Improving Girls participation and performance in SMT subjects - FAWE’s experience

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Presentation Plan

- About FAWE
- SMT in Africa - Overview
- FAWE’s SMT Model
- Lessons learnt
- Opportunities for partnership and collaboration
Who is FAWE?

- A pan-African NGO
- Vision - Gender disparities in education in Africa eliminated.
- Mission - To promote gender equity & equality in education
- How? - Advocacy, develop & pilot gender-responsive models & replication if successful
SMT Education in Africa

- Favourable policy environment
- Gender stereotype
- Gender insensitive learning environments
- Girls are under performing in SMT
- Very few professionals in SMT related fields.
FAWE SMT Model

- FEMSA/FAWE SMT Model
- Objectives
- Approach
  - GRP in SMT Training for teachers
  - Empowerment of the students
  - Community mobilisation and sensitization
  - Policy advocacy
FAWE’s SMT Programme - Strategies

- Capacity building
- Partnership and networking
- Affirmative action
- Policy advocacy
- Community awareness
FAWE’s SMT Model

Key activities

- Training of teachers in FAWE’s GRP approach through INSET
- Baseline survey
- Mentoring and supporting the students in SMT
  - Organizing Science community days/camps/clinics/quizzes/Olympiads
  - Remedial teaching in SMT subjects
  - Women role models
  - Expositions/visits to SMT work places
- Monitoring, documenting and evaluating
- Policy dialogue
FAWE’s SMT model

**Key results:**

- Students especially girls are motivated to work hard in SMT subjects = improved performance
- FAWE’s SMT implemented in 79 schools and learning centres in 17 countries reaching over 15,405 students and 131 teachers.
- Improved attitude of the participating teachers towards the teaching SMT subjects.
- SMT model replicated by Governments and other partners. E.g MOE Zanzibar, MCF in Ethiopia and Rwanda and Intel enhancing SMT in COEs
Lessons learnt

- A **one off TOT training in GRP is not adequate** to influence the integration of gender in SMT curriculum.
- **The target group at school level should be all inclusive**
- Partnership and networking with various players in the education sector and other sectors at all levels is a critical success factor.
- Promoting SMT for girls requires a multiple-pronged approach and is time consuming.
Opportunities for partnership scaling up SMT

- Development of FAWE GRP-SMT module into mobile or online content for students and teachers
- Scaling up of SMT in schools including mentorship, sponsoring regional and sub regional SMT fairs
- Research, documentation and evaluation of the SMT model
- Invest in affirmative action /SMT campaign for girls
Merci
Thank you!