Knowledge hub
-
Collection of best practices

Summary of the best practice

1. Title of the best practice (e.g. name of policy, programme, project, etc.) *

Establishment of AEP centers next to ECDs and host schools for easy transition and safe child care .- Project name: Increased access to essential skills, formal and non-formal education pathways for refugees and host community adolescents in and out of school in Nakivale Refugee settlement, Isingiro District through Integrated Accelerated Education Program (AEP).

2. Country or countries where the practice is implemented *

Uganda

3. Please select the **most relevant** Action Track(s) the best practice applies to *

- [ ] Action Track 1. Inclusive, equitable, safe, and healthy schools

- [x] Action Track 2. Learning and skills for life, work, and sustainable development

- [x] Action Track 3. Teachers, teaching and the teaching profession

- [x] Action Track 4. Digital learning and transformation

- [ ] Action Track 5. Financing of education

4. Implementation lead/partner organization(s) *

War Child Canada

5. Key words (5-15 words): Please add key descriptive words around aims, modalities, target groups etc. *

Targeting out of school Refugee and Host community girls and boys who dropped out of primary and lower secondary due to various reasons.

6. What makes it a best practice? *

It has enabled child and youth mothers attend school comfortably as their children are in safe hands at the ECD centers.

Description of the best practice

7. Introduction (350-400 words)
   This section should ideally provide the context of, and justification for, the practice and address the following issues:
   i) Which population was affected?
   ii) What was the problem that needed to be addressed?
   iii) Which approach was taken and what objectives were achieved? *

   Refugees(Congolese(majority), Rwandans, Burundians, Somalians, Ethiopians and Eriteans) and host community in Nakivale Refugee settlement. All AEP beneficiaries had spent at least 2 years out of school due to War, lack basic English language skills and lack of money to pay for education in the mainstream and would be interested in joining school again. With AEP next to the host school, this would encourage transition of these learners into the host school after they have completed the different levels. In addition, some of the out of school adolescents have children and therefore needed a safe place to have their children as they go to school.

   The approach taken was establishment of AEP school near ECD centers and hosting schools to encourage transition and safe place for their children.

8. Implementation (350-450 words)
   Please describe the implementation modalities or processes, where possible in relation to:
   i) What are the main activities carried out?
   ii) When and where the activities were carried out (including the start date and whether it is ongoing)?
   iii) Who were the key implementation actors and collaborators? (civil society organizations, private sector, foundations, coalitions, networks etc.)?
   iv) What were the resources needed (budget and sources) for the implementation?
    *

   Main activities carried out include teaching of learners in compressed AEP curriculum, skilling of teachers to be able to teach learners in AEP and transfer of life skills to learners.

   These activities for learners are carried out from the school on a termly basis.

   Community Education Committees ,host school management, teachers and school management committees, District officials(District Education Office) and Education partners.

   UGX

9. Results – outputs and outcomes (250-350 words)
   To the extent possible, please reply to the questions below:
   i) How was the practice identified as transformative? (e.g., impact on policies, impact on management processes, impact on delivery arrangements or education monitoring, impact on teachers, learners and beneficiary communities etc.);
   ii) What were the concrete results achieved with regard to outputs and outcomes?
   iii) Has an assessment of the practice been carried out? If yes, what were the results? *

   It has built the hope of learners to attaining their dreams inspite of them dropping out of school. It has provided them with soft skills that have enabled them stand out in their communities. There is a big behavioral and attitude change among the learners thus influencing their actions.

   1011 out of school adolescents(refugees and Nationals) were enrolled both in primary and lower secondary AEP centers.

   No assessment has been conducted for this project. However, assessment for similar past projects regarded this as a great strategy that would encourage transition and sustainability of AEP incase of reduced or no donor funding.

10. Lessons learnt (300 words)
    To the extent possible, please reply to the following questions:
    i) What were the key triggers for transformation?
    ii) What worked really well – what facilitated this?
    iii) What did not work – why did it not work? *

    The conducive learning environment that included weather proof tents facilitated learning under different weather conditions. Use of local/community structures encouraged community mobilization and reach of advantages of going back to school. Use of teaching assistants encouraged learners to stay in school since these would interpret to learners in a way they understand hence bridging the language gap.

    Use of teaching assistants that are part of the communities(fellow refugees) worked well since they live with them and understand their language concerns.
    Use of community structures(CECs) worked well through conducting awareness to communities with these education gaps.
    Use of qualified teachers and training them in the AEP curriculum worked well since we worked with NCDC to train them in the AEP curriculum.

    There is still a low transition rate of learners to mainstream at Level 1 in AEP primary and this is due to the same constraints such as poverty them prevented them from joining mainstream.

11. Conclusions (250 words)
Please describe why may this intervention be considered a "best practice".
What recommendations can be made for those intending to adopt the
documented "best practice" or how can it help people working on the same
issue(s)? *

AEP is considered a best practise since it gives hope to adolescent girls and boys that have been
out of school for long due to various reasons including teenage pregnancy.

Partners should always make use of local structures to own and sensitise the communities to let
the locals know of existing opportunities and how to access them.

12. Further reading
Please provide a list and URLs of key reference documents for additional
information on the "best practice" for those who may be interested in knowing
how the results benefited the beneficiary group/s. *

Not applicable