

EARLY YEARS IN KENYA

Impact at Scale Labs



QUARTER 1 UPDATE

Impact at Scale Labs – Early Years in Kenya focuses on supporting promising, locally led organisations working to improve development and learning outcomes for children aged 0-6 years in Kenya. Supporting organisations working in Kenya provides an opportunity for deep-rooted and systematic change.

As the childcare and ECED sector continues to dynamically evolve in Kenya, the Labs are a pathway to establish catalytic partnerships between the government and non-state sector for service delivery at scale, as well as inform decision making at the national and local levels through evidence and learnings.

THE FINALISTS

Four organisations were selected to participate in the Impact at Scale Labs – Early Years in Kenya programme

Education Empowerment for Rural and Urban Slums Initiative (EERUi) empowers parents and teachers in low-income communities in Uasin Gishu County with the necessary tools and support to enhance the cognitive and socio-emotional development of children aged 0-6.



The overall engagement has been awesome, educative, and useful to our organisation. The dedication and availability of the GSF team in the scaling journey is a great honor to our organisation
EERUi



One-on-one session with experts who are in line with our scope of work was really helpful. We learned from those who have implemented, seen the successes we can replicate and the failures we can avoid
Anonymous

Jackfruit Finance provides education funding in Kenya, distributing over USD 2.65mn in loans to schools, significantly improving infrastructure and educational outcomes.

Lake Region Development Program (LRDP) enhances early childhood well-being in Kenya by improving nutrition, disease prevention, and caregiver education, children and caregivers through community health programmes, educational support, and teacher training.



The engagements were wholesome and the learning curve, huge. The knowledge acquired has been instrumental in our planning, and strategising, something that we wouldn't have acquired without the Labs and the expertise involved
TotoCare

TotoCare, a programme under the Nawirika Foundation, equips women in underserved communities with technical and business skills related to childcare and micro-enterprise development.

Collectively, these organisations have engaged with
OVER 27,000 CHILDREN & 258 CHILDCARE CENTRES ACROSS KENYA

4.2/5 Overall experience with the Labs

4.1/5 Usefulness and quality of tools that they have engaged with



More on Impact at Scale Labs here



THE JOURNEY SO FAR & NEXT STEPS

- **The Labs journey for the participants** began with an assessment and reflection sessions to evaluate the current state of their organizations followed by a four-day residential offsite in Kenya. The offsite was an opportunity for the organisations to reflect on their programmes and identify key wins and challenges.
- **Each organisation benefited from the support of a dedicated GSF coach**, engagement with 15+ sector leaders who were invited to present and participate in panel discussions on various topics, and a networking event with 40+ GSF members, funders, and development partners.
- **Participants shared that the offsite helped them understand and appreciate the "critical role partnerships play in helping us grow"** and noted that the sessions gave them "an opportunity to think wide network and get expert knowledge and experiences". The tools introduced, including the Theory of Change and Problem Tree, allowed them to gain a "deep understanding of the problem we are solving, why we are solving and what do we intend to achieve". Since the offsite, organisations have been working with GSF coaches to refine their programme Theory of Change and develop a Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Framework that helps identify key impact indicators and research questions for each organisation.
- **In the next phase of GSF's support**, organisations will work with GSF coaches and external experts to refine their programme design and business models, by adopting a testing and learning approach and firming up partnerships on the ground.