderson) from Chicago in the US.

Improvement of businesses: A grant from Women's World Day of Prayer (Germany Committee) assisted our McKnight Foundation assisted young entrepreneurs to improve their businesses by taking special designed course on how to use the computer to keep records and using the Internet to look for customers. These women are now rich. They have built their own houses, have big shops and have their private means of transport. We very much thank the McKnight Foundation for this intervention.

Briquette: Grant from the Eco-Ventures International assisted G.E.P Tanzania to train women on how to use saw dust, used papers and charcoal dust to make briquettes that are used as fuel for the kitchen. This grant assisted G.E.P Tanzania to train young women on environmental protection. Instead of cutting down trees they use the briquettes.

Hatibu Lugendo,
Executive Director GEP, Tanzania