IDA IN FOCUS ON EDUCATION

March 13, 2024
7:30 – 8:30 am EST
Globally, countries have made tremendous progress in enrolling children into school, leading to a significant increase in the number of children and youth attending primary and secondary school worldwide.

- The net global primary school enrollment rate is 89%
- For secondary education, the net global enrollment is 66%

Despite this progress, we face a long-standing global learning crisis. Currently, 250 million children remain out of school, and among attending, many are not learning well, especially in low- and middle-income countries.

The World Bank remains committed to improving education outcomes globally, as the largest external financier of education programs in low- and middle-income countries.

The rate of Learning Poverty—a World Bank measure that calculates the share of children who cannot read and understand a simple text by age 10—is now estimated to have risen from 57 percent to 70 percent after the COVID-19 school closures.
Over the last two decades, through IDA (fund for the world’s 75 poorest countries), IBRD (financing for middle-income countries), and Trust Funds, we have committed more than:

US $76 billion

160 COUNTRIES AND 25 SUBNATIONAL STATES
OUR VISION

To ensure that everyone can achieve their full potential through quality education. We envision a world where all countries prepare their children and youth to succeed as citizens, and have the tools to participate in their country’s development.

The WBG Corporate Scorecard, which measures results for IDA and IBRD countries, highlights this commitment, with a particular focus on ending Learning Poverty, as one of the 15 outcome areas:

Outcome area 2: No Learning Poverty covers the WBG commitment to investing in human capital with the goal of improving the quality of and access to education, thereby promoting greater equity and economic growth.
OVERVIEW OF OUR GLOBAL PORTFOLIO

Total EDU Portfolio:
- 161 projects
- $25.87 billion
- 425 million students impacted

IDA
- 103 projects (of which 38 in fragile or conflict-affected settings)
- 59 countries
- $16.04 BILLION

Independent Evaluation Group (IEG) Ratings
- 97% of EDU projects in the last FY were rated as moderately satisfactory or above

We provide support across all levels of education
World Bank Education Financing by Level of Education, FY18-23

- Early Childhood Education: 11%
- Primary Education: 28%
- Secondary Education: 24%
- Tertiary Education: 15%
- Technical Education, Skills Development, and Adult Learning: 22%
The Education portfolio is evolving towards more results-based financing (RBFs) and innovative financing mechanisms.

➢ In our current active portfolio, we have 29 operations that are Program-for-Results (P4Rs) in 16 countries (including Nigeria and Bangladesh).

➢ We also have 51 projects that are performance-based, which is almost one-third of our total portfolio.
Our approach to realizing the promise of education for all

**LEARNERS ARE PREPARED AND MOTIVATED TO LEARN**
- Quality childcare
- Nutrition
- Early stimulation
- Early childhood education

**TEACHERS AT ALL LEVELS ARE EFFECTIVE AND VALUED**
- Meritocratic profession
- Effective human resource function of Ministry of Education
- Continuous school-based professional development

**CLASSROOMS ARE EQUIPPED FOR LEARNING**
- Simple, effective curriculum
- Books and supportive technology
- Coaching and structured pedagogy
- All students are taught at the right level

**SCHOOLS ARE SAFE AND INCLUSIVE SPACES**
- Eliminate all types of violence and discrimination in schools
- Students with disabilities have access to and can participate in learning
- Ensure universal access in built and virtual environments

**EDUCATION SYSTEMS ARE WELL MANAGED**
- Enhance implementation capacity, from schools to central ministries
- Career track for school leaders
- Clear mandates and accountability
- Learning is measured
- Merit-based professional bureaucracy
Until the 2019 school year, the DRC was one of the few countries where fees were still charged for public primary school.

IDA’s $800 million Emergency Equity and System Strengthening in Education project, running from 2020-2024, was integral in supporting the reform for primary school. Now, 3.7 million more children in the DRC have been able to go to school, increasing enrollment in public primary schools by 25 percent.

The project also supports strengthening the accountability of the salary payment system for teachers.
IDA’s $87 million Providing an Education of Quality in Haiti project supported approximately 380 schools in the Southern region of Haiti from 2016-2023.

