SEGA’s New Girls Business Development Program -
Giving Credit where Credit is Due!

SEGA is piloting a new program called the Girls’ Business Development Program to provide SEGA School graduates and Modern Girl graduates with additional entrepreneurship training and small loans to ensure the profitability and self-sustainability of their various business enterprises. Tanzanian girls and women face numerous financial and social challenges, including sexual harassment and exploitation in the workforce and lack of access to credit.

SEGA provides entrepreneurship courses for Form 3 students and for Modern Girl participants. Many young women go on to start their own income-generating activities as a solution to discrimination and the limited access to jobs in the formal sector. Self-employment through operating one’s own business provides more autonomy and may reduce incidences of exploitation. However, many young women lack access to credit, business planning and management skills to be able to select businesses in line with the market, develop their enterprises, track their progress, and earn a profit. SEGA’s Girls’ Business Development Program builds upon the learnings and successes of SEGA’s established programs and is designed in direct response to feedback and suggestions provided by SEGA’s graduates.

SEGA is partnering with SAWA Wanawake Tanzania, a locally-led education and microfinance organization, to implement and deliver this program. SAWA has 20 years of experience working on microfinance initiatives that benefit vulnerable women and children.

SEGA Students Take Their Entrepreneurial Skills to Market

Nane Nane, which means ‘eight eight’ in Swahili, is a public holiday in Tanzania observed on August 8th each year. It celebrates the contribution of farmers to the national economy and the importance of agriculture to the country as half of all workers in the country work in this sector. It is also an opportunity to showcase new technology, products and services. After two years of the market being closed due to Covid-19, SEGA was thrilled to participate in this year’s exhibition.

Ten SEGA students were selected to have their products displayed, which they created during their entrepreneurship program at SEGA. The products included items they made in sewing class, beaded handbags, bracelets, tie-dye fabrics, hand-made printed fabrics, and even a science experiment showing the sugars in certain food products.

The students also had the opportunity to learn about other businesses from other entrepreneurs attending the market.
Lighting the Way to Solar Energy and Education in Modern Girl Communities

Thanks to the generous support of the Woka Foundation, Nurturing Minds and SEGA are piloting a new solar outreach program with a German company called Little Sun.

Little Sun’s vision is to provide universal access to clean energy and its mission is to design and deliver affordable clean energy solutions and inspire people to take climate action. SEGA recently received 360 solar lamps that have been distributed to participants of the Modern Girl program, which works with girls ages 10-25 in 26 communities throughout several regions of Tanzania.

The Little Sun lamp is a small, portable solar light that serves as a practical tool that enables students to study after dark, mothers to take better care of their children at night and reduces the effects of toxic fumes from fuel.

In addition, Little Sun is providing a solar education curriculum to teach Modern Girl participants and community members about the importance of solar and renewable energy.

SEGA Staff Spotlight: Magreth Immanuel, SEGA’s ICT Coordinator

Magreth Immanuel graduated with a bachelor’s degree of Science in Electronics and Communications at the University of Dar Es Salaam in 2012 and then worked for four years with an ISP company providing technical support where she gained more skills and experience in Computer Networks and Security.

She then went on to pursue a second bachelor’s degree in Education majoring in Informatics and Mathematics (2016-2019) at Sokone University of Agriculture (SUA), where she says she came to truly understand her underlying passion in teaching.

Magreth currently teaches ICT courses at SEGA and occasionally assists students in Mathematics to boost their academic interest in the subject. As the ICT Coordinator at SEGA she uses her skills and experience to assist her fellow staff in solving their Computer Tech Issues, manages the campus network, and maintains all ICT related devices and services. She also runs the Computer Coding Club, which she uses to expose the students to different ICT related professional careers in order to help them understand the wide range of choices available to them in the future.

Magreth always tries to make her classes as accessible, enjoyable and productive as possible and her greatest aspiration as a teacher is to have at least three outgoing students each year passionately embark on an advanced STEM discipline specifically in ICT.

“I believe in learning and seeking intellectual growth and that everyone is talented and every talent is useful!” - Magreth