

Appendix 2: Global Impact Report

Compendium of SoroptiTips:

Here is a summary of all the **SoroptiTips** featured in the Global Impact Report.

Education

- Sometimes it's not just about the teaching, but about the environment in which the teaching takes place. For example, having gender appropriate and sensitive sanitation facilities is absolutely critical to achieving the best possible educational outcome for girls and young women.
- Don't forget about female teachers. They need proper sanitation facilities in order to perform their jobs. Being absent from work each month due to menstruation is clearly unacceptable. Adults should also not share toilets with children.
- Ability to attend school is not just about fees, but also about safe and secure physical access to school. Safe and reliable transport and accommodation are crucial.
- Literacy and reading skills are often overlooked in education programmes, particularly for adult women who were not afforded learning opportunities earlier in life.
- Improving access to higher education opportunities for marginalised women truly meets a need. Not only do the women themselves benefit, but their communities will also benefit.
- Practical skill acquisition can be a huge confidence boost! Having the skills and knowledge to be able to fix their own homes or to manage money, for example, is an incredible resource for women. First Aid is another example. This is an innovative and strategic way to utilise access to education to improve the lives of women and girls. The women and girls acquire new skills, gain confidence, and are able to contribute in a tangible way to the health of their villages and communities.
- Establishing a proper selection committee is of the utmost importance, especially in access to education projects. There are countless stories of exploitation of women seeking scholarships and sponsorships. Taking an active part in the selection and awarding of the scholarship ensures good governance and accountability.

Leadership:

- Adolescent girls face huge challenges with self-esteem, confidence, and access to leadership positions. Creating an entire day, just for adolescent girls, focussing particularly on leadership achieves many goals and can have a profound impact on the attendees.

- Focussing on those at the bottom of the socio-economic spectrum benefits everyone in the society. Projects that target particularly vulnerable women who are often marginalised and overlooked in society can therefore have a significant local impact.
- Increasing access to leadership skills is important for all women – even those who may already have promising career prospects. The more women are trained in effective leadership, the more they can achieve.
- Transitions are often the most difficult time for women. Focussing on the transition between tertiary education and career is a critical time to ensure that women are able to navigate through to achieve their fullest potential.

All Projects

- Getting the community involved is a great way to reduce the cost while getting everyone interested and engaged. Everyone has ‘ownership’ of the project and can take part in celebrating the incredible outcomes. Seeking support from local government, businesses, and community members will only add to the success of such an event, particularly in planning for the future.
- Working in partnership with a local NGO creates instant local knowledge and accountability. Making a personal connection with local organisations opens the door to future work – many clubs report that they have carried out additional activities in partnership.
- Project coordinators should receive regular reports on the project progress. Proper monitoring and evaluation allows project coordinators to respond appropriately to challenges and opportunities.
- It is important to recognise that “women” are not a homogenous group, but rather each individual woman has a different background, a different story, and a different set of challenges. Development is not possible without including those affected **by** the decisions **in** the decisions. Remember to talk to your target group first!
- Taking the same tried and true message, but delivering it in a locally appropriate manner has a profound impact and will reach the maximum number of girls and young women in need.
- Focussing on one woman per year has no less impact than running a project for many women. Offering this kind of once in a lifetime opportunity to a woman will, truly, change the course of her life.
- Sometimes the simplest things make the biggest difference.
- Sustainability is so important. Remember to consider how you see the project working in the years to come.

- When working with local schools, try to involve as many different schools as possible to create a more stimulating and collegial atmosphere – bringing in fresh and different perspectives, perhaps girls from different backgrounds, gives the attendees the opportunity to meet new friends.
- Using locally relevant, evidence based, peer reviewed research is a cornerstone of strong programme and project design.
- Microfinance is a very popular topic these days. But microfinance only really works if the women recipients are provided with the necessary skills and learning to best handle funds. Training which focuses on financial literacy is absolutely necessary for any microfinance initiative.