



# TGUP SEWING CENTER

## Save a Girl Project

### Overview

#### **Background**

UNICEF estimates that as many as 20 million girls are at risk of dropping out of school when they reach puberty due to lack of access to menstrual supplies. TGUP supplies washable, reusable sanitary products free of charge to girls through its *Save a Girl (SaG)* project. Each *SaG* kit contains 2 shields, 8 liners (pads), 1 colorful bag to carry the supplies, 1 'Ziploc' type plastic bag and depending on the country, panties, and soap. When properly cared for, the kits last three years, enabling a girl to stay in school that much longer.

#### **Project Concept**

Create a sewing center to produce washable, reusable sanitary supplies to help girls stay in school. TGUP currently operates two such sewing centers, one in Nepal and one in Kenya. Two more are currently planned in Uganda and Mozambique. Previously, TGUP had purchased the sanitary supplies through a third-party at \$9-\$15 per kit. Our centers have reduced the cost of a kit to under \$6, essentially doubling or tripling the number of kits we can distribute for the same amount of money. The sewing centers provide dignified, well-paid employment to local women. They are staffed and operated by established TGUP NGO partners.



#### **Supervision, Monitoring and Reporting**

TGUP's *SaG* Program Director is Brenda Birrell. Brenda has been instrumental in overseeing the setup and design of the two sewing centers that TGUP has started. She has visited the center in Kenya twice and provided expertise to reduce costs and increase efficiency. She has also consulted with the center in Nepal to help streamline their procedures.

#### **Project Cost Breakdown:**

##### **Assumptions:**

- NGO provides the facility to house the sewing center
- Fixed costs are the only costs required to setup a center
- NGO agrees to hire, train and manage local seamstresses
- Production environment and wages meet or exceed local labor standards
- Transparent accounting and management
- All kits are donated free of charge to girls
- Menstrual health education provided at each kit distribution