

# GLOBAL EDUCATION

For more than four decades FHI 360's global education experts have worked to ensure that all young people have equitable access to a quality education that equips them to become productive and empowered citizens.

We focus on achieving measurable and relevant learning outcomes by working hand-in-hand with governments, civil society, the private sector and communities to build resilience and sustain improvements in national education systems.

We promote local ownership by building successes inside the education system and pair them with innovations from global practice to leverage local solutions.



**MILLIONS** of children & youth will benefit each year from our projects

In the last five years, we have implemented and conducted over **60** education programs and studies across the globe

OUR EXPERTS HAVE EXPERIENCE IN MORE THAN **95 COUNTRIES**  Our global education experts speak more than **20 languages** fluently

### **The Global Challenge**

The United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals prioritize access to and the quality of education as critical to development. Despite significant progress in improving primary school enrollment and learning outcomes since 2000, the challenge remains massive. Figures from the UN make this clear:



At least **250,000,000** of the world's primary age children can't read, write or do basic mathematics.

40% OF CHILDREN DO NOT ACCESS EDUCATION IN A LANGUAGE THEY UNDERSTAND.

**263 MILLION** children and youth are out of school. Girls are more likely than boys to never set foot in a classroom.

#### Nearly 40% of children across the Middle East and North Africa are being denied their right to education due to conflict.

The world will need to recruit 68.8 MILLION teachers to achieve universal primary and secondary education by 2030.

#### GLOBAL YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT IS ON THE RISE FOR THE FIRST TIME IN YEARS. 71,000,000

YOUTH WORLDWIDE ARE UNEMPLOYED, ACCORDING TO THE ILO.



20% of households.

#### 385,000,000 children live in

extreme poverty. On average, primary-school age children from the wealthiest 20% of households are four times more likely to be learning at the desired levels than children from the poorest

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# FHI 360'S RESPONSE

FHI 360 is working with national governments, civil society, communities and schools across the globe to address these challenges. Selected examples of our current work are highlighted below.

#### **1 // EQUIPPING YOUTH WITH MARKET-RELEVANT SKILLS**

The USAID Advance Program is building the capacity of technical tertiary institutions and enhancing employment opportunities for disadvantaged youth in Honduras, Guatemala and Jamaica. Building on evidence gathered through initial labor market assessments, institutional landscaping analyses, and barrier studies in each country, Advance is strengthening targeted degree programs in selected institutions in key areas such as curriculum and pedagogy and bridging labor services.

2 // COACHING TEACHERS TO

**PROVIDE EFFECTIVE READING** 

INSTRUCTION

FHI 360 has partnered with

FOMILENIO II in **El Salvador** 

and PRONACOM in Guatemala

to strengthen both Ministries of

Education's capacity in learning

decision making; improve teaching

programs and introducing innovative

active-learning methodologies; and

assessment, evaluation and data-driven

quality by strengthening teacher training

develop education networks to increase

community support for education and

improve students' transition between

education levels. Through secondary-

360 is equipping youth for entry into

the labor market. Both the Secondary

Strengthening the National Education

System Program in El Salvador are

funded by the Millennium Challenge

Education Quality Improvement

Program in Guatemala and the

Corporation (MCC).

level technical vocational programs, FHI

#### **3 // REMOVING BARRIERS TO EDUCATION**

FHI 360's Four Pillars PLUS Project-Nigeria, funded by the GE Foundation, is fostering enabling school and community environments to increase the capacity of adolescent girls and boys to learn, exercise agency, protect their health and earn their secondary school certificate to help advance their career options. FHI 360 is mentoring 4,800 students, building community support through dialogue on gender norms, prioritizing saving for education and training 160 teachers on gender sensitive pedagogy and safe schools. As a result, 70% of girls and 65% of boys in intervention schools reported feeling safer at school.

#### **5 // BRIDGING HIGHER EDUCATION AND THE LABOR** MARKET

In Afghanistan, FHI 360 is ensuring that universities offer degrees relevant to the needs of employers. Through the USAID-funded University Support and Workforce Development Program (USWDP), FHI 360 is collaborating with the country's Ministry of Higher Education and the private sector to develop new associate degrees that will lead to the creation of a community college system. USWDP is also working with 11 public universities to create academic and career centers that support internships, job readiness and soft skills training and successful transition to employment.

