



WHOLE CHILD MODEL: GUINEA, WEST AFRICA PROJECT REPORT – MARCH 2016

For over a decade School-to-School International (STS) has implemented and refined an approach that embodies our founding principle: In order for students to thrive, they must have their basic needs fulfilled. We have implemented activities from all three components of the Whole Child Model — Education, Health, and Community Engagement — reaching over 3,700 students in Guinea in the 2014-15 school year alone. Our program covers a broad set of interventions, including activity-based teaching and learning, a girls' scholarship program, construction of school wells, quality health and wellness education, improved school sanitation, parent and community involvement, and empowerment of school management.

STS has been hard at work this school year implementing activities under the multiple intervention areas of our Whole Child Model.

[Teacher Training & Community Engagement Workshops](#)

Since our last report in December 2015, we have completed all of our planned teacher training and community engagement workshops. Teachers from our partner schools were trained on active learning instructional techniques in both reading and mathematics. STS also led workshops with community members on the importance of girls' education. In this workshop, each community developed an action plan of steps for supporting girls' education in their community. Finally, teachers and school administrators attended workshops on the importance of gender equity and developed personal action plans for making their classrooms more equitable.

[Girls' Scholarship Distribution](#)

Through a grant from the Alcoa Foundation, STS selects primary school girls to receive scholarships based on need, academic achievement, and regular school attendance. This school year we have continued distributing scholarships to recipients on a monthly basis. The scholarships, in the form of a monthly donation of a 50kg sack of rice, directly impact the recipient girls and their families. We have also witnessed that impact radiate across the girls' communities.

Teacher Coaching

STS's teacher coaching program began in early March and will continue throughout the rest of the school year. Our coaches provide continuous support and capacity building for teachers to support them in implementing the new techniques they learned in STS's teacher trainings.

Well Construction

Through a grant from the Alcoa Foundation, STS is building one school well this year to serve as a clean water source for children and others in the community. Well construction began in early March.

Presentation of Results to International Education Community

We are pleased to report that STS staff presented on our Whole Child Model work in Guinea at the Comparative and International Education Society (CIES). We were excited to share our experiences and lessons learned over the past three years of working in Guinea.

Monitoring & Evaluation

STS has worked to finalize a monitoring and evaluation plan for the rest of the school year that incorporates fidelity of implementation (FOI) research. FOI allows implementers to measure the extent to which interventions are actually being implemented as designed.