

Information sheet for participants under the age of 18

Endline Evaluation of the GATE-GEC Project

You are being invited to take part in a research about the GATE-GEC project. Before you decide to take part, it is important that you understand why this research is being done and what it will involve. Feel free to ask any doubts or any questions.

What is this research?

We are interviewing children, adolescents and adults who participated in the GATE-GEC project. This is part of the evaluation of the GATE-GEC project done by the Institute for Development (IfD) and the National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER) under the supervision of Plan International.

Why are we doing this research?

We want to know how the GATE-GEC project helps children, adolescents and other people in Sierra Leone.

Why have you been invited to take part?

You have participated in some of the activities that have been supported by the GATE-GEC project. We would like to ask you some questions to understand your experiences and opinions.

What will happen if you decide to take part?

We will ask you questions and play games that will help you think and talk about your participation in the GATE-GEC project. The questions are about some of the things you have done and how you feel – there are no right or wrong answers. Someone especially trained for this interview will be with you. You will be in your school and talk to this person for approximately 1 hour. If that is OK for you, this person will take notes during the interview, record what you say and take some pictures of the activities (but not of you).

Taking photographs

We will NOT take photos of you. However, we would like to take photos of drawings that you may prepare with us, if you are happy with that.

How will the information you give us be used?

We will be writing everything you tell us, but nobody from your school or the GATE-GEC project will know what you said. It is very important to us to keep children and adolescents safe. We will not tell anyone what you say unless we are worried about your safety or the safety of another person. If this happens, we will tell Plan International, who might talk to other organisations or services so that they can help you or the person in need.

What are the benefits?

You won't receive any immediate reward for taking part, but your help will help other children and adolescents in Sierra Leone who may participate in a project like this in the future.

What are the risks?

We will ask you questions about your experiences at school, home and in the community. If you feel uncomfortable with any of the questions, you do not have to answer them and you can ask to stop the interview at any time.

Do you have to take part?

We would like your help with this, but it is up to you and your parents if you want to participate. No one can force you to take part and if you do not want to, you do not have to.

What if you don't want to participate anymore?

Once you have started in the interview, you are allowed to change your mind and ask to stop at any time. You can also decide if you don't want to answer any of the questions. You may ask us during the interview, or later, to change or delete any answers you provide. You will not get in any trouble for this.

Contact details for further information

If you are worried about something, or feel uneasy about someone involved in this evaluation, it is important that you know that there are people you can go to. You can contact people from the office of Plan International or at IfD.

The contact person for Safeguarding from IfD is Bintu Mansaray; you can contact her about your concerns before or after the interview and she will ensure that any concerns are addressed properly.

Contact person	Contact organisation	Contact Information
Bintu Mansaray	IfD	078-502-942

If you would feel more comfortable contacting someone from the GATE-GEC project, please get in touch with the project's contact person in your district, who can also provide more information or help — you can find the contact information in this table:

District	Contact person	Contact organisation	Telephone number and e-mail address
Kenema	Hilda Massaquoi	Handicap International	099-106-503 h.massaquoi@hi.org
Kailahun	Francise Sahr Jame	Handicap International	099-106-453 a.koroma@hi.org
Kono	Augusta Yongai	ActionAid	088-785-334 augusta.yonga@actionaid.org
Moyamba	Mohamed Gassama	ActionAid	076-607-292 gassamamohamed61@gmail.com
Port Loko	Aminata S. Koroma	Plan Sierra Leone	076-960-197 aminata.koroma@plan-international.org
Karene	Aminata S. Koroma	Plan Sierra Leone	076-960-197 aminata.koroma@plan-international.org

Do you have any questions?

Allow time for participants to ask questions about the evaluation.