



What is Required to Achieve Education for All?

Currently, 72 million children worldwide are not in school, marking an improvement over the 105 million children who were not in class in 1999.

The Funding Gap

- UNESCO estimates that \$16 billion per year in additional international assistance is required to reach Education for All (EFA) by 2015.
- Economic growth in developing countries is highly unlikely to compensate for this gap in funding. The global financial crisis is forcing many countries to reduce funding for education. UNESCO estimates that by 2013, sub-Saharan Africa may lose a total of \$30 billion in funding for education.
- On average in 2006, developed countries spent over \$5,000 per student per year while countries in sub-Saharan Africa spent less than \$300 per student each year.
- While individual countries bear the brunt of education financing, foreign assistance is an important catalyst to encouraging change and bolstering commitment to improvements in education quality.
- The U.S. government typically carries the responsibility for about one-quarter of major international initiatives. In fiscal year 2010, the United States contributed \$925 million to basic education programs in the developing world. A proportionate U.S. share of the EFA effort would be around \$4 billion per year.

EFA Is More than Enrolling All Children in School

- Investments in infrastructure, teacher training, curriculum development, classroom materials and overall quality are part of the solution. A recent study found that over half the 6th grade students in Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Uganda, Tanzania and Zambia attend classrooms that do not have a single book.
- Ensuring that school fees are not a barrier to entry is another.
- EFA requires sustained government and donor support as well as community involvement, and it entails not just getting children into school but also ensuring that they complete a quality education.

Issues that Adversely Affect Achievement of EFA

Developing nations do not have the capacity to provide quality basic education for all children.

- Over 10 million additional teachers must be recruited and trained worldwide in order to meet the EFA goals by 2015. Two-thirds of these teachers are needed in sub-Saharan Africa.
- HIV/AIDS has exacerbated the limitations of school systems. The epidemic has cut a swath through the teacher corps, depriving education systems of manpower and knowledge, and driving up costs. This is particularly true in southern Africa. In Kenya, where 14,500 teachers are estimated to be HIV positive, between 4 and 6 teachers die each day due to AIDS. In Mozambique, HIV/AIDS kills 1,000 teachers a year: it is estimated that 19,200 teachers and 100 education officials have died during the decade.
- Conflict and fragility threaten the education of millions of children around the world. Today, 39 million out-of-school children live in areas affected by conflict. By the end of 2008, 15 million children between the ages of 5 and 17 had been displaced from their homes, either within their own countries or across national borders.