



GIRLS EMPOWERING GIRLS; OUT OF SCHOOL GIRLS

Uganda Youth Development Link implements the **Girls Empowering Girls programme** at division level with a focus of out of school girls; (Girls that have never been to school or girls that dropped out of school at the time of enrolment). **Girls Empowering Girls** is an urban social protection programme for adolescent girls in Kampala with an aim to support the most vulnerable communities. It was designed by **Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA)** and **United Nation's Children Fund (UNICEF)** with support from the **Economic Policy Research Institute (EPRI)** and funding from **European Union and the Belgium Government**. This programme is aligned with the Government of Uganda's Vision 2040, National Development Plan (NDP III), and National Social Protection Policy (2015) and is supported by the Ministry of Gender, Labour, and Social Development (MoGLSD).

The **GEG programme** works to ensure the greater inclusion and protection of adolescent girls through strengthened socio-economic outcomes and prospects that will help them transition safely into adulthood. The programme does so by supporting in-school and out-of-school adolescent girls living in Kampala through several key channels: **empowering** adolescent girls through a network of Peer Mentors; **engaging** them through education, training, and referrals to support services; and **enabling** them to pursue better opportunities for their future through the provision of a small cash transfer.

The programme aims to;

- **Empower** adolescent girls with skills, strengthen social support networks, improve self-esteem, improve mental wellbeing, and generate a more positive outlook on life and the future;
- **Engage** adolescent girls to make informed decisions about access and utilisation of age- and gender-sensitive health, protection, education, and training services;
- **Enable** adolescent girls and their households to pursue opportunities for their future; and
- **Strengthen systems** and services for adolescent girls in Kampala.

The programme has three pillars; **mentorship, cash transfer and referral to services**. The **GEG mentor pillar** is implemented by **UYDEL Lead and Peer Mentors**, specifically recruited and trained for the programme. The Lead and Peer Mentors are the programme's on-the-ground implementing capacity. **The Peer Mentors** are older adolescent girls who mentor **Out Of School Girls** through one-on-one mentoring sessions and by delivering empowerment modules during group mentor sessions. Moreover, the Peer Mentors, when needed, will also be referring the girls to services, and encouraging the uptake of services by the girls. Currently **Uganda Youth Development Link** mentors 1460 Out of school adolescent girls aged ;(11-15years) staying within the five divisions of Kampala; 719 from cohort 1 and 750 from cohort 2.



PICTORIAL



During one on one mentor sessions



During a MHMM session



During group sessions