Our Safe Spaces

FINDINGS

2020 BASELINE STUDY TO GAIN A CLEAR UNDERSTANDING OF CRITICAL ISSUES RELATED TO GIRLS 15-19 YEARS IN ETHIOPIA, KENYA, TANZANIA AND UGANDA

In January 2020, Childrens’ Rights and Violence Prevention Fund (CRVPF) funded 10 clusters (groups of organizations) in 4 countries to support critical activities of the Adolescent Girls Power Program (AGPP) including creating safe spaces for girls in-school and out-of-school.

WHAT IS A SAFE SPACE?

A safe space in the CRVPF Adolescent Girls’ Power program (AGPP) is a girls’ only space where they meet to safely share their challenges, problems and access empowering information and education. These integrated spaces nurture helpful social networks, recreational activities and provide girls with a safe entry point for life-saving services. Most of the spaces are established within the communities where the girls live including in schools. Currently, 74 safe spaces have been established by partner organizations across the region.

KEY FINDINGS

Out of 3,429 girls interviewed, 2,422 (71%) were in school, 1,007 (29%) girls were out of school.

On average, girls were married at 16 years of age.

Overall 7% of the girls interviewed had ever given birth. The majority, 85% who were out of school had given birth between 15 and 19 years of age, as compared to 8% who were in school.

34% of adolescent girls said that they would only trust their mothers with GBV related information, followed by 21% that would trust the police while the 2% agreed that they would trust their fathers with the information. Overall, only 27% of the girls knew any laws or policies or by-laws on SGBV.

About the Adolescent Girls’ Power Program

The Adolescent Girls’ Power program supports adolescent girls in transforming and changing the structures that deny them choice and power. The program creates dialogue between different actors to foster critical, intersectional thinking amongst practitioners, and supports national and regional sites of solidarity in Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania and Ethiopia.

The CRVPF principles of partnership rotate around the cluster approach to ensure clear and transparent working relationships while encouraging local ownership for sustainability. The long-term objective of the cluster partnership is to build community movements to address adolescent girls’ issues.

Knowledge is power

Adolescent girls’ knowledge that a girl in puberty can get pregnant before she starts her menstruation.

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20% 26% 21% 22%

Ethiopia 158/775 Kenya 158/752 Tanzania 176/863 Uganda 227/1039

Region 759/3429

Overall In school Out of school