

EDUCATION

Introduction

Improvement like increased enrolment in basic schools and increased basic education completion levels are noticeable. Despite this, learning environment indicators remain very low as evidenced by the classroom to pupil ratio (1/74), pupil to textbook ratio (5/1), pupil to desk ratio (4/1) and teacher to pupil ratio (1/46). As a result, quality of basic education remains poor. (Burundi Education Technical Approach 2016- 2020). Besides, the government of Burundi has not prioritized Early Childhood Development (ECD) while it is commonly believed that the quality of the foundation of an infrastructure determines its strength or weakness.

Project Models

- ◆ Learning Roots (LR) to contribute to “improved access to quality pre-school and primary education for children”
- ◆ Unlock Literacy (UL) to contribute to “improved reading and numeracy skills of primary school aged children”
- ◆ Child Protection and Advocacy (CPA)
- ◆ WASH

Achievements FY 17&18

- ◆ 1186 teachers trained on teaching methodologies
- ◆ 6, 502 teachers were trained on new teaching methodologies in the 4th layer of basic education (Grades 7,8 & 9)
- ◆ 3002 headmasters were trained on educational leadership , out of 3000 targeted (100.06% achievement).
- ◆ 266 Trainers of trainers
- ◆ 958 trained teachers utilizing skills acquired to teach reading:
- ◆ 52,102 children have benefited from UL teaching methodologies in class
- ◆ 614 reading camps (or clubs) established
- ◆ 15,906 locally relevant reading materials developed and distributed
- ◆ 203 ECD centers established or rehabilitated:
- ◆ 11147 children aged 3 – 6 years (including the most vulnerable) that are currently attending ECD center
- ◆ 36 classrooms constructed
- ◆ 16 bloc of latrines constructed

Impact : The proportion of children of grade 2 and grade 3 able to read with comprehension increased from 26.4% to 38% (2012-2014) (Evaluation of the Literacy Boost pilot project 2014) in Cankuzo province.

Key challenges

- ◆ Limited funding opportunity to help contribute to solving the many challenges in the Education sector
- ◆ High school dropout rate : 10%
- ◆ Very few vocational schools and mostly located in urban areas
- ◆ Quality of basic education remains poor

Budget FY17&18

1,342,433 USD in FY18

UNICEF-funded grant (PACEF): 1,773,432.90 USD
(984,718.90 USD in 2017 & 788,714 USD in 2018)

Key Priorities

- (1) **Unlock Literacy** project model to:
 - ⇒ Train teachers on participatory teaching methodologies
 - ⇒ Boost 1-3 graders’ reading skills in the local language through fun reading activities in community reading camps
 - ⇒ Capacitate parents to support their children’s learning process through daily routine activities at home
- (2) **Learning Roots** project model to:
 - ⇒ Build the capacity of ECD teachers, jointly with the ECD department in the MoE
 - ⇒ Establish ECD centers in the community, jointly with other stakeholders
 - ⇒ Equip established ECD centers