



RANA school, primary school classroom in NW Nigeria. Local literacy class

Photo: FHI 360

Literacy

FHI 360 recognizes that factors beyond school—including family, communities, gender norms, policy, and curricula—influence literacy outcomes. Our understanding of the complex factors that affect literacy is depicted in the Literacy 360° graphic. FHI 360 implements reading education models that account for factors within schools and beyond the classroom. We seek to maximize learning outcomes through evidence-based instruction. Our programs are built around the “6 Ts” and “5 Components” of reading instruction, delivered through explicit and systematic instruction, and supported by relevant materials, meaningful student practice, school leadership, and continuous assessment.

Fast Facts

In recent years, FHI 360 literacy programs have:

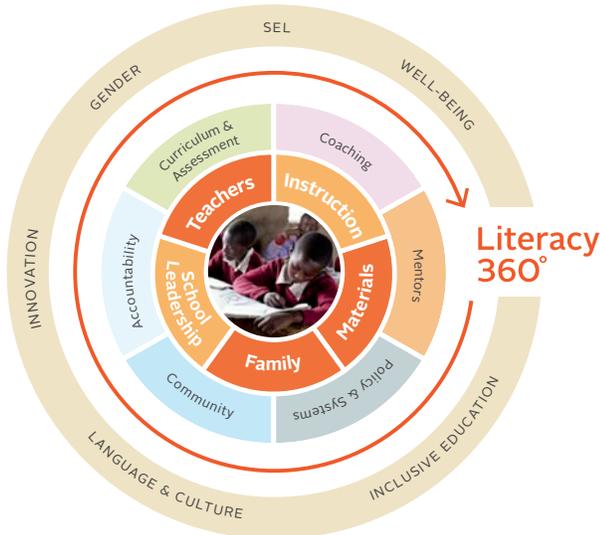
- Provided more than **42,000 teachers** with training and coaching support.
- Reached approximately **2.2 million students** with quality literacy instruction in formal and non-formal classroom settings.
- Worked in **19 different languages**, developing decodable texts, leveled texts, read-aloud books, teacher guides, pupil workbooks, and digital content.

As schools closed around the world due to Covid-19 lockdowns, FHI 360 continued delivering their literacy work through Interactive Radio Instruction for at-home learning and through virtual formats for trainings and capacity-building of education actors. See our distance learning factsheet for further detail.

Illustrative FHI 360 teaching and learning expertise

PRIORITIZING THE JOURNEY TO SELF RELIANCE

In **MADAGASCAR**, FHI 360 was contracted by the Ministry of National Education to assist them in developing an early grade reading and math program for Grades 1-3 including teaching and learning materials, teacher and pedagogical advisor trainings, a parent communication strategy, and evaluation tools. This program supported the Ministry to meet the objectives outlined in their Education Sector Plan. Through its collaboration, FHI 360 provided and continues to support ongoing capacity-building to over 80 Ministry technicians to guide the roll-out to all primary schools through two USDA-funded education programs.



IMPROVING LEARNING OUTCOMES

Over the past 5 years, FHI 360 has implemented literacy programs in over **14 countries**, including Ghana, Nigeria, Djibouti, Senegal, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Madagascar, Haiti, Malawi, Rwanda, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Kosovo, South Sudan, and Peru.

ENGAGING HOLISTICALLY WITH DIVERSE ACTORS

In **NORTHWEST NIGERIA**, FHI 360 is working to improve foundational learning outcomes in literacy and mathematics through the Partnership for Learning for All in Nigeria (PLANE). Funded by the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO), the 7-year programme works in partnership with diverse actors to provide teaching and learning materials, teacher professional development opportunities and community reading and numeracy activities. PLANE has worked closely with government stakeholders – including Ministry of Education officials – to validate materials and ensure alignment with the national curriculum; strengthen teacher professional development opportunities through close collaboration with federal and state leaders, such as the State Universal Basic Education Board and Technical Working Groups; and helps to strengthen community-led reading and numeracy activities through joint efforts with Mothers' Associations, district heads, and religious leaders.

EQUITY AND INCLUSION

In **GHANA**, FHI 360 implements the USAID Partnership for Education: Learning Activity's Transition to English program. Like in many countries, Ghana faces a large, measurable reading achievement gap between high and low performing students due in part to language status, economic marginalization and geographic isolation. To improve equity in reading outcomes, FHI 360 developed a remediation program that could be locally implemented. Classroom teachers used simple, formative assessments to identify students' needs; school leaders used planning tools to organize and track remediation and learning outcomes; and districts implemented overall accountability measures. FHI 360 worked with teachers to model and share best practices through videos and interactive virtual discussions.

STRENGTHENING SYSTEMS AND DEVELOPING INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

Through the USAID-funded **DJIBOUTI** Early Grade Reading Activity, FHI 360 is working with the Ministry of Education to improve the policy environment in support of reading. In collaboration with the Ministry, FHI 360 is developing an evaluation framework that reflects the Global Proficiency Framework descriptors for reading and aligns with Djibouti's national curriculum standards. These descriptors were used to inform the development and alignment of reading evaluations enabling the Ministry to report against the Sustainable Development Goals 4.1.1a and b. FHI 360 is also supporting the development of a coherent and consistent program of reading content for students as well as aligned instructional materials and in-service and pre-service training for teachers, national expectations for student reading performance, and options for assessment that align with international evidence-based research.

DATA ANALYSIS FOR PROGRAM ADAPTATION

FHI 360 developed teaching and learning materials and strengthened teachers' instructional practice in the USAID/DFID-funded ACCELERE! project in the **DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO**. FHI 360 worked with the Ministry of Education to review data on student learning and teacher fidelity of implementation, leading to data-driven adaptations for programmatic

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.



FHI 360's programs incorporate the **6 T's and the 5 Components** of literacy instruction into teacher training, teacher support mechanisms and reading materials.

6 T'S

Text
Teach
Task
Test
Time
Talk

5 COMPONENTS

Phonemic awareness
Phonics
Vocabulary
Fluency
Comprehension

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