

AFRICAN SISTERS EDUCATION COLLABORATIVE (ASEC)

JULY 1, 2016 - JUNE 30, 2020

PHASE II

HIGHER EDUCATION FOR SISTERS IN AFRICA

Cumulative Evaluation Report



PREPARED FOR: THE CONRAD N. HILTON FOUNDATION
GRANTEE: MARYWOOD UNIVERSITY
GRANT NUMBER: 20130041 (PHASE I) & 16584 (PHASE II)
REPORT DUE DATE: OCTOBER 31, 2020

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Higher Education for Sisters in Africa (HESA)

**Phase II July 2016 - June 2020
Cumulative Evaluation Report**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This report was prepared by the monitoring & evaluation unit within the African Sisters Education Collaborative at Marywood University.

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On the Cover: HESA Graduation Ceremony, Saint Augustine University, Tanzania, December 23, 2019

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Higher Education for Sisters in Africa (HESA) Phase II Program Evaluation Key Outcomes

5 OBJECTIVES



Provide opportunities for Catholic sisters to **access & obtain post-secondary education**.



Increase sisters' competencies in their fields, toward **greater effectiveness in their ministries**.



Increase sisters' capacities to **strengthen the sustainability & internal systems of their congregations**.



Assist HESA alumnae to use their acquired skills & knowledge to **enhance & sustain their ministries / congregations**.



Disseminate best practices & learnings from ASEC & HESA, as well as models of innovative access to education.

A total of **1,298** sisters have been served by the HESA program in both **Phase I & II**. A total of **1,020** were served in **Phase II alone**.

Phase II Total 1020		Phase I Total 278
Phase II, Year 3 329	Phase II, Year 2 241	Phase I, Year 2 122
Phase II, Year 1 258	Phase II, Year 4 192	Phase I, Year 3 90
		Phase I, Year 1 66

In both **Phase I & Phase II**, the majority of HESA sisters studied for bachelor's degrees. Master's degrees were added as a study option in **Phase II**.

Master's Degrees	274	
Bachelor's Degrees	216	576
Diplomas*	62	170

*Includes 1 certificate

KEY OUTCOME FIGURES

24

Partnerships
Maintained

New Partner FORs:

Zambia Catholic University,
Jordan University College &
Catholic University Institute
of Buea

437

Sisters Have
Graduated

Honors/Awards:

58 1st Class Honors
73 2nd Class Honors
11 Other Awards

51

Sisters Have
Withdrawn

Top 3 Reasons:

1. Institutional Request
2. Left Congregation
3. Personal Issues

WORKSHOP SUCCESSES

Orientation
Attendance Rate

99%

99% (n = 678) of HESA Phase II sisters reported that Orientation met or exceeded their expectations.

Reflective
Learning
Attendance Rate

94%

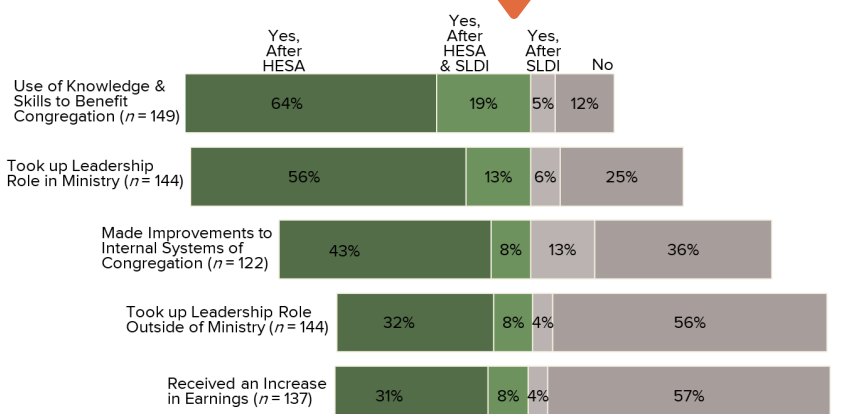
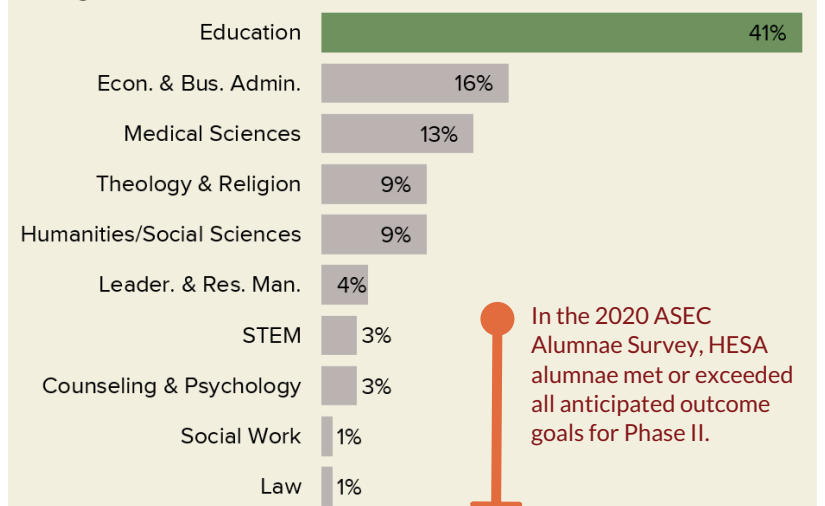
97% (n = 768) of HESA sisters reported that the 2020 Reflective Learning content met or exceeded their expectations.

