



USAID | GHANA
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BASIC EDUCATION

USAID's Education Program increases the number of Ghanaian children who are able to read with fluency and comprehension in the early grades of primary school.

OVERVIEW

According to the 2015 Early Grade Reading Assessment, only two percent of grade 2 students in Ghana are able to read at grade level. To address this challenge, USAID supports teacher training, rigorous student assessment, and the provision of quality textbooks and learning materials. USAID assists the Government of Ghana to strengthen the delivery of education services directly related to improving reading achievement.

STRENGTHENED INSTRUCTION, MATERIALS, AND SUPERVISION

USAID supports the Ministry of Education to deliver a systematic, nationwide, phonics-based approach to reading in 7,273 schools in 100 districts, benefiting 892,934 children in kindergarten, first, and second grades.

Notable interventions:

- Testing proof of concept of the phonics-based approach in Yendi Municipal District.
- Testing the scalability of the approach across the entire country in 100 districts and 7,273 schools.
- Developing instructional materials for all 11 official national languages of instruction.
- Distributing 162,000 teacher guides and 1.6 million books to all 7,273 public schools in the project.
- Training 38,000 teachers, head teachers, and education supervisors.
- Supporting education administrators to improve coaching and supervision of teachers.

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BUILDING CAPACITY IN MONITORING, EVALUATION, AND RESEARCH

USAID is working to enhance the Government of Ghana's capacity to measure learning outcomes and use data to improve school management. As a result, Ghanaian education officials are able to assess reading and math achievement, and use data and evidence to inform policy and management decisions. Noteworthy interventions include:

- Ongoing impact evaluations in early grade reading and math.
- Supporting the 2016 and 2018 National Education Assessment measuring English and Math proficiency in primary grades 4 and 6.
- Collaborating with the Government to conduct a Teacher Rationalization Study to assess the deployment and management of teaching personnel.
- Tracking instructional quality to improve teacher performance.
- Upgrading the Ministry of Education's education management information system.

INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

Partnering with other donors, USAID supports the Ministry of Education to build the reading and math skills of out-of-school children with the goal of integrating them back into the formal school system; and to formulate policy for special needs children to improve their academic success.

2018 achievements include:

- Over 400,000 primary school children including children with special needs benefited from improved assessment services and instruction; and 40,000 out-of-school children accelerated their math and reading skills.
- National Inclusive Education Policy approved.
- 10 Regional Assessment Centers equipped.
- Ghanaian Sign Language Dictionary approved.
- 2,367 teachers received Inclusive Education training.

PARTNERSHIPS FOR IMPACT

USAID promotes aid effectiveness and coordination with education sector partners and government counterparts.

●USAID partnered with UNICEF with a focus on improving inclusive education for special needs children, and improving education quality and learning achievement in pre-primary and primary schools. With USAID's support, the Ministry of Education developed an Inclusive Education Policy.

●USAID partnered with the United Kingdom's Department for International Development to provide accelerated reading and math courses for 250,000 out-of-school children mainstreaming 90% of them back into formal schooling.

