



fundsforNGOs
Grants and Resources for Sustainability
— PREMIUM



Project Proposal for Promoting Science Education in Secondary School Project

Project Justification

The country generally suffers from a low-level of scientific literacy compounded further by a sharp decline in the number of school students enrolling for science subjects. In 20xx, 2xx,xxx students appeared for the secondary school leaving (SSC) examination from the science group whereas this number decreased to 1xx,xxx in 20xx. The decline in science enrolment also accompanied with a slide in the quality of science education. Along with the shortage of teachers resulting from the low numbers enrolling for science studies, factors such as a weak curriculum, low quality textbooks, poor and teaching and assessment methods, inadequate incentives for teachers, and lack of trained faculty and laboratory facilities have contributed to the decline in quality, as well as for the disinterest and phobia towards science. The inadequate or lack of laboratory facilities in schools is particularly conspicuous in science education system. It is estimated that more eighty percent of rural schools have no laboratory facilities.

Existing Situation

The overall enrolment rate at primary and secondary schools in xxxxxx has increased significantly over the last two decades but in the same period the quality of education, according to reports, education experts and practitioners, has decreased drastically. Planners have struggled to formulate educational policy to keep pace with global developments in science and technology, while the number of science students in schools, and at higher education level, continues to fall. It may be worth noting that the falling trend in science students is matched by a rising trend in Business and other students. The number of Secondary School Certificate (SSC) candidates under the Science Group category fell. At the same time, those from the Business Group rose from 1xx,xxx1 in 20xx to 2xx,xxx in 20xx. Similar trends are seen at Higher Secondary Certificate (HSC) and university entry/degree levels. Statistics shows that percent of students enrolled in Bachelor of Science courses in year xxxx, but the rate declined to xx percent and xx percent in year xxxx and xxxx respectively. Hence, the number of science students is falling at all stages with the situation being comparatively worse in rural areas.

A recent study, conducted by the organization, shows that xx% of schools do not have laboratories and xx percent of rural school children have no access to such facilities. In the few schools that do have laboratories, either too many students vie to use the equipment or the faculty simply bars student access to the laboratories and/or equipment on the pretext that if the equipment is damaged it will be prohibitive to replace. Practical classes for school leaving examinations are supposed to begin from Class IX, but in reality, most schools don't start teaching practical classes until Class X, and mere attendance ensures passing marks. Moreover, students' enthusiasm for and attendance in practical classes is found to be low.

In national labour market, There is much concern that during their time in school and further education, students are turning away from the study of Science, technology, Engineering and Mathematics. This is a bad sign for our education system as the secondary level education is considered as the gateway to the higher education. Presently, Science and Technologies (ICTs) is getting more and more importance around the globe. But in our country the opportunities of studying science and science oriented professional education are waning gradually. If the situation goes on, secondary schools will face the shortage of science teacher in future. Besides, country will face scarcity of skilled human resources in essential sectors like agriculture, industries, medical etcetera.

<https://www.fundsforngos.org>

<https://fundsforngospremium.com>

Project Goal

The project aims to popularize science among secondary school students through student led out-of-school activities in science and technology.

Objectives of the Project

- Enhance and extend attainment in, interactions with and experiences of Science among secondary school students
- Initiate student-led 'Science Clubs' that provide space for discussion and experimentation on science.
- Encourage student to lead and manage the activities of the clubs themselves, with some guidance from their teachers and support from the partner organisations.
- Improve collaboration between local schools to enhance the overall quality of the region students are intended to spark inspiration and to foster long term interest in subjects like physics, chemistry, biology etc.
- Improvements in practical skills, self-confidence and thinking skills of students
- Initiate and guide extracurricular activities in schools and improve collaboration between schools
- Sensitise regional and national level policy makers, media houses and civil society through advocacy.

Location area and rational of the area selection

The project working area:

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX Project Area XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

List of Schools

Attached list

Project Activities

The project intends to form science clubs in schools. The clubs will bring together three groups of people, students as direct beneficiaries and school authorities and educators and parents as secondary stakeholders. Each NGO will deal with 20 educational institutions.

Club Activities

- Promote student interest in science.
- Carry out practical experiments from school textbooks using low-cost science kits.
- Organize discussions, science fairs, inter-class and inter-school science competitions etc.
- Encourage peer to peer learning.

Community/ Guardian Mobilisation

- Organise guardian meeting
- Discussion meeting/ workshop with local civil society and journalists

Media Mobilisation

- Workshops for local/ national media sensitization
- Progress sharing meeting with the national level media
- Talk show in electronic media

Policy maker/ Civil society mobilization

- Workshops for forming civil society platform
- Provide a platform for interested educators to instruct on topics outside the school curriculum.
- Sensitise regional and national level policy makers, media houses and civil society through advocacy (workshop/ seminar).

Expected Outcomes of the Project

Objectives	Outcomes
To popularize science among secondary school students in comparatively economically and geographically disadvantaged schools.	Reduced phobia towards science. Increased enjoyment and interest for science. Improved understanding of science curriculum. Peer to peer learning.
To develop leadership qualities among students belonging to the science clubs.	Students develop skills at organizing and managing programs. Students learn to work in teams.
To create greater interest among teachers and parents towards promoting science education.	A supportive environment for studying science.
To organise Seminars and workshop for local and national level advocacy	A supportive policy for promoting science education.

Formation of Science Clubs

A science club is a students' club that offers students the chance to do science-related extra curricular activities that extend and enhance the knowledge of science they experience in their course.

The club activities will lead to improvements in school performance. This can manifest as improved motivation and a positive impact on attitudes of the students. Co-curricular activities such as debating, scouts and sports were common in the past but no longer in rural schools. These now primarily exist in relatively more privileged schools in urban areas. The project, therefore, intends to revive co-curricular activities in science through the formation of school based science clubs in rural secondary schools.

The clubs will bring together three groups of people:

- Students: The most important group as they will be responsible for leading and managing the science clubs.
- School authorities and local GoB officials and educators: Convincing this group is essential to gain access to students.
- Parents: Gaining the support of parents can be leveraged to pressure schools and their children to place due importance on science and to promote such activities.

The science clubs will seek to achieve the following:

- Promote students' interest in science
- Initiate creative science projects in groups and individuals
- Carry out practical experiments from school textbooks using low-cost science kits.
- Think and talk about science, during the activity and when sharing their ideas.
- Organize discussions, science fairs, inter-class and inter-school competitions.
- Encourage peer to peer learning.
- Provide a platform for interested educators to instruct on topics outside the school curriculum.
- Get students, teachers and parents involved in promoting science.
- Develop leadership among students.

Students' Benefits

- Practice at the process skills needed in science.
- Increased opportunity to develop and practice thinking, speaking and listening skills.
- Opportunities to experience a wider range of science topics, hence broadening their enthusiasm for science.
- Working in teams have been great because they have to organise between them what to do, discuss how to solve problems between themselves and how to approach the investigation, sharing their results and obviously discussing their results with their team members and summarising their results

Overall, it will give them a lot of confidence in their own thoughts and develop a scientific mindset.

Teachers' Benefit

To learn about new topics and try out new ideas, in a less pressured environment.

School's benefit

- To observe science fairs.
- Raising the profile of science within the school.
- A positive change in attitude to science lessons
- Acceptance of school to the society

Conclusion

This project can prove to be a boon for those children that will help the students to understand science by making science education very easy and practical and it will increase interest of student. Through activities of a science club, learning of science become easy and interesting.

All Right Reserved © fundsforNGOs LLC

No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying or otherwise, without the prior written permission of fundsforNGOs LLC.

September 5, 2022