

TFN Impact Report

Name of your Organisation:	Action Through Enterprise (ATE)
Name of the project TFN funded:	EducATE
Date Funded by TFN:	16/03/2017
Were you able to undertake your project as planned?	Yes
Can you describe and/or demonstrate the specific impact that TFN funding has had against your initial objectives?	<p>The TFN funding was raised to fund one year of the ATE school feeding programme at Gombele Junior High School, located in a poor, rural area of Lawra District, Ghana. The school feeding programme aims to reduce barriers to children accessing and completing their compulsory basic education by providing a free nutritious school meal each school day.</p> <p>By January 2018, after 12 months of school feeding, the tiny population of Gombele school had grown by a third, from 60 to 78 pupils. Despite this big jump in the number of children enrolled there was only a very small dip in average attendance (down 4 percentage points from January the previous year). The biggest increase in enrollment and attendance was among boys in JHS Class 3, aged 15 and up, who typically drop out of school to travel to big towns in the South of Ghana for work. The teachers report that many children who had left school due to pressures to earn what little money they could are returning to complete their basic education.</p> <p>In July, the students take their final Basic Education Completion Examinations. The numbers are still small but in 2017, more students passed the exam than in the year before school feeding was initiated.</p> <p>Additionally the impact of funding school feeding at Gombele Junior High School can be seen in the wellbeing of the children. Measurements, taken 6 months after the baseline monitoring, showed an average increase of 2.3cm in height, 3.9kg in weight and 0.1 in BMI and huge increases in happiness amongst girls.</p> <p>The school feeding programme throughout the year continues to inspire children to enrol at school, enable them to study hard, and complete their basic education.</p>
What portion of the project did TFN fund?	98.7%
How many direct beneficiaries did the TFN funded project reach?	78 children and 3 cooks
How many indirect beneficiaries did the TFN funded project reach?	0
Were you able to leverage further funding as a result of TFN	No

TFN Impact Report

support?	
Did you receive any pro-bono support, volunteer offers or introductions as a result of the event?	No
How important was TFN funding in helping you achieve your objectives?	We would have found it difficult to achieve our objectives without TFN funding
Since presenting at TFN, has your organisation undergone any other significant changes?	Not huge changes but ATE has been delivering our small business development programme in Gombele alongside our school feeding programme. This is creating a hub of support with the BizATE programme enabling small business owners in the community to kick start their enterprises and boost income for themselves and their families. ATE has recently hired a new member of staff to our 4-person team in Ghana, in order to lead our Special Needs Awareness Programme (SNAP) for disabled children and their families in Lawra. We have also started plans to build a model inclusion centre for our SNAP workshops in the centre of Lawra Town.
Do you have any other comments or feedback on the experience of the TFN process?	The application process seemed very thorough and well thought out in terms of sponsorship, submitting a written application and the telephone interview with 1 minute elevator pitch. The TFN team were all really supportive and effective in helping us develop and prepare for our pitch - I really enjoyed the whole process from the workshop to the pitch itself, even as a very nervous speaker. The TFN crowdfunding events are an inspired way to raise and give funds, to be given the opportunity to be face to face to talk about projects with potential funders, and for potential supporters to be able to hear and ask directly about it and/or offer other forms of pro-bono support and guidance! Fantastic!
Can you tell us any personal stories to highlight the value of the project?	<p>Indelmwine's story - Indelmwine is the 14 year old son of a small business owner we support in the rural village of Gombele. During a monitoring visit, ATE Project Assistant Ernest noticed that Indelmwine was at home helping with the cattle. After some discussion between Ernest and Indelmwine's father about the school lunches now being provided by ATE at Gombele Junior High School, Ernest was hopeful that Indelmwine would enrol. Ernest was thrilled to go back on his next school monitoring visit and find Indelmwine in his uniform and on his way to school!</p> <p>Gabriel's story - In November 2017, we welcomed 15 year old Gabriel back to school. He had traveled to the south of Ghana to try to earn himself enough money to buy a bike. He needed it to get to school as he currently walks an extremely long way- sadly, he wasn't able to make the money he needed. A relative has convinced Gabriel to return to Lawra, and continue his education, even without the bike. He usually eats once a day, but in addition to the school meal, he eats</p>

TFN Impact Report

	<p>twice in a day, and is motivated to learn and complete his schooling.</p> <p>Dabier Regina's story - 'I am 14 years old and I am in Form 3 and I live in Kul-ora and eat 3 meals a week at home. Every day I leave home for school at 6.30am. My favourite school subject is elements in science. I want to become a nurse and my favourite lunch is rice and beans because I know I need the protein from the beans to be healthy'</p> <p>Noniiniour Bright - 19 years old 'I leave home every day at 5am to walk to school so I can arrive early at 6.30am to study on my own at school. At home my parents grow millet, maize and groundnuts and my mother cooks 4 meals a week and the food our family grows runs out by June. By 12 o'clock I am very hungry and can't concentrate on what my teachers are saying. If I eat I can pay attention to my lessons. My favourite lunch is rice and beans. I would like to become a teacher and I want to go to Lawra Secondary School.'</p> <p>Belinda - Belinda is a year one student at Gombele JHS and she sadly lost her father 4 years ago. She is staying with her mother in the village. She said she eats once in a day and chose to continue her education at Gombele because she heard of the school feeding.</p>
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