

Support Funding for International Basic Education

FY2020: International Basic Education Funding

Please join Representative Quigley (D-IL) and Representative Fitzpatrick (R-PA) in the call for robust funding for international basic education in Fiscal Year 2020.

The closing date for this letter is March 18, 2019

Dear Colleague:

We invite you to sign a letter urging the House Appropriations Subcommittee on State and Foreign Operations to provide robust funding for Basic Education programs, including strong funding for bilateral education programs and funding for the Global Partnership for Education and Education Cannot Wait in the FY2020 SFOPS Appropriations bill.

We've made remarkable progress toward the goal of education for all. Since 2000, the total number of out-of-school children and youth has dropped by over 111 million and global primary school enrollment has grown to 91 percent. However, we have more work to do. 262 million children and youth are out of school globally and nearly 40 percent of primary school age children are not acquiring basic literacy and numeracy skills. In conflicts and crises, these numbers are even higher. Nearly one in four children living in areas affected by conflict are missing out on their education. Far too often, hardships such as poverty, displacement, disability, and discrimination inhibit children's ability to access a quality education.

U.S. bilateral basic education programs focus on increasing equitable access to education, providing early learners with foundational skills, and preparing youth for successful careers. With the strong funding, USAID reached over 109 million learners in more than 50 countries from 2011-2017, including 22.6 million children living in conflict or crisis settings. Advancing inclusive quality education through U.S. bilateral programming is critical to achieve sustainable economic growth, poverty alleviation, social stability, and participatory democracy.

Please join us in urging the House Appropriations Committee to continue funding for international basic education. To sign onto the letter, please contact Hannah Mansbach in Mike Quigley's office at Hannah.Mansbach@mail.house.gov or Joseph Knowles in Brian Fitzpatrick's office at Joseph.Knowles@mail.house.gov.

Sincerely,

Mike Quigley

Member of Congress

Brian Fitzpatrick

Member of Congress

Dear Chair Lowey and Ranking Member Rogers:

Thank you for your steadfast commitment to fighting extreme poverty and supporting education for children in need around the world. We are writing to urge you to fully support the Basic Education account