Despite a highly challenging context of political instability and recurrent natural disasters, the project successfully supported access to education for students. The project provided textbooks, fresh meals, and teacher training support to 70,000 students, 3,000 teachers, and 300 school directors. It gave tuition waivers to 35,000 students in 118 non-public schools.

The project also repaired 19 national schools damaged by the 2021 earthquake, which gave 5,500 students safe access to their schools again.
The Djibouti Expanding Opportunities for Learning Project (PRODA), funded by the World Bank, GPE, and EAA, supports the government’s plan to establish a preschool system and expand access to education, focusing on the most vulnerable. Significant achievements of the project in expanding access to preschool include:

- Increasing the preschool workforce by 50%
- Constructing and renovating over 30 new classrooms, which enabled the enrollment of over 800 children.
- Doubling preschool enrollment since 2016. Despite this progress, the current rate of 13.6% highlights the potential for further expansion.
IDA’s $235 million School Sector Development Program (2017-2022) has significantly improved access to quality education:

- The number of children staying in school until Grade 12 nearly tripled.
- The number of out-of-school children fell by almost seven percent.

During the pandemic, leveraging the high mobile phone penetration in the country, the project supported the delivery of educational services through location radio stations. This service enabled children to continue their learning remotely by connecting to local radio stations using their mobile phones, even in areas with limited internet access or resources for online education.
IDA’s $40 million Cambodia Secondary Education Improvement project (2017-2022) focused on strengthening school-based management, upgrading teacher qualifications, and building classrooms in Cambodia to improve learning outcomes and reduce student dropout at the secondary school level.

- The project has directly benefited almost 70,000 students in 100 target schools, and approximately 2,000 teachers and 600 school administrators received training.

For example, Ngiem Sidara is a high school principal of a beneficiary school in Sihanouk province. Together with teachers from the school, he now makes home visits to students who miss school or have poor grades, helping them stay in school.
In 2019, ATC became one of the 16 competitively selected Regional Flagship TVET Institutes (RFTIs) in the $293 million East Africa Skills for Transformation and Regional Integration Project (EASTRIP).

EASTRIP is a five-year IDA-financed regional project being implemented in Ethiopia ($150 million), Kenya ($60 million), and Tanzania ($75 million), with an $8 million grant to the Inter-University Council for East Africa to support the project.
EDUCATION IS KEY TO ADDRESSING CLIMATE CHANGE

Education is critical for achieving effective, sustained climate action. At the same time, climate change is adversely impacting education outcomes. As the largest financier of education and the largest multilateral funder of climate action in the developing world, the World Bank seeks to harness the power of education for climate change mitigation and adaptation.

KEY EXAMPLE

NIGERIA: The IDA-financed Nigeria Adolescent Girls Initiative for Learning and Empowerment ($500M) is supporting school-based life skills training for girls, including climate change awareness and teaching adaptation approaches and skills.

The project also encourages social and behavioral change by supporting student-led community activities to increase climate change awareness.
The World Bank works closely with a wide range of global partners to leverage available expertise and resources. Recent examples of such global partnerships include:

- **Coalition for Foundational Learning.** GPE, UNICEF, UNESCO, FCDO, USAID, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. This Coalition focuses on improving foundational learning outcomes in low- and middle-income countries.

- **Learning Data Compact.** UNESCO, UNICEF, FCDO. This initiative aims to enhance the quality and availability of education data.

- **Edtech Hub.** FCDO and Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. The Edtech Hub explores and promotes the effective use of technology in education to improve learning outcomes.

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**Bringing together global funding to maximize results:**

- **EARLY LEARNING PARTNERSHIP**
  Launched in 2015, the Early Learning Partnership is a multi-donor trust fund, housed at the World Bank, designed to dramatically increase and improve evidence-based investments to support young children's development around the world. Key partners: Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Echidna Giving, German Cooperation, GPE, FCDO, Hewlett Foundation, Hilton Foundation, Lego Foundation, UNESCO, UNICEF, USAID, WHO, etc.
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 the most important factor to ensure equity and inclusion.
THANK YOU!