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THE GIRLS LEADERSHIP AND EMPOWERMENT THROUGH EDUCATION (GLEE)

GIRLS TRANSITION & RETENTION IN SCHOOLS

Mali ranks among the top 10 countries in child marriage prevalence. The 2012 political crisis and jihadist occupation – marked by egregious human rights abuses, including forced marriages and mass school closings – further exacerbated gender disparities and gravely impacted women and girls. In line with USAID’s Education Strategy, the Girls Leadership and Empowerment through Education Project focuses on providing substantial training to teachers to improve children’s learning, to school managers to improve transparency and accountability, and to parents and community members to support girls’ access to learning and hold local schools accountable.

GLEE will enroll more than 19,968 out-of-school girls aged 10-14 years in formal schools and ensure the retention and transition of 61,390 adolescent girls, aged 10-18 years, in primary and secondary school in Kayes and Mopti Regions.

PROMOTE GIRLS EDUCATION

This project’s activities contribute to:

- Decreasing financial barriers to education;
- Improving the learning environment and community engagement for adolescent girls;
- Improving knowledge on reproductive health and other issues, such as female genital mutilation, sexual violence, early marriage and pregnancy;
- Improving gender equality and leadership; and
- Promoting behavior change within communities, families, and key local influencers focused on enrolling girls and preventing child marriage.

THE GIRLS LEADERSHIP AND EMPOWERMENT THROUGH EDUCATION

BUDGET: \$23,997,965

TARGET AREAS: Kayes and Mopti

PROJECT CYCLE: April 2018 – March 2022

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE:

- 2,791 girls and 1,009 boys enrolled in school through 133 accelerated schooling centers (ASCs).
- 7,140 adolescent girls identified to be enrolled in 204 new ASCs for the 2019-2020 school year.
- 8,615 girls aged 10 to 18 trained on reproductive health.
- 100% of the target schools have adapted and agreed upon their code of conduct and its principles are being implemented.
- 250 handwashing stations provided to schools.