#### 4 // IMPROVING READING AND NUMERACY SKILLS THROUGH **MOTHER TONGUE INSTRUCTION**

In the fragile area of northern Nigeria, FHI 360 is using a Hausa-based early grade reading approach with an integrated numeracy component. The Reading and Numeracy Activity (RANA), funded by DFID/UNICEF, is providing 800 teachers with training, coaching and materials to teach over 50,000 students across 199 schools. In 2016-2017, RANA monitoring data showed that 83% of teachers implemented the program with high fidelity, and that student learning outcomes increased for both letter sound recognition and oral reading fluency. An RCT found that RANA math read-alouds resulted in gains in both oral reading fluency and word problem solving. RANA also mobilized Mother's Groups and Community Reading Hubs in 199 communities.



#### 6 // USING MOBILE **TECHNOLOGY TO IMPROVE EVIDENCE-BASED DECISION** MAKING

To address the challenge of monitoring school attendance and student performance in **Tanzania**, FHI 360 is using its School Information System (SIS), an-android based application, as part of the DFID Quality Improvement Program in Tanzania (EQUIP-T). SIS collects and analyzes school-level information on 4,400 schools in real time and—with or without internet connectivity—can report information to higher administrative levels by sending an entire school database via SMS. SIS supports school level decision making and promotes efficient planning.

**COMPLETION RATES** In Malawi, FHI 360 is addressing the many factors—e.g., poverty, health and unequal gender norms-that lead girls to drop out of secondary school at disproportionately higher rates than boys and lead to heightened risk for contracting HIV. Funded through the DREAMS Innovation Challenge, the DREAMS: Malawi Communities Investing in Education for Child Healtha nd Safety Project is using an integrated approach that includes communityled efforts designed to ensure that education, health and economic drivers are simultaneously addressed and strengthened to improve access to, retention in and completion of secondary education. This program is supporting 16,000 girls ages 14-17.

#### 7 // STRENGTHING TEACHING **THROUGH ICT**

In **Rwanda**, The USAID Mentorship *Community of Practice (MCOP)* project provided English and pedagogical support to mentors through a school based mentoring initiative. Leveraging an online portal, social media and a mobile channel, MCOP developed peer support networks among 1,000 mentors. MCOP subsequently expanded its work to teachers and to focus on early grade reading. This new program, known as the Teacher Community of Practice (TCOP), has launched an online Community of Practice and an 5 accredited online course, Foundations of Early Grade Reading.

### 8 // BOLSTERING SECONDARY

#### 9 // PROVIDING ACCESS TO **EDUCATION FOR OUT-OF-**SCHOOL CHILDREN

In the **DR Congo**, FHI 360 is providing out-of-school children with access to quality education. Through the USAID/ DFID Accelerating Equitable Access to School, Reading, Student Retention and Accountability (ACCELERE!) project, FHI 360 helped launch the first national language program for reading in Accelerated Learning Programs (ALPs). This included developing materials such as scripted facilitator guides, readalouds and learner books for Grade 1-4 equivalents. To meet the needs of ALP learners, FHI 360 integrated life skills and psychosocial themes into the curriculum. In non-formal schools, ACCELERE! is working with over 600 teachers and more than 25,000 students across nearly 300 centers

#### **10 // ADVANCING EDUCATION EQUITY**

The Education Equity Research Initiative, led by FHI 360 and Save the Children, is a collaborative partnership of individuals and organizations that is building the evidence base on effective approaches to ensuring equity in and through education. In its first year, the Initiative helped increase understanding of practices in measuring and financing education equity, as well as developed a structured approach to equity analysis.

We live in a complex world where challenges are intimately linked—and so must be the solutions. That's why we leverage expertise across FHI 360 to offer integrated solutions to address the most pressing education challenges.

#### **AREAS OF EXPERTISE**

Teacher professional development • Curriculum and materials development • Early childhood development • Early grade reading Education and employability Education equity • Education in conflict and crisis • Policy and information systems • Primary and post-primary education Research and evaluation • Systems strengthening • Youth development

#### **CROSS-CUTTING EXPERTISE**

Gender equity • Health and nutrition Inclusive education • Information and communications technology (ICT) • Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) • Social and behavior change communication



# The science of IMPROVING LIVES

About FHI 360: FHI 360 is a nonprofit human development organization dedicated to improving lives in lasting ways by advancing integrated, locally driven solutions. Our staff includes experts in health, education, nutrition, environment, economic development, civil society, gender, youth, research, technology, communication and social marketing — creating a unique mix of capabilities to address today's interrelated development challenges. FHI 360 serves more than 70 countries and all U.S. states and territories.

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