Using Ombea in evaluating the Empowered Girls Speak Out -project 2017-2020

By Sports Development Aid Tanzania & LiiKe - Sports & Development Finland



Introduction

Empowered Girls Speak Out is a gender empowerment in secondary schools -project in three councils in Mtwara region, Tanzania. Sports Development Aid (SDA) was facing a huge task in collecting data from the students and other stakeholders. Therefore Ombea was a great solution!

The aim of the experiment was to use Ombea to collect info through questionnaires and to find out whether SDA & LiiKe have reached the goal of the project (expected results)

SDA planned to interview 157 girls from 6 secondary schools on school attendance, academic performance, and to measure the knowledge on health education, life skills and sports activities.





Collaborations/partnerships

- SDA collaborated with Fingo Power Bank and LiiKe Sports & Development
- SDA is expecting to extend collaboration with other local CSOs, especially those who
 receive development funding from the Government of Finland
- SDA and LiiKe have a long history of cooperation with University of Dar es Salaam,
 Unit of Physical Education and Sports Sciences (PESS) and we are planning to train
 them also to use Ombea. Professor Devota Marwa from PESS was already in Mtwara
 collecting data for the evaluation of EGSO project.
- The local authorities of Mtwara and Lindi region are also interested in Ombea. SDA has two kits of Ombea, one for Lindi and one for Mtwara.

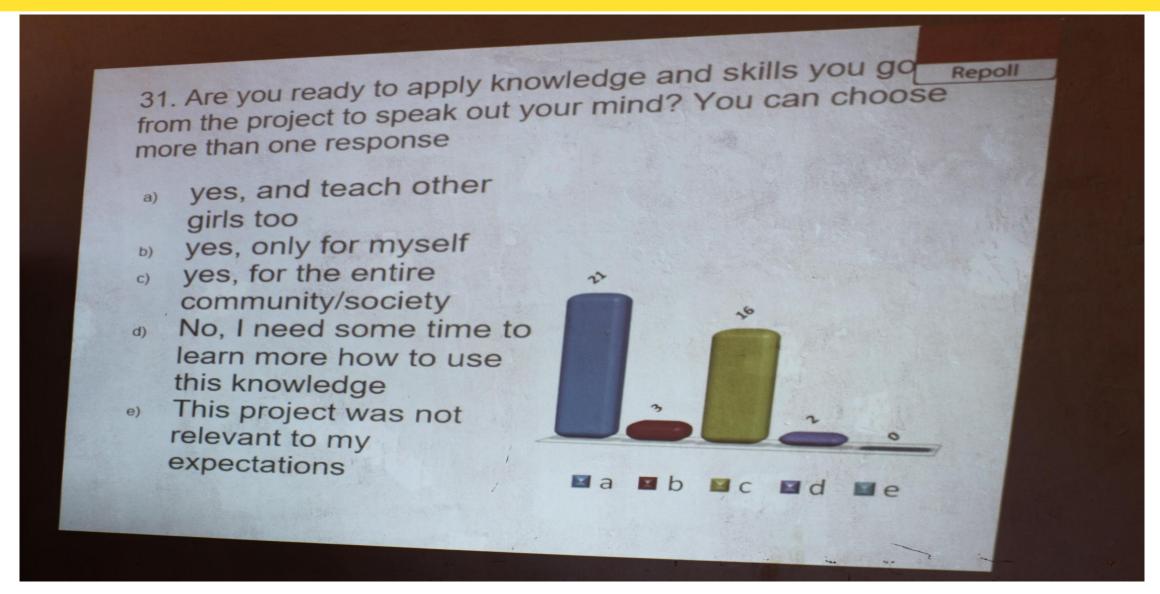




Results and successes

- It is an efficient & time saving method of data gathering and analysis and you can also get quality data to analyze it in days when it normally takes weeks
- It is environmentally friendly, no need to use piles of paper to collect information –
 saves money & time
- Using the pads was challenging for the students but they succeeded
- A success: On the first days we started using it in the office whooww it was difficult technology.
- It became so easy when we introduced it to the schools and officials all were so eager to use it. The girls were so excited and active to use OMBEA during our evaluation process in the schools.
- You should have seen the girls' faces when they got the pads and notified that their vote really counts! And all this before the National elections!!!





One of the results after the polling at Nanyamba Secondary School

Challenges and modifications during implementation

- Ombea needs compatibility with some computers as SDA was not having the genuine MS Office
- Needs electricity for the rural projects, SDA purchased a generator
- We thought that only single group can be recorded and being analyzed. However, we found the way to merge the information =)
- Some pads are sometimes not responding but mainly this is the reason of the students not using them correctly and not looking at the lights on the pad
- Adjusted computers and re writing of the questionnaire to the compactible computers. This
 takes time, but as mentioned this was non-original MS Office stuff...

Any failures and lessons learned to share?

- Whenever the Ombea got stuck, we always needed to change the computer we were using.
- Training the staff of SDA was done by using Zoom –connection (LiiKe). Fortunately we managed
 to get the mobile phone polling system which was helpful



Principles for Digital Development

- Be Data driven during project implementations we always get the quality data needed to make decisions at a rights time.
- Understanding the existing ecosystem i.e. the experimentation in most cases it is environmentally friendly as the users can opt to use normal electricity or solar power for sustainable environment.
- Address privacy and security. It maintain individuals' privacy and dignity.
 There is confidentiality and security of information collected
- Easy to scale from 1 school to as many schools as we want



Feasibility for scaling

- We tested the Ombea in 6 six secondary schools. It worked well in 3 schools where we interviewed 157 girls.
- In November we will test it in 10 more school for the EGSO baseline survey in Mtwara
- In January there will be a prevailing situation test in 20-30 secondary schools in Lindi region
- In 2021 the Master's degree students of UDSM/PESS may use Ombea in their field researches
- If LiiKe gets funds for Zimbabwe project, Ombea will be used in 14 Teachers' colleges
 as well for the research of prevailing situation

Ahsanteni sana, <u>ari.koivu@liike.fi</u> and <u>thea.swai@sportsdevelopmentaid.co.tz</u>



