

WORLD EDUCATION IN

MALI



World Education has been providing opportunities for Malian children to reach their full potential since 1991.

We work closely with community-based organizations and stakeholders to deliver results that improve people's lives while building the capacity of our partners to promote sustainable local solutions.

With a focus on children's learning—in particular those who have never attended or have limited access to schools (especially girls and children with special needs), or have dropped out of school—we strive to improve access to and quality of education across Mali.

TODAY, ENGAGING PARENTS AND COMMUNITIES, CONFLICT MITIGATION, GENDER EQUITY, AND INCLUSION ARE CORE TENETS OF OUR WORK.



WORLD EDUCATION

World Education has helped
more than

23,700
STUDENTS

from villages surrounding
the Loulo gold mines
improved their literacy and
numeracy since 2013.



“Over the years we have had a fruitful partnership with World Education that goes beyond the programs that we have implemented together.

The community participatory diagnostic tool that we learned from World Education was so helpful that we integrated it into our approach in programming with other partners. That tool—and many others from World Education—have been very beneficial to us.”

—AIDE A L'ENFANT DU DÉSERT ET DU SAHEL

ENGAGING COMMUNITIES TO STRENGTHEN EDUCATION

World Education has a long history of working closely and in true partnership with communities across Mali. This deep engagement enables us to build trust, advocate for appropriate change, and develop innovative strategies to meet people's needs. We understand that respect and ongoing relationships in communities is the only way to build trust and achieve lasting results.

We have increased student retention in schools, trained teachers, and strengthened the capacity of school managers, community groups, and local education officials.

Building women's agency through mother's associations, we have not only increased women's literacy but given mothers the tools and confidence to advocate for their children's education. These associations have played an intricate role in creating savings and loan groups that have enabled women in the most rural areas to fund community projects that benefit all.

Our on-the-ground community-centered approach has been sought by the private sector, including mining companies that have partnered with us to improve student retention and the quality of education in mine communities.

During ongoing conflict in Mali, we also worked to engage communities in peace-building activities. By building trust, we are able to strengthen and create programs that not only work to mitigate conflict, but ensure that services, including education, are provided, despite conflicts.



COMMUNITY



PARTNERSHIP

688

**TRAINED COMMUNITY-BASED
VOLUNTEER TEACHERS**

will reach

45,161

out-of-school children by 2023.



TEACHER TRAINING

Improving the skills of teachers is a critical component to strengthening school systems and ensuring that children learn—and remain—in school. We build teacher's skills to create better learning outcomes for students. In the early 2000s, we initiated Communities of Learning to facilitate community school teachers to provide peer support to each other. This strategy was so well-received that it was adopted by the Ministry of Education and is now widely used across Mali. We provide teachers with in-service training in the management of single

classrooms with emphasis on active learning, thematic instruction and strategies for independent and group work.

In Mali, we have strengthened teachers' approaches to early-grade reading and basic literacy programs, and also provided mentoring and coaching for teachers. We provide instructional materials to mobile schools through a complete single classroom "trunk" with textbooks and supplementary texts, and other instructional materials.

Recognizing that teaching can be difficult, we have also developed programs that improve teacher motivation, and have established certificate and awards programs that reinforce good teaching practices and keep teachers motivated. Where appropriate, we provide teachers with special training on working with and living in nomadic communities and train them to integrate local wisdom and culture into their teaching approaches.



EDUCATION IN CONFLICT

Basic services are often the first casualty in a conflict zone—whether education, health, or water and sanitation. Until recently, schools and other social service infrastructures in many parts of Northern Mali have been destroyed. Consequently, teachers, school administrators, and children were not coming to school. World Education has worked to reverse the negative effects on affected children

through accelerated learning classes and other strategies.

We have not only helped to set up temporary structures that serve as schools for out-of-school children, but has also developed an innovative mobile education program to meet the needs of nomadic children in the region.

Through mobile schools, teachers are engaged and we provide

equipment and supplies, including shelter and tents, adapted to be portable. Children are given backpacks outfitted with school supplies and the teachers, portable tables and chairs. Other learning materials all move with the communities, thus ensuring that wherever they are, the children are actively engaged in the classroom.

Since 2016, World Education
has built the capacity of

167

**MOTHERS' ASSOCIATIONS
ACROSS MALI**

resulting in higher
retention rates
for children,
especially girls.



MOTHERS' ASSOCIATIONS

Mothers' associations have proven to be an extremely effective approach to strengthening school systems across Mali.

Mothers' associations work closely with school management committees (traditionally run by men), to report and reduce teacher absenteeism, and encourage parents to send their children—in particular, girls—to school.

First introduced in Mali by World Education in the early 2000s, since 2016, World Education has built the capacity of 167 mothers' associations that has resulted in higher retention rates for children, especially girls, and provided financial support for local schools.

We have introduced the mothers' association concept successfully across West Africa. More than 850 mothers' groups in Mali and across West Africa are today ensuring quality and equity in education, even after our support ends.

***"I am excited and proud
to be a member of our
Mothers' Association
because it contributes to the
development of the school
by supporting the school
management committee."***

— MEMBER OF THE MOTHERS'
ASSOCIATION IN THE
SÉGUÉLANI VILLAGE

PARTNERING TO ACHIEVE RESULTS

To ensure our beneficiary communities needs are being served, World Education partners with local NGOs to strengthen our approach and further guarantee successful implementation. In Mali, we partner with local organizations that have proven effective and demonstrate strong internal management and systems.



WORLD EDUCATION

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