



## Evaluation of SCEF Programs, 2010 - 2020

Frank Kyei-Arthur (PhD)



### Summary

Since 2010, Street Children Empowerment Foundation (SCEF) has successfully implemented 23 programs that have impacted the lives of 72,457 children and 579 mothers in James Town. SCEF programs helped mothers to learn the culture of saving, access loans, and secure jobs. Also, SCEF programs helped children to develop their skills and abilities, enhance their interpersonal communication, and learn personal hygiene. In addition, children received educational supplies from SCEF through the Back To School program. Other benefits derived by children included receiving medical assistance, scholarships, and enhance educational performance, among others.

### Introduction

SCEF is a community-based grassroots Non-Governmental Organisation established in September 2010 to provide sustainable improvements to street and vulnerable children. SCEF plans to achieve this by enhancing street and vulnerable children's rights to access quality education, improving their access to basic healthcare, and other child

rights to enable them to achieve their fullest potential. SCEF operates mainly from James Town and in several other communities in and around the Ashiedu Keteke Sub-Metro District and for a decade, it has championed child protection and contributed to improving the quality of education in Ghana. Since its inception in 2010, SCEF has not documented the impact of its programs on the lives of beneficiaries. In 2019, SCEF conducted an evaluation of its programs to take stock of how far it has advanced its mission.

### Methodology

In-depth interviews were conducted with children, parents, and staff to capture their perspectives while an online survey was used to capture perspectives of volunteers, board members, donors, and implementing partners. The data were collected between August and October 2019. Data from the online surveys were analysed using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) version 25 while the in-depth interviews were analysed using NVivo software version 10. In total, sixty-eighty stakeholders gave their feedback for this evaluation.

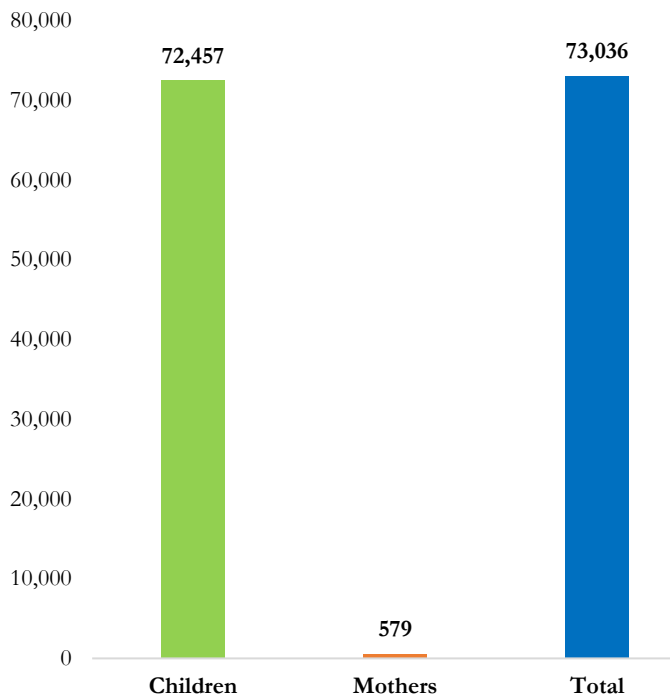
## Results

In total, SCEF has impacted the lives of 73,036 beneficiaries consisting of 72,457 children and 579 mothers (Fig. 1). SCEF has implemented 23 programs over the decade to improve the lives of street and vulnerable children and their mothers. Over the decade, programs were introduced each year except in 2019. Five programs were introduced in 2010 and 2013 (Fig. 2 & 4) while a single program was introduced in 2012, 2015, 2016, and 2020 respectively (Fig. 4, 5 & 6).

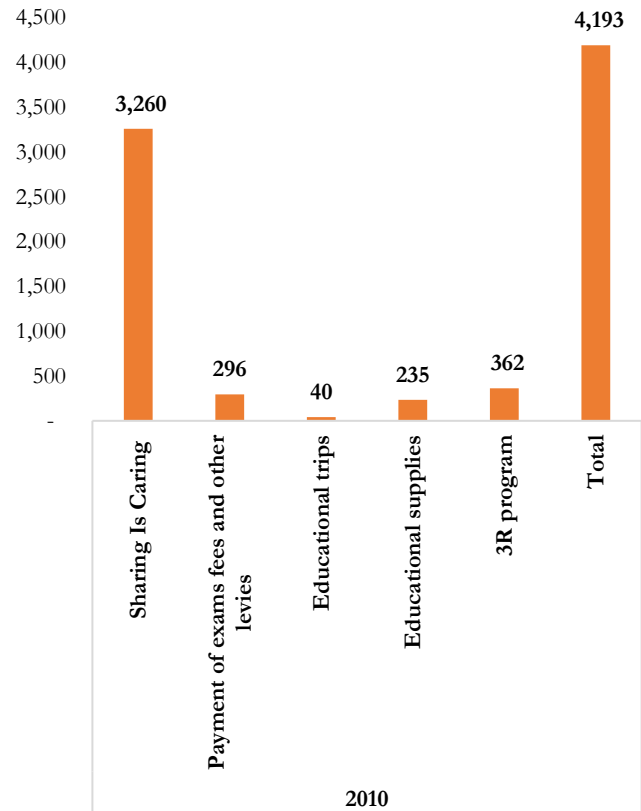
In terms of the impact of programs on mothers, they reported that they learned the culture of saving and accessed loans through the Urban Savings and Loans Enterprise program (Fig. 7). Also, SCEF assisted them to secure jobs.