HESA Alumnae
Workshop
Attendance Rate

39%

99% (n = 142) of HESA alumnae reported that the 2020 Alumnae Workshop met or exceeded their expectations.

In Phase II (N = 1,020), the field of **education** is by far the most popular amongst HESA sisters.



Higher Education for Sisters in Africa (HESA) Phase II Executive Summary

At the conclusion of Phase II of the Higher Education for Sisters in Africa (HESA) program, evaluation outcomes indicate that sisters are earning diplomas/degrees that are relevant to their ministries and needed within the context of their communities. With increased educational credentials, HESA alumnae report positive impacts on their ministries, congregations, and human development. Challenges encountered in the phase included an initial lack of organizational infrastructure and issues with data management, academic dishonesty, and textbook/accommodation funding.

HESA has grown to serve 1,298 sisters (both in Phase I and II) from 243 congregations in 10 African countries since its inception in 2012. In the final year of Phase II, 192 sisters were recruited to bring the total Phase II enrollment to 1,020. Of the 1,298 total sisters served by the program, 810 are currently enrolled online or onsite at 24 partner higher education institutions (HEIs) and 437 have graduated from the program. In total, 51 sisters have withdrawn from the program, accounting for an overall retention rate of 96%.

Analysis of each of HESA's established program objectives (Phase I and II) shows that the program has met all of its anticipated output and outcome measures. The success of the program can be attested to by the award of the HESA Phase III grant by the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, set to begin July 1, 2020.

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Phase I & II Enrollments Levels of Study

274 Masters
792 Bachelors
231 Diplomas
1 Certificate

96%

Overall Retention Rate

99%

of students in Phase II reported that Orientation content met or exceeded their expectations.

96%

Phase II Successful Online to Onsite Transfer Rate

39%

of HESA graduates attended the 2020 ASEC Alumnae Workshops.


PHASE II WORKSHOPS

53 Orientations held in 9 countries 

36 Reflective Learning Workshops held in 9 countries 

42 ASEC Alumnae Workshops held in 10 countries 

1 Online Instructor Workshop 

1 HESA Partners Conference 



Kenyan HESA students pose with ASEC Staff and Marywood University President in 2019.

Higher Education for Sisters in Africa (HESA) Phase II Executive Summary Cont'd

HESA IMPACT ON ALUMNAE

99%

feel more confident as a result of participating in the HESA program (n = 345).

98%

gained specific skills from participating in the HESA program, that they otherwise would not have achieved (n = 346).

97%

received a diploma/degree that is relevant to their ministry (n = 184).

96%

received a diploma/degree that will help meet the needs of their community (n = 184).

86%

can effectively use the knowledge/skills they gained to benefit their ministry (n = 149).

85%

perception of self as a professional and/or leader has changed (n = 149).

83%

personal/professional relationships have changed (n = 149).

*Includes data from both Phase I & Phase II graduates

Data regarding the impact of the HESA program was gathered during Phase II using the End of Experience Assessment, ASEC Alumnae Surveys, the 2019 ICB Congregation Survey, site visits to the ministries of HESA alumnae, and focus groups. These tools, among others, have assisted in capturing the impact of the program at the ministerial, congregational, and human development levels. They have also informed program delivery and have resulted in several program adjustments to address challenges. During Phase II adjustments have included - development of various handbooks, collection of data regarding sisters' academic awards and final research contributions, the addition of four new partnerships, and allocation of study supply stipends at Reflective Learning Workshops. With these adjustments, the long-term desired impact of the HESA program will continue to be realized and it is anticipated that HESA participants will continue to strengthen the sustainability and systems of their congregations and positively impact human development through their various ministries.



9,500+
people served
through
HESA alumnae
funded projects



142+
academic awards
or honors received
84% of HESA students
average an A or B
letter grade



120+
research
contributions
related to Catholic
sisters in Africa

Assisting Kenyan Street Children During COVID-19

Sr. Winnie Mutuku, DC

Institution: Tangaza University College, Kenya
Credentials: Diploma in Leadership and Resource Management
Graduated: May 2016



In Kitale, Kenya, street children are a particularly vulnerable group of people who have been impacted by COVID-19. These street children consist of boys who have left their homes to live among the streets of Kenya. Sr. Winnie Mutuku earned her Diploma from Tangaza University College (TUC) through the HESA program in May 2016. She has since gone on to obtain a Bachelor's degree in Social Communication, also from TUC. Following her education, Sr. Winnie founded her own organization to reach this vulnerable group of street children in January 2020, called Upendo Street Children (USC). Sr. Winnie and USC have persevered in their work throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, continuing to serve despite challenges.

ALUMNA SPOTLIGHT