INTRODUCTION AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Amani Initiative conducted a virtual school financial health assessment for Edify partner schools within Wakiso District with 1024 engaged out of our target of 1,000 schools. The assessment tool was developed in line with the Edify Financial Health Indicators for client schools as guided by the Edify Uganda Team. 95% (977) of the engaged schools accepted to take part in the assessment.

ASSESSMENT AREA #1 SCHOOL FEES COLLECTION AND MANAGEMENT

1.1 Percentage of Schools with a school fees with a collection policy

- 35% (345) of the assessed schools don’t have a school fees policy
- 25% (247) of those that have a policy have not shared which makes the policy not functional. This affects school fees management.

1.2 Percentage of schools with expected school fees for last academic term collected.

- 31% (318) don’t have fees
- 13% (126) have fees below 25%
- 26% (252) have fees 25%-50%
- 8% (78) have fees 51%-75%
- 22% (218) have fees 76%-99%

1.3 Percentage of uncollected fees for the last previous year collected.

- 24% (234) of the uncollected fees
- 24% (230) have fees below 25%
- 5% (50) have fees 51%-75%
- 14% (134) have fees 76%-99%
- 18% (176) don’t have fees

ASSESSMENT AREA #2 FUNCTIONAL FINANCE TEAM

2.1 Percentage of schools with a trained person handling school accounts.

- 34.8% (340) schools don’t have a person in charge of accounting and 38.3% (374) have a person who is not trained in accounting which can lead to poor accounting and financial management in these schools. Only 14% (134) of the schools have a functional finance team.

35% (345) of the assessed schools don’t have a school fees policy and 25% (247) of those that have a policy have not shared which makes the policy not functional. This affects school fees management.
3.1 Percentage of schools with Income and expenditure records

- 42% (Yes, full (Income and Expenditure))
- 30% (Yes, but one sided)
- 12% (Yes, up to date manual records)
- 8% (Yes, up to date excel records)
- 4% (Yes, up to date in an accounting software)
- 1% (No)

3.2 Percentage of School with a cash budget

- 45% (Yes)
- 25% (No)
- 13% (Yes, full (Income and Expenditure))
- 8% (Yes, but one sided)
- 5% (No)

3.3 Percentage of Schools with a profit and loss report

- 58% (No Report)
- 23% (No, it has a deficit)
- 10% (Yes, with no surplus)
- 9% (Yes, with a surplus)
- 13% (Yes, for last financial year)
- 30% (Yes, for last financial year)
- 4% (No)

3.4 Percentage of schools whose profit and loss report show that income is adequate to cover all the expenses.

- 42% (408) of the schools maintain up to date manual financial records and only 1% have an accounting software with the rest having no full or updated records which affects financial management of the schools. With 57% of the schools with no profit and loss report; it's hard to trace whether the schools are making profits or losses.

GENERAL FEEDBACK FROM SCHOOLS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Feedback from assessment.

- School's were very appreciative of the financial health support and interested in the physical trainings.
- Majority of the schools were excited about the loan support from Edify but also disgruntled in the the cases of slow loan processing as well as loan denial.
- A few schools were not assessed as they were not comfortable with sharing confidential account's information through a phone.

Financial Health Support Recommendations

1. School fees collection and management
   - Schools need to be guided to develop functional school fees collection policies.
   - Schools need to develop learner ledgers to follow up with school fees collection per child.

2. Functional School Finance Teams
   - Schools need to be guided and encouraged to develop school staff structures with clear documented roles and responsibilities.
   - School accounts team need to undergo basic accounts training.

3. Proper School financial records and accounts
   - Schools need to be provided with templates for different financial records they can incorporate to record school financial transactions.
   - Key emphasis should be placed in preparing and tracking school budgets, and preparing profit and loss reports.
   - Schools should be encouraged to use excel or accounting software for proper recording.