

Facts at a Glance

A period should end a sentence, not a girl's education.®

The Pad Project is a 501 (c) (3) not-for-profit organization whose mission is to create and cultivate local and global partnerships to end period stigma and to empower women and all menstruators worldwide. The organization began as a documentary project led by students and educators convinced that menstruation matters for everyone. They created the documentary short, *Period. End of Sentence.*, winner of the Academy Award in 2019, which launched the project into the fully-fledged organization it is today.

Our goal is to achieve menstrual equity by combining pad machines with community partnerships, sexual and reproductive health education, and domestic advocacy work.

To implement a Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) program, we partner with a nongovernmental organization on the ground to monitor and evaluate its success.



What is the issue?

Menstruators in low income communities around the world often lack access to menstrual products. The combination of period poverty, stigmatization, and inadequate sexual and reproductive health education has major consequences, like preventing menstruators from staying in school.

What is period poverty?

Period poverty is the lack of access to sanitary products, menstrual hygiene education, toilets, and washing facilities and/or waste management. According to the National Women's Law Center, nearly 1 in 8 American women lived in poverty in 2018 and nearly 1 in 3 women of childbearing age were economically insecure. Tampons, pads, and other menstrual hygiene products are not accessible to economically insecure menstruators via food stamps, health insurance, or Medicaid coverage.

What is a pad machine?

A pad machine creates low cost sanitary pads. The machines are easy to operate, use locally-sourced natural resources to function, and require minimal electricity. They employ local women and help jumpstart a microeconomy.

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What is the economic impact of a pad machine?

Each pad machine employs five women and one supervisor enabling them to produce pads for their communities for approximately \$.05 each.* Workers can decide how they would like to sell their pads in order to create more economic opportunities for themselves and their community. **The number of employees may vary depending on the type of machine.*

Donate today: Help us raise money to fund pad machine installations in communities that struggle to meet menstrual health needs. Even a small contribution will help us educate and employ more women across the globe. Text PADPROJECT to 71-777

Spread the word: Help educate your community about menstrual hygiene issues by hosting a screening of *Period. End of Sentence.* and using our discussion guide to start a conversation. Advocate for menstrual equity:

Sanitary products are a necessity, not a luxury. Learn about the tampon tax and discover how you can take action in your state to fight against laws and regulations that tax menstrual products.

Partner with us: Request a machine or collaborate with us to find ways that we can work together to ensure your community can support the menstrual health needs of all women.

Join

Join the movement today! Help us make menstrual equity possible by increasing access to affordable sanitary products worldwide.

For more information, visit us at thepadproject.org or email us at info@thepadproject.org