

GLOBAL EDUCATION FIRST INITIATIVE

The United Nations Secretary-General's initiative:



Put every child in school



Improve the quality of learning



Foster global citizenship



250 MILLION CHILDREN CANNOT READ, WRITE OR COUNT WELL,

even those with at least four years in school. Children have a fundamental right to free primary schooling of good quality. Parents want their children in school, and children yearn for the opportunity to fulfill their dreams. Educated nations are more likely to enjoy vibrant economies, better health, political stability and a respect for human rights.

“When we put education first, we can reduce poverty and hunger, end wasted potential—and look forward to stronger and better societies for all.” —Ban Ki-moon #EducationFirst

PUT EVERY CHILD IN SCHOOL

58 million primary-aged children are out of school.



49% will never enter school,
----- *and* -----

25% will leave early before finishing primary school.

Most are shut out because of poverty, but others lack a classroom or go to school hungry.

“When you ask parents what they want for their children—even in war zones and disaster areas—they seek the same thing: education. Parents want their children in school.” —Ban Ki-moon #EducationFirst

WE MUST:



Eliminate cost barriers to attending and completing school.



Identify and help children who need nutritional, health and social support.



Close the gender gap at all education levels.



Build
4 MILLION
more classrooms,
especially in rural and
conflict-affected areas.



DOUBLE or more
education's percentage of
humanitarian aid.



IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LEARNING

Millions of children finish school without basic literacy and numeracy skills.

250 MILLION

children cannot read, write or count well, even those with at least four years in school.

WE NEED:



2 MILLION

more well-trained teachers with effective student performance measures.



A better match between schooling and needed workforce skills, and more adult learning.



Improved traditional and digital learning materials in students' home language.



A **45%** increase in early-childhood education programs to prepare children for primary school.

“Education lifts people out of poverty. If all students in low-income countries acquire basic reading skills, 171 million people could be lifted out of poverty, equivalent to a 12 percent cut in world poverty.” — Ban Ki-moon #EducationFirst



FOSTER GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP

The world faces global challenges that require global solutions. Education must cultivate an active care for the world and for those with whom we share it.



IT IS IMPORTANT TO:



Promote peace, tolerance and respect for diversity across cultures through education.



Cultivate a sense of community, active participation and environmental stewardship.



Train teachers to use innovative, participatory and non-formal teaching and learning methods.

“Education gives us a profound understanding that we are tied together as citizens of the global community, and that our challenges are interconnected.” —Ban Ki-moon #EducationFirst

CLOSE THE FINANCIAL GAP

Investments in education are inadequate to maintain the gains made in the past decade or meet the ambitious goals of Education First.

WE MUST:



Generate additional and sufficient funding for education through sustained global advocacy efforts.



Increase global investment in poor countries' school systems by **\$24 BILLION PER YEAR.**



Invest at least 5 to 6 % of countries' national GDP in education.

“Education is the single best investment countries can make towards building prosperous, healthy and equitable societies.”

—Ban Ki-moon #EducationFirst



Ensure effective and accountable use of resources aligned with national education plans.

