

Focus Group Discussion [FGD] in Zaatari Camp

Thursday, 5 Dec. 2019

Boys Agents of Change [BAC] /  
These Inspiring Girls Enjoy Reading [TIGER]



Sector Gender  
Focal Points Network  
Jordan

**Objective of the FGDs:** The focus group discussion aimed at building synergies between the SGFPN and the interventions in the camp and to plan for 2020 activities based on the findings and recommendations.



## **BAC Boys FGDs**

The first FGD was held with the BAC boys at 9:00 am at district 6 in the camp. Eighteen participants as well as the REF-SGFPN members and the Coaches attended the FGD facilitated by the IACU team. The participants reflected on the advantages that they gained from their engagement with TIGER Interventions as follows.

### **The following is the four main thematic areas covered in the FGDs:**

- Review & Reflect on their experience (past and present).
- Strengths & Opportunities on how their capabilities and strengths play a role in the group's success.
- Integration and Reflections on positive experience.
- Examining Beliefs and Values Questions How to manage your feelings/emotions and those of your colleagues? Underpinning values and beliefs for a deeper understanding of the individuals, the team, and our own social construction of meaning.

### **The output of the FGDs is as follows:**

#### **1. *Review & Reflect on their experience (past and present)***

- They are receiving complementary support of school classes that in case they face difficulties in some topics and in the homework's. BAC Coaches help facilitate resolving these issues.
- They are happy of the support provided by their Coaches in Arabic, English, Math and Science. They got better marks as a result of their participation in TIGER.
- Helping friends, their young sisters and brothers in doing their homework's and explain specific topics in the school curriculum for them.
- They are happy with the teaching tools used by the coaches for e.g. Using Taps and Learning by Playing.
- They teach them on the topics within the school curriculum

#### **2. *Strengths & Opportunities on how their capabilities and strengths play a role in the group's success.***

They liked more participation in the innovative interventions in District 6 under TIGER for e.g. "With TIGER my neighbourhood Camp is Cleaner". How to live in clean environments and to influence others hygiene practices and to collect garbage for recycling.

They get the opportunity to prepare the lesson with their Coaches ahead of the school teachers which helped them in understating well the topics and in getting high marks.

#### **3. *Positive Experience***

- The average of the participants engagement in TIGER is between 4 month-one year. One of the participants, shared his positive experience with TIGER that he was elected by his colleagues to represent his colleagues in the Student council. He met with the admin staff, shared his colleagues' requests, spoke on behalf of them and made their voice heard.
- In the classes, the most challenging topics for students is English and Math.
- They participated in camp and national contest.

#### **4. Examining Beliefs**

- They sense the responsibilities towards their camps and district, they felt that they should help in keeping their camp clean and to ease the load on the scavengers as it's the responsibility of all.
- All boys like about TIGER because they have become more encouraged to communicate with women, girls and men of their community and not being shy of being themselves.
- TIGER program created some of "out of the box thinking", that is, boys have stopped fighting on which game should they play and now they just choose what game to play by voting.
- No common activities between girls and boys due to school shifts. They helped the girls in the decoration activities to their events.
- Some boys withdraw due to the lack of interest and desires of participating and they get engaged according to their parent well.
- They are aware of friendship concept and differentiate between friends and colleagues. At the beginning, they were colleagues, and then became friends.
- They recommended TIGER to other friends that it helped them build confidence, self-reliance by providing support and not doing the work on behalf of the students.
- The Coaches ensured the good manner and how to respect and not bullying other colleagues.

#### **Recommendations:**

- The participants recommended to have electronic screen and overhead projector rather than the blackboard and chocks.
- To provide them with three containers for recycling project to ease the load on the scavengers and to keep their district clean.
- To provide transportation support that they had to walk for long distance, for example, they walk from district ten to district two.
- To organize trips to visit different interventions.
- They liked their Coaches and hoping to stay with them and not to be replaced with the new one that they built trust with them and they are happy with their coaching style.
- Vocational training.
- Computer training.
- Science lap.

#### **TIGER Girls FGDs**

The Second FGD was held with the TIGER Girls at 11:00 am in the camp at district 6. The FGD attended by 24 participants in addition to the REF-SGFNP members, the Coaches, Zaatari and Mafraq colleagues and another two girls from relief international initiative. It was facilitated by the SGFNP Coordination. Same questions were addressed to the Girls group, the participants reflected on the advantages they gained from their engagement with TIGER Interventions.

#### **The following is the four main thematic areas covered in the FGDs:**

- Review & Reflect on their experience (past and present).
- Strengths & Opportunities on how their capabilities and strengths play a role in the group's success.
- Integration and reflections on positive experience.

- Examining Beliefs and Values Questions How to manage your feelings/emotions and those of your colleagues? Underpinning values and beliefs for a deeper understanding of the individuals, the team, and our own social construction of meaning.

**The out-puts of the FGDs discussion is as follows:**

**1. Review & Reflecting on their experience (past and present)**

- One of the girls introduced TIGER initiative in English, her English get improved after joining TIGER. Another girl joined TIGER in the past four years, and she learnt about it from IRD. she had disconnection period with TIGER due to transportation issue and they moved into another district which made it hard for her to continue but she got back again because she likes her colleagues and the Coaches.
- The gain communication skills, range management and how to behave with their families, colleagues and community.
- One of the girls was a very shy person with very limited social life, and her life was focused between school and house. She heard about TIGER from her mother relatives: she gained many benefits from TIGER. She became a notable smart student in the Math and Arabic and became advanced over her colleagues.
- After joining TIGER, they liked their school more and they have new friends.
- Their parents became more supportive to their daughters to participate in TIGER after that they observed the positive changes in their personalities and school marks.
- They are happy with the teaching tools used by the Coaches for e.g. Using Taps and Learning by Playing.
- One of the participants (From Relief International) withdraw from TIGER after three years. She got all possible benefits, and now she needs different support for the high classes.

**2. Strengths & Opportunities on how their capabilities and strengths play a role in the group's success.**

They got confident in their skills and themselves that they can contribute positively to the community. TIGER enhanced their leadership skills. Through TIGER, they participated in other initiatives for example: poetry, painting contest, sports contest, etc.

**3. Positive Experience**

Another young lady is Taekwondo champion she holds the black belt and won the national and Asian contest. She received training from a Korean NGO. She benefited from life skills training and she recommended it for others.

**4. Examining Beliefs.**

Dropping school during teenage year is common for the girls in the camp. Some of TIGER girls dropped school before joining the program, but now, after joining the program they will never drop school and they are all looking forward to completing their education and to have a chance in joining college. The expression they used was “we know what we do and what we want to become in the future”.

- Early marriage is common in the camp. All TIGER girls are against it and some of them stood against it once or twice after joining the program when they were proposed for an arranged marriage and they are aware of the protection and awareness support provided by the INGs.
- They are aware of friendship concept and differentiate between friends and colleagues. At the beginning they were colleagues then became friends.
- The positive influences on their peers, sisters and brothers and encouraged them to join TIGER.

***Recommendations:***

- Illiteracy classes for mothers.
- To keep the same coaches that they managed to build trust with them, and they get comfortable with their facilitating style.
- To provide transportation support that they had to walk for long distance for example they walk from district ten to district two.
- Design Awareness activities targeting parents to support their daughters to continue their education.
- To replicate TIGER into other countries.
- To disseminate the information and progress made by TIGER via social media.