



The intervention did a phenomenal job of improving skills, both intra- and interpersonal.



- Paul Gertler, Principal Investigator,
Professor of Economics, UC Berkeley,
Globally recognized expert in impact evaluation

Transferable or soft skills



Educate! participants show statistically significant improvement in areas like creativity, grit, pro-social attitudes, and self-efficacy.

Gender equity

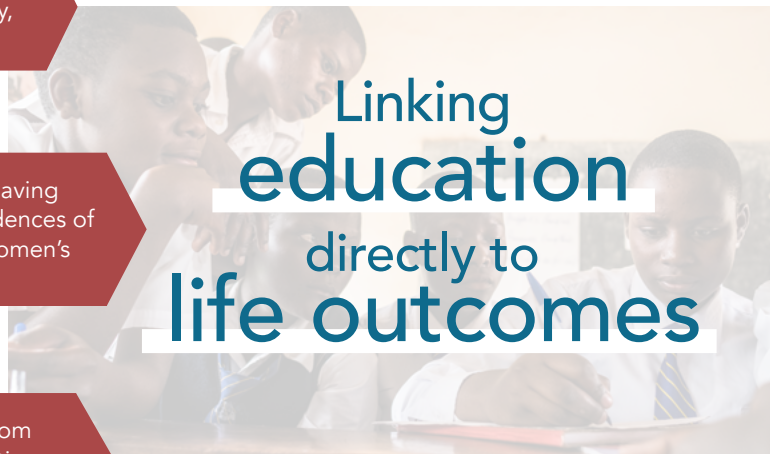


Educate! participants have a lower likelihood of ever having been pregnant, have fewer children, report fewer incidences of domestic violence, and are more likely to recognize women's value and role in society.

Educational attainment



Educate! participants are more likely to graduate from high school and select higher-earning majors in tertiary. Female participants are more likely to enroll in tertiary.



New RCT Finds Educate! Graduates Are Better Off Than Their Peers

Rigorous Evaluation Finds that Educate! Leads to Improvements in Soft Skills, Gender Outcomes, and Other Positive Impacts for Youth

Educate! is committed to doing what works. Fundamentally, we are working to create a model of education that is tied to, and directly accountable for, improved life outcomes. We invest deeply in rigorously evaluating, and then innovating and improving upon, our model to ensure that every dollar leads to the maximum impact for the youth we serve.

Out of that commitment, Educate! partnered with researchers from the University of California-Berkeley, the World Bank, and Innovations for Poverty Action to conduct a follow-up to our Randomized Controlled Trial (RCT) in Uganda which measured our impact on students four years after completing the Educate! program.

The evaluation found strong impacts on soft skills (improved grit, creativity, self-efficacy), gender-related outcomes (less domestic violence, fewer sexual partners, fewer children, more egalitarian views), and educational attainment (increased secondary school completion, increased tertiary enrollment for women, greater likelihood of selecting majors with higher earning potential). There was also evidence suggesting Educate! grads are doing better in their studies. After Educate!, girls were essentially as likely to graduate from secondary school as boys – virtually closing the gender gap.

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Adeline Creates the Future She Envisions



“Why can't I be the second?”

Flipping through the pages of a newspaper one morning, Adeline, a Rwandan secondary student, came across a story which instantly captivated her. The article profiled Esther Mbabazi, the first woman in Rwanda to be certified as a commercial airline pilot. Deeply inspired by Esther's journey, Adeline soon set her sights on flight school. “Why can't I be the second?” she wondered.

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Female Educate! graduates are more likely to:

- Have lower tolerance for domestic violence; and report fewer incidences of violence
- Embrace and support views of their roles as equals
- Claim a role in making household decisions and deciding whether to participate in the labor market

Male Educate! graduates are more likely to:

- Recognize women's value and roles in society
- Recognize women's right to safe and consensual sex
- Report engaging in less risky behavior

Both male and female Educate! graduates are more likely to:

- Delay family formation and have fewer children than their peers
- Have improved attitudes towards acceptability of intimate partner violence
- Express more egalitarian views

New RCT Finds Educate! Graduates Are Better Off Than Their Peers *(Continued)*

What We Learned

The primary purpose of this evaluation was to understand whether the Educate! program led to skill upgrading, and if so, if that translates into improved outcomes in the areas of education, gender equity, the labor market, and ultimately a higher life trajectory.

