

# WHAT ARE THE LESSONS LEARNT ON SETTING UP ELCs?



- Whereas the scaling up of GALS is important, and with it the setting-up of ELCs it is crucial to ensure that there is quality measures in control which apart from ensuring that legal organizational requirements are adhered to, it also puts in check the ELCs to be compliant with the GALS principles.
- Achieving this hasn't been easy and that is why a well thought out ELC certification guideline was developed by GALS champions in collaboration with GALS facilitators and experts among other stakeholders.
- In modest terms, the fragmented lessons can be grouped and summarized in that; the greatest value lies within establishment of quality ELCs and not their quantity.

# ELC CERTIFICATION



- The certification of an ELC is done and overseen by an independent certification committee that is made up of **experienced GALS champions from other ELCs** in addition to **GALS facilitators**.

# THE CRITERIA



The certification process is mainly divided into five main categories which are:

- 1) **Management and Legal Structure:** Constitution, participatory decision making in the Mgmt system, Gender balanced composition...
- 2) **Operational criteria:** Have GALS practitioners and be able to facilitate GALS workshops, linkages with other ELCs and facilitators...
- 3) **Quality control:** Champions certification ability, 20 experience and active champions, 100 practicing community members...
- 4) **Target group:** Train Rural communities within the locality before extending trainings to other clients.
- 5) **Sustainability:** Business / sustainability plan, basic M&E system in place.

# EVALUATION GRID



All the above categories have sub-categories which have been set out on a scoring board with each sub-category assigned a weighted score:

- Very important criteria have been assigned the value 5
- Averagely important ones have been assigned the value 3
- Less important criteria have the value of 1.
- The maximum number of points an ELC can reach is 105.

# CERTIFICATION LEVELS



- Any ELC that will score above 95 points will be deemed qualified and issued with a qualification certificate.
- Any ELC that scores between 75 and 94 points will be deemed certified on interim basis and will be issued with conditions to be met before they are declared fully certified. The interim certificate is only valid for 6 months.
- Any ELC that will score below 75 points must apply for a fresh evaluation.



# CERTIFICATE DURATION

- The certificate issued to a qualified ELC remains valid for 3 years after which the evaluation must be done once more to retain its validity status.
- The certificate can however be revoked before its expiry should the ELC be found culpable of gross miss conduct which includes but is not limited to violation of governing legal laws and or malpractices which are against the GALS principles.

# ELCS ON THE GLOBAL PLATFORM

- Finally, all existing and certified ELCs can have an online presence and with it, they are mapped out on the Empower@Scale digital platform. Additionally, they can also have a dedicated page where all information regarding the ELCs, its members, past events and trainings done are updated.
- This is an information rich page where any stakeholder globally browsing through the platform can enjoy a quick pit stop and be updated on everything about the ELCs, including upcoming or planned events.