Contribution of Mubyeyi Tera Intambwe to curb school dropout rates in Rwanda

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Issues

• According to Integrated Household Living Conditions Survey (EICV-3-2010-11), attendance of primary schools was 92% for children aged between 7 to 12 years.

• In 2009, across the country, about 27% individuals attending primary school repeated in the same class they were attending.

• 3% of individuals attending secondary schools repeated their class while 2% dropped out.

• For both levels primary and secondary schools, the cost of education was one among other factors driving them to drop out before completing their education.

• 16% was counted for primary and 42% for secondary schools both due to the limited capacity to afford the cost of education.

• Dropout rates in Gasabo district was estimated at 7.9% in 2013 while in Ngororero and Musanze Districts, it was estimated at 21.3% respectively.

• In line with the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and version 2020, the government of Rwanda committed to promote and provide universal primary education by 2010 and basic education for all by 2015.

• Imbuto Foundation initiated an innovation known as “Mubyeyi Tera Intambwe” initiative aiming at reducing high rates of school dropout in the country.

• Since 2013, Imbuto Foundation initiated “Mubyeyi Tera Intambwe” initiative aiming at curbing high rates of school dropout and improve school completion rates.

Lessons Learned

• # of community education workers trained to engage with parents, teachers and students to collectively reduce school dropouts.

• There was a tremendous increase of 117.2%, from 37.7% to 81.9% in terms of regular attendance from the period before MTI to March 2015.

• 91% of parents improved their perception on education and understanding their roles in education of their children.

• 9,484 (316%) reintegrated students were supported with scholastic materials, uniforms.

• MTI indicated that establishing community education workers at village level and involvement of parents in children’ education are an effective and efficient strategies to prevent school dropout, to improve performance and a good relationship within families.

Next Steps

• The projects resulted a positive change in terms of children’ behavior and attitude concerning their understanding on the role of education, this was demonstrated by the increased of attendance and improved performance.

• For parents the project improved their level of understanding, their role in children’s education and they are committed to support them. IF will continue to invest in children’ education and working with parents, community, teachers and partners to improve performance and to prevent school dropout.

• Key words: Mubyeyi Tera Intambwe, Children’ education, School dropout, class attendance and school performance.

• For more information: www.imbutofoundation.org

Description

• Imbuto Foundation used community education workers (CEW) model.

• CEW model is an innovative strategy that involves identifying and training volunteers to become community education workers.

• CEW were empowered to conduct outreach activities in the community, then after extended to parents, students, teachers and community leaders to educate them to value children’s education.

• Sensitization of parents and communities

• 14,279 cases of dropout or irregular cases were identified

• 9,484 children were re-integrated

• 14,572 families were visited

• Improvement on class attendance.

• MTI indicated that establishing community education workers at village level and involvement of parents in children’s education are an effective and efficient strategies to prevent school dropout, to improve performance and a good relationship within families.

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