

# EDUCATION FACT SHEET

## INVESTING IN EDUCATION FROM EARLY CHILDHOOD TO LIFELONG LEARNING

**Education is a human right, a powerful driver of development, and one of the strongest instruments for reducing poverty and improving health, gender equality, peace, and stability.** It delivers large, consistent returns in terms of income, and is a critical factor to ensure equity and inclusion.

**The World Bank is the largest external financier of education in the developing world.** Through financing and technical assistance, we support governments' efforts in education, benefitting children from birth to adulthood. We help countries share and apply innovative solutions to education challenges, focusing on systemic reforms across the education cycle.



### OUR VISION

To ensure that everyone can achieve their full potential with access to a quality education and lifelong learning, and equip them with the tools to participate in their country's development.



### OUR OBJECTIVE

We have set a goal to end **Learning Poverty**, defined as the share of children who are not able to read and understand a short story of age-appropriate material. We are committed to invest in human capital, improve the quality of and access to education, and thereby promote greater equity and economic growth. Foundational skills like literacy, numeracy, and socioemotional skills are the building blocks for all other learning. From early childhood to tertiary education and beyond – we help children and youth acquire the skills they need to thrive in school, the labor market and throughout their lives. Our efforts support the achievement of the UN's Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG4).



Since 2000, the World Bank has committed more than

**US\$77 BILLION<sup>1</sup>**

in supporting education projects,  
**COVERING 160 COUNTRIES**

The World Bank Education Global Practice currently provides implementation support to

**158 PROJECTS**

for a total commitment of  
**\$25.7 BILLION**

This includes:

**102** IDA credits/grants  
(\$16.01 BILLION)

**44** IBRD loans  
(\$9.29 BILLION)

**12** Recipient-Executed  
Trust Funds  
(\$0.43 BILLION)

In addition, the World Bank continues to be an administrative agency of Global Partnership for Education (GPE) grants. Since 2015, the World Bank has managed 63% of all GPE project implementation grants (\$5.55 billion).

<sup>1</sup> All dollars are in US\$.



## IMPACT OF WORLD BANK-SUPPORTED PROJECTS

**425 MILLION STUDENTS**

reached through our active programs.

**\$20.62 BILLION**

in total commitments to projects focusing on low- and middle- income countries (LMICs).

**\$6.80 BILLION**

in total commitments to active projects in fragility, conflict, and violence (FCV) settings.

**157 ADVISORY SERVICES**

to support institutional capacity and technical assistance in 101 countries since July 2017.

### World Bank Education Investments Around the World (US\$), as of April 2024.