We learned that four years after Educate!, our graduates are better off than their peers. They have obtained improved transferable/soft skills, are pursuing greater educational attainment, are choosing technical degrees in tertiary, and are seeing improved gender equity-related outcomes. These large and durable shifts in skills, coupled with significant improvements in education and gender-related outcomes, suggest that participating in the Educate! Experience sets youth on a higher trajectory that should lead to long-term life outcomes. We believe this is the first evaluation in Africa to causally link soft skills to improvements in life outcomes related to education and gender equity.

Educate! is committed to continual learning, and we intend to incorporate key takeaways from this evaluation into our model. As part of this evaluation, the researchers have also secured funding for a longer-term follow-on to continue to learn as much as we can about our impact over time. With little evidence about the long-term impacts of youth interventions out there, we hope that this study will be valuable not only for Educate!, but for others working to improve life outcomes for youth.

Key Results



Skills

Our RCT showed that Educate! has large, lasting, and statistically significant positive impacts on transferable or soft skills such as creativity (22.9%***), grit (0.14 SD***), pro-social attitudes (0.17 SD***), and self-efficacy (0.10 SD**).



Girls' life outcomes

The study found that Educate! impacts gender-related outcomes which existing evidence links to positive long-term life outcomes. These effects are comparable to interventions that purely target gender outcomes.



Educational attainment

Educate!'s program led to an increase in secondary education graduation rates (4%***). We also found increased rates of university enrollment for women (25%***), greater likelihood of selecting higher-earning-potential majors for men and women (14%**), and higher tertiary completion overall (9.3%*).



Economic impact

Since many in the sample are still in tertiary or have just graduated, it's too early to assess our impact on income and employment. However, existing evidence correlates these improved skills, gender-related impacts, and educational outcomes to improved lifetime employment and income outcomes, suggesting our grads will be better off in the future.

*** Statistically significant at 5%
 ** Statistically significant at 10%
 * Marginally significant at 15%

Girls achieve even **greater results**

Adeline Creates the Future She Envisions *(Continued)*



Adeline being interviewed by a local TV station at the this year's National Student Business Club Competitions

The Educate! program improves a student's ability to set goals, as well as their ability to organize themselves and others to achieve these goals.

- Paul Gertler, Principal Investigator

For Adeline, the sky's the limit. Born near Lake Kivu at the border of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, 17 year-old Adeline is an ambitious high school student participating in the Educate! Exchange. She represents the next generation of empowered young women in Rwanda, who – equipped with the right skills, a quality education, and training – have the potential to unlock tremendous opportunity and economic progress for their families, communities, and country.

As one of eight children and a young woman with an ambitious dream, Adeline knows that the path to achieving her goals won't be easy. So today she's focused on building the foundation she needs to get a head start. At school, Adeline studies hard, strategically focusing on STEM subjects like mathematics, physics, and geography – courses which she believes will help her excel in the male-dominated field of aviation. She's also looked for ways to challenge herself and has earned the role of Vice President in her school's Student Business Club. Through the club, Adeline is working to develop key 21st century skills, while gaining firsthand experience building a business. She uses the safe space the club provides to put the important soft and transferable skills she's learning into practice – leading a team, speaking in public, and advocating for herself and her ideas. After exchanging knowledge and skills with her peers in

the club, she's also broadened her goals and has recently become interested in commercial farming. She hopes to someday build an enterprise exporting crops to other countries, utilizing her pilot's license, of course.

