

## Sisters To School

**62 million**  
girls out of school  
**worldwide**

depriving them of essential skills needed for independence and for them to contribute to community development.

WGEP's *Sisters to School* program targets remote rural areas where marginalized girls have limited access to education:

Fatick region, where fewer than 27% of girls enrolled in secondary school. (UNESCO)



Tharaka region, one of the poorest in Kenya, with 11% attendance rates for secondary school girls and boys (UNICEF/Kenya National Bureau of Statistics)

## What we do & why it works

### Our Focus

*Access to education, school retention and qualitative academic success through innovative partnerships with local grassroots community organizations that produce concrete results. Our projects are holistic and multidimensional; we design and implement activities targeting girls, boys, parents and entire communities to support girls' education.*

## Our Activities

### Our Partners

WGEP identifies dynamic local partners in the countries where we work. Our partners share our vision for communities where girls have equal access to educational success uninhibited by traditional cultural practices and stereotypes that favor boys. Our current partners, **Femmes Plus (Senegal)** and **Tharaka Women's Welfare Program (Kenya)**, rely on their strong relationships with community leaders and local groups; their deep understanding of local politics, protocol, and people is an invaluable asset in advancing girls' education.

*Full scholarship awards to cover academic fees, accommodation and food, clothing, supplies and hygiene kits for girls in need*

*Partial scholarship awards to cover tutoring costs, books, and supplies to prepare girls for grade level exams*

*Alternative Rite of Passage Program (ARP), **Circumcision with Words**, education and community outreach to eliminate the harmful traditional practice of genital cutting*

*School Molding Clubs, where girls and boys discuss social issues such as right to education and development, protection from harmful practices and learn income-generating activities*

*Adult literacy classes give parents the opportunity to read along with their children*

*Adolescent Health Workshops provide information on reproductive health, hygiene and HIV-prevention*

*Capacity building for local partner organizations*

## Sisters to School, by the numbers

**4,800**  
Scholarships  
Awarded

(Senegal & Kenya)

**700**  
girls per year  
benefit

from reproductive and  
adolescent health workshops  
(Senegal & Kenya)

**1,900**

young women say

**“NO!”**

to genital cutting through  
Alternative Rite of  
Passage Program (ARP)  
(Kenya)

**1,000**

students attend  
school molding clubs  
(Kenya)

**>10,000**

persons per year  
benefit from  
community meetings  
& awareness activities  
(Senegal & Kenya)

**>1,000**

adults attend  
literacy classes

(Senegal & Kenya)

## Impact



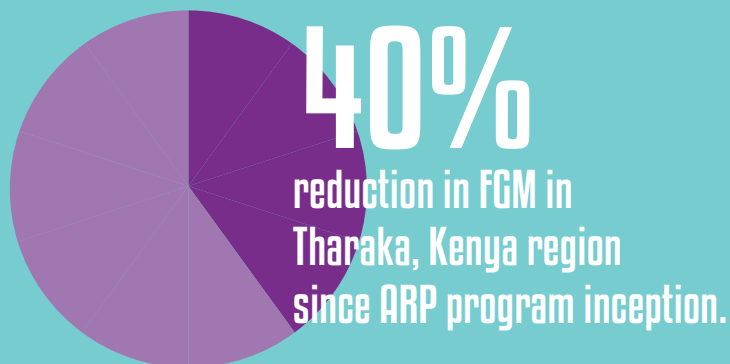
**80%**

of rural villages the program reaches report  
measurable change in attitudes and support  
towards girls' education and women's rights.

**100%**

**scholar  
retention**

in 2016



**53% vs. 31%**

53% of WGEP Kenya scholars qualify for university  
enrollment vs. 31% of students nationally

**42% vs. 32%**

42% of WGEP Senegal scholars qualify for university  
enrollment vs. 32% of students nationally