Strengthening Capacity:
Administration of an E-Course to Enable Rigorous MHM Research in 14 UNICEF Countries

Bethany Caruso
Anna Ellis
Matthew Freeman

Photo: Alexandra Fehr, 2012
Sierra Leone, 2012

Columbia/UNICEF MHM Virtual Conference | 29 October 2014
Strengthening Capacity: Emory / UNICEF Collaboration Background

2010
- Collaborative WINS learning agenda formed
- WinS 101: E-course developed & launched

2011-2012
- Research Program: Equity of access to WinS
  - 3 Research Fellows in 6 countries

2012-2013
- Research Program: MHM in Schools
  - 4 Research Fellows in 4 countries
Strengthening Capacity:
Emory / UNICEF Collaboration Background

2014 ➔

- E-course for *WinS for Girls Program*:
  - Launching November 2014
  - Guidance and Support for MHM Research in 14 UNICEF Country Offices
Strengthening Capacity:
E-Course Embedded within WinS For Girls Program

WinS for Girls Program:
Advocacy and Capacity Building for Menstrual Hygiene Management through Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) in Schools Programs

• Increased understanding of current MHM practices and barriers girls face in schools

• Increased incorporation of gender sensitive MHM support into existing national WinS programme

• Increased leadership of Ministries of Education in MHM

• Increased capacity of global WinS Network Members on MHM research and programming
Strengthening Capacity:
Course Participants

Participating Country Offices and Working Groups

- Approximately 14 participating UNICEF Country offices
  - ~10 Countries to receive intensive step-by-step support
  - ~4 Countries participating amidst ongoing activities

- Each country office to have a ‘Working Group’ of participants
  - UNICEF staff from multiple branches
  - Ministry of Education officials
  - Local academic and NGO partners
  - Experienced Research Consultants to lead field work

Photo: Alexandra Fehr, 2012
Strengthening Capacity: Course Participants

Course Participation + Support

Course Participation

Locations:
- Bolivia
- Zambia
- Eritrea
- Niger
- Burkina Faso
- Ghana
- Nigeria
- Mongolia
- Nepal
- Afghanistan
- Pakistan
- Kyrgyzstan
- India
- Indonesia
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Modules</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Introduction to WinS4Girls project, MHM and WASH in Schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Incorporating Gender into Programming <em>(Led by UNGEI)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Fundamentals of Research Ethics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Planning MHM Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Understanding Qualitative &amp; Quantitative Methods for MHM Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Collecting Qualitative Data: Recording, Note Taking &amp; Managing Data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Tools for MHM Research, Part 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Tools for MHM Research, Part 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Training, Piloting, and Execution of Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Analyzing Collected MHM Data to Identify Key Issues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Dissemination of Research Findings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Turning MHM Research into Practice</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Photo: Jeanne Long, 2012
Cochabamba, Bolivia*
Strengthening Capacity: E-Course Objectives and Design

At the end of the course, participants will be able to:

1. Identify existing evidence related to MHM in Schools locally /globally
2. Identify how to address gender in research and programming
3. Design and write a research protocol to explore MHM in local context
4. Obtain ethical clearance for research plan proposed
5. Understand the strengths and weaknesses of qualitative and quantitative research approaches to MHM research
6. Adapt and use existing MHM qualitative and quantitative tools & create new tools as needed
At the end of the course, participants will be able to: (cont.)

7. Create a work plan to carry out proposed research activities

8. Train local research assistants to carry out proposed MHM research activities

9. Design and write a research protocol to explore MHM in local context

10. Pilot tools and carry out research

11. Develop strategies for analyzing data & analyze accordingly

12. Write a final report summarizing findings and proposing next steps
Strengthening Capacity:
E-Course Objectives and Design

Course Design and ‘Assignments’

• Course intended to coincide with research activities
Strengthening Capacity:  
E-Course Objectives and Design

Course Design and ‘Assignments’

• Course intended to coincide with research activities

• Beginning modules / assignments will focus on Preparation
  • Lit review of locally relevant MHM research
  • Understanding and following local ethics procedures
  • Writing up proposed research protocol
  • Adapting/developing tools to fit local context
  • Training a field team to collect data
Strengthening Capacity: E-Course Objectives and Design

Course Design and ‘Assignments’

• Course intended to coincide with research activities

• Beginning modules / assignments will focus on Preparation
  • Lit review of locally relevant MHM research
  • Understanding and following local ethics procedures
  • Writing up proposed research protocol
  • Adapting/developing tools to fit local context
  • Training a field team to collect data

• Later modules / assignments will focus on Collection/Using Data
  • Training a field team and carrying out a pilot
  • Managing data; writing field reports
  • Analysis and writing guidance
Strengthening Capacity: Next Steps

E-Course Next Steps

• Roll out Course (November 2014 – March 2015)

• Provide ongoing support and feedback to participants

• Visit country offices as needed to support execution of research
Strengthening Capacity:
Thanks and Questions