Although she has big plans for herself and her future, Adeline hasn't lost sight of those around her and is mindful of serving as a role model for her younger siblings: "I am working hard in the club and in class so I can help pay [my siblings'] school fees." She has seen how hard her parents have worked to keep her in school and is determined to contribute to her siblings' schooling, so she can provide them with the same opportunities that she's had. Long term, she intends to start her own business, employ her family members, and provide economic opportunities for others in her community, especially youth.

For Adeline, participating in the Educate! Student Business Club has given her confidence and has supported her in creating the future she envisions for herself. With practical skills and hands-on experience under her belt, she hopes to obtain a scholarship to attend university and someday flight school. Today she stands confidently, challenging the status quo and breaking down gender barriers, while leveraging her knowledge and skills to drive towards her goals.

Compared to their female peers in the control group, female participants are:



7.9% more likely to graduate from secondary, enough to virtually close the gender gap



25% more likely to enroll in university



22% more likely to choose a business or STEM degree



10 years

2019 marks the 10th anniversary of the Educate! Experience – one decade of preparing youth for success in today's economy.

We couldn't have done it without you.



Launch of the Educate! Experience in Uganda

We launched the Educate! Experience in schools, and two years later we were asked by the Government of Uganda and the United Nations' International Labor Organization (ILO) to advise on Uganda's national entrepreneurship curriculum reform.

In 2019, we worked in **over 800 schools in Uganda** – 25% of secondary schools nationwide.



Educate! Launches in Rwanda

We launched the Educate! Exchange program in Rwanda, supporting the Rwanda Education Board with rolling out the new competence-based entrepreneurship curriculum.

In 2019, we worked with **275+ secondary schools in Rwanda**, supporting a successful rollout of the revised entrepreneurship curriculum.



Operations Launched in Kenya

The Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development invited Educate! as a technical advisor and partner as it works to transform secondary education through a new Community Service Learning (CSL) subject.

In 2019, we piloted the new CSL curriculum in **over 60 schools in Kenya**.

Celebrating 10 Years

One decade later, we're working in more than **1,000 schools**, have intensively impacted over **100,000 youth**, are impacting over 46,000 new youth just this year alone, and are now the **largest youth skills provider in East Africa**.

Our recent evaluation results demonstrate that even as we've dramatically increased the number of youth we reach, we continue to intensively impact the lives of tens of thousands of African youth each year.

2019

Alquity

Educate! Selected for a Transforming Lives Award

Out of over 600 applicants, Educate! was recognized by the Alquity Transforming Lives Foundation for our contributions to the UN's Sustainable Development Goal 8, Decent Work and Economic Growth, as well as our practices and results in economic empowerment, potential to scale, and sustainable approach to addressing social challenges.



Kenya Program Director Speaks at Education World Forum

Educate!'s Kenya Program Director Diana Mwai was invited to speak at the world's largest gathering of education and skills actors where education pioneers, policy makers, and experts gathered to debate future education policy.



PSIPSE's Youth Life Skills Report Features Educate!

Educate! was featured as 1 of 18 projects translating life skills into action in a new study by the Partnership to Strengthen Innovation and Practice in Secondary Education (PSIPSE). Educate! is one of just three organizations in the study providing both life skills lessons in schools and technical support for education systems.

cfr

Council on Foreign Relations Roundtable

Educate!'s Executive Director was invited by the Women and Foreign Policy team at the Council on Foreign Relations to share Educate!'s innovative gender equity strategy and impact at a roundtable on women's education and economic empowerment in East Africa.

WISE

World Summit for Education (WISE) Highlights Impact-Driven Innovations Leading the Way

How can we adapt education so that tomorrow's workforce can confront new challenges? In WISE, ed's latest Special Focus feature, Educate! and three other WISE Awards winners propose solutions to the education world's biggest challenges.

DIPLOMATIC COURIER

African Unity Starts with African Youth

Written by Educate! board members Nicole Goldin and Dzingai Mutumbuka in celebration of Africa Day, the article explores the idea that youth are Africa's greatest unifying resource, with the potential to drive the progress that Africa Day exists to honor.