



Education 2013

Improved access to quality education

Education plays a fundamental role in human, social and economic development. Sweden has a specific objective to improve access to quality education with a focus on girls' education, improved literacy and numeracy, strengthened national public education systems and inclusive education. Sida's total support to education amounted to SEK 687 million in 2013¹.



MAIN AREAS OF SUPPORT

Sida's support to education derives from a holistic approach to education systems, including the importance of good quality pre-service teacher training and further in service-training, and promotes access to good quality learning at all levels of education and throughout people's lives. The focus lies on:

- strengthening capacity for *quality education*, and on
- promoting *equal rights* to education and learning.

Education is a human right and Sida supports a sharper attention to children's absolute right to education and actions to safeguard this critical human right. This includes enhanced efforts to make schools safe havens for children; ensuring that girls can remain in school throughout their pregnancy and return after giving birth; as well as other efforts to ensure equal rights for all girls and boys in school.

Investments in good quality education, especially in the education of girls, are of fundamental importance for

poverty reduction and long-term sustainable development. Education is also a key to building a democratic society and promoting equity and gender equality.

Sweden promotes country-level processes and strongly advocates for an emphasis on national ownership and support to local education groups and other stakeholders engaged in the education sector. This is done in a number of countries, for example Afghanistan, Cambodia, Tanzania, Bolivia, Bangladesh and Kosovo.

To complement the bilateral support, Sida is supporting education at the global level through multilateral initiatives, such as The Global Partnership for Education (GPE) and UNESCO institutes, including the Education for All Global Monitoring Report.

Sida has during 2013 started to increase the support to learning for working life through skills development and vocational training, as well as support to higher education, with a particular focus on girls, women and marginalized groups.

1) General budget support and education related to specific sectors, e.g. Trade, Energy, Water and Sanitation, Health, Democracy and Human Rights, not included.



THE 8 LARGEST COUNTRIES OF COOPERATION



Note: Through the Global Partnership for Education (GPE), Sweden supports education in close to 60 developing countries.

RESULTS

DEVELOPMENT IN THE WORLD

More children are in school around the world than ever before. Progress has been made even in the poorest and conflict-affected countries to improve enrollment as well as learning results. 28 developing countries are close to or have achieved gender parity or have more girls completing primary school than boys. Yet, an estimated 250 million children are still unable to read and write by the time they reach the fourth grade. A combined 57 million children are still not enrolled in school. In many low income countries there is currently a lack of relevant vocational training to match the demand in the labor market and access to such education is not equitable. The number of illiterate adults remains high at 774 million, two-thirds being women.

SWEDISH SUPPORT

During 2013 and in the last decade, Tanzania has been successful in enrolling pupils in both primary and secondary education. The Swedish support to the government has been complemented by support to civil society organizations working with advocacy to improve the quality of education in Tanzania Mainland and Zanzibar.

In Cambodia in 2013, enrolment rates have increased from 86 percent to 90 percent in provinces receiving support from Sweden, including ethnically mixed provinces.

The Swedish support to Afghanistan has mainly contributed to increase access to primary education. The number of children in school, including girls, has increased significantly. Also, 31 000 women aged 15–45 years received literacy training.

In Cambodia and Afghanistan large Swedish investments in educational programmes were decided during 2013 within basic education, literacy and quality assurance.

92 percent of all students in grade 5 passed the national exams in Bangladesh and the primary education completion rate has increased with approximately 10 percent.

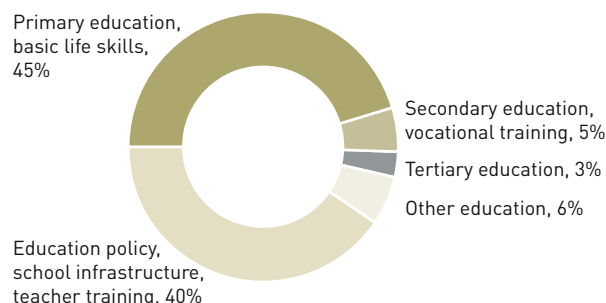
The number of teachers with formal teacher training in Bolivia has increased in 2013; including basic training in the new curriculum, and more young women and men completed their vocational training.

A joint donor fund has been established in Kosovo to implement a sector wide approach in education and support capacity building within the Ministry of Education.

STORY OF CHANGE

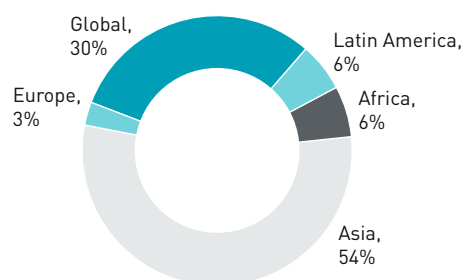
Sweden supports classroom construction and capacity building for teachers and government officials in Zanzibar. Many girls and boys benefit from the newly constructed and furnished classrooms.

SIDA'S DISBURSEMENT TO EDUCATION PER SUBSECTOR FOR 2013



Sweden has taken on the role as Supervising Entity for the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) support to Tanzania Mainland and Zanzibar, and will oversee implementation of the \$ 100 million programme over three years. The aim of the programs in Tanzania is to improve quality in schools through teacher training, digital innovative solutions, early grade reading and targeted interventions for vulnerable groups.

SIDA'S DISBURSEMENT TO EDUCATION PER REGION FOR 2013



– I thought it was impossible for me to come to school because I cannot see. However, my aunt took me to school and now I am able to read and write.

Khalid Ally, 11 years, Zanzibar

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