Regarding children, they reported that they derived eleven (11) benefits from SCEF (Fig. 7). These include developed skills and abilities, enhanced interpersonal communication, learned personal hygiene, and provision of educational supplies, among others.

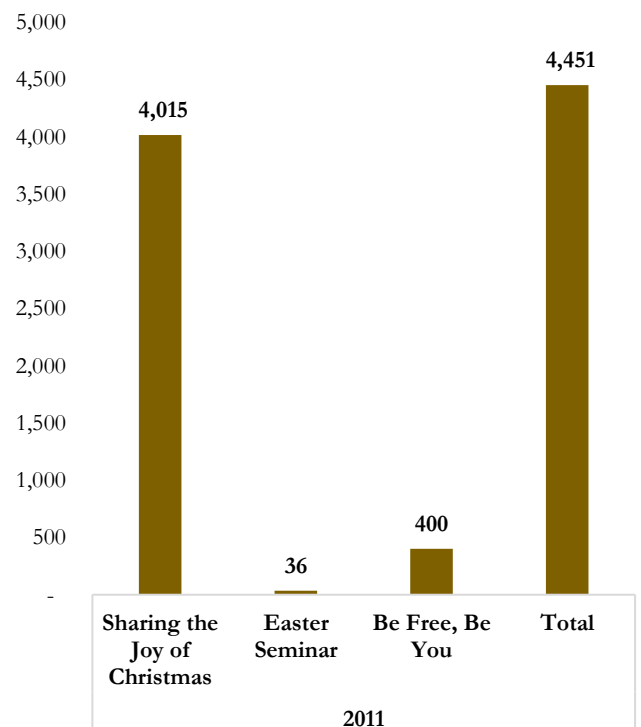
**Figure 1: Cumulative number of beneficiaries over the decade (2010 – 2020)**



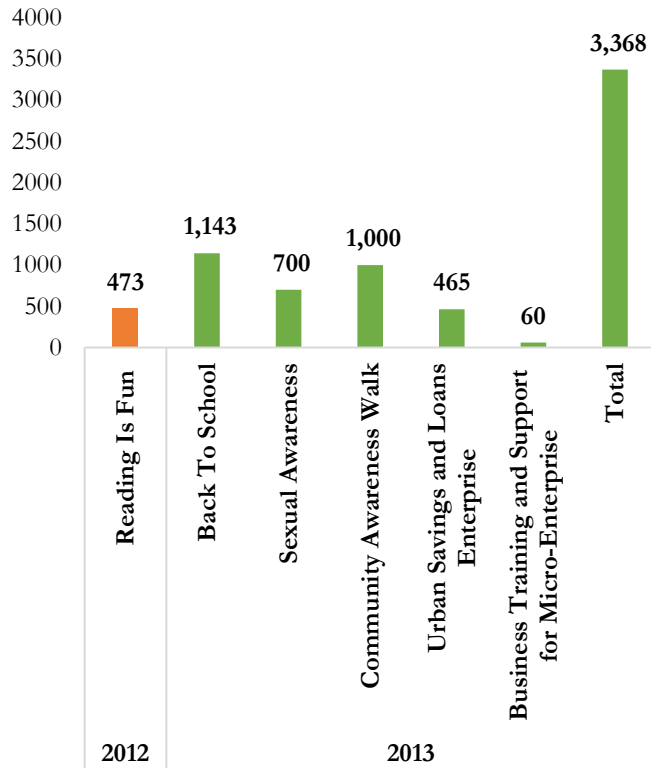
**Figure 2: Cumulative number of beneficiaries of programs implemented in 2010**



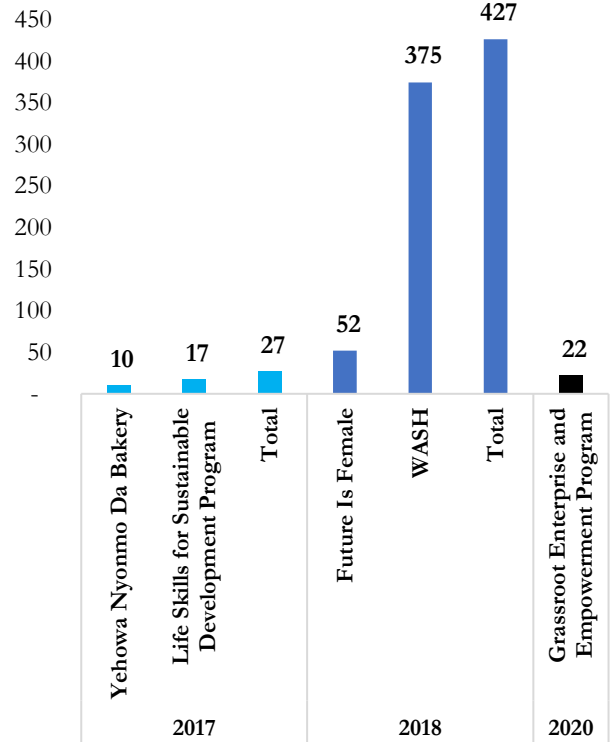
**Figure 3: Cumulative number of beneficiaries of programs implemented in 2011**



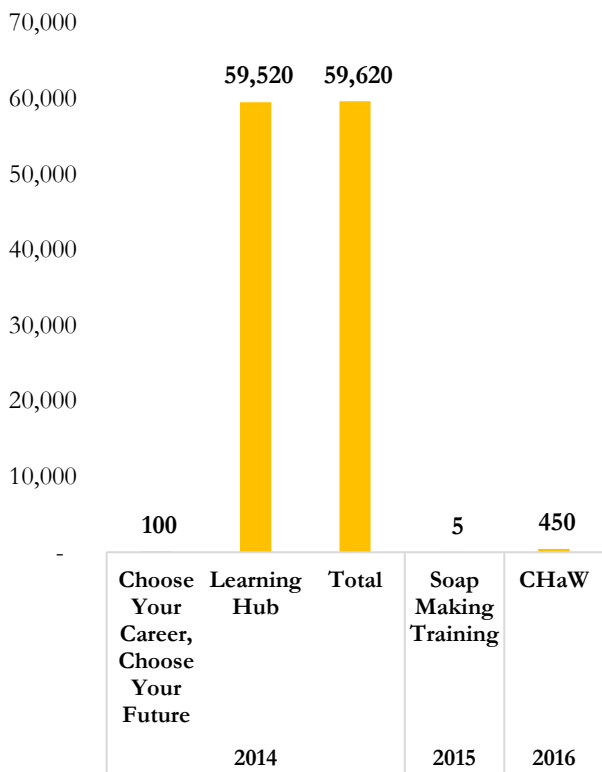
**Figure 4: Cumulative number of beneficiaries of programs implemented in 2012 and 2013**



**Figure 6: Cumulative number of beneficiaries of programs implemented in 2017, 2018 & 2020**



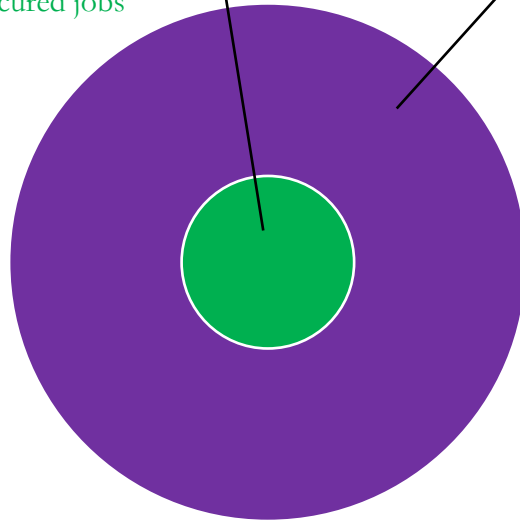
**Figure 5: Cumulative number of beneficiaries of programs implemented in 2014, 2015 & 2016**



**Figure 7: Impact of programs on children and mothers**

**Impact on mothers**

- Provision of loans
- Helped save money for other expenses
- Secured jobs



**Impact on children**

- Medical assistance
- Educational assistance (Scholarship)
- Provision of educational supplies
- Enhanced interpersonal communication
- Developed skills and abilities
- Help expand social network
- Enhanced educational performance
- Help keep fit and strong
- Learned personal hygiene
- Provision of basic needs (e.g. food)
- Undertook apprenticeship

**Conclusions and Recommendations**

SCEF has improved the lives of street and vulnerable children, and their mothers since its inception in September 2010. To consolidate its gains and further its mission, the following recommendations has been made:

- a. SCEF should engage in regular fundraising activities at least once every two months to enable it to raise funds to support its programs.
- b. SCEF should strengthen its advocacy activities through various mediums such as social media platforms and satellite offices.
- c. SCEF should review all its programs at least once every year so it can identify the least valued aspects of programs and improve them appropriately.

**Acknowledgment**

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The views expressed in this paper remain those of the author.

**About the Evaluator**



**Frank Kyei-Arthur (PhD)** is a lecturer at the University of Environment and Sustainable Development, and a volunteer of SCEF. His research areas of interest include population health, education, ageing and family caregiving, maternal and child health, reproductive health, and non-communicable diseases.

Email: [fkyeiarthur@yahoo.com](mailto:fkyeiarthur@yahoo.com)

**Street Children Empowerment Foundation (SCEF)**

62/3 Ward D Amamomo Close Palladium

[www.scef-international.org](http://www.scef-international.org)



Founded in September 2010, the Street Children Empowerment Foundation (SCEF) is a registered Non-Governmental Organisation in Ghana (CG123552014) that seeks to rescue, rehabilitate and reintegrate street children in James Town and Accra Central, Ghana through a unique social work concept. SCEF has branches in the USA, Germany, and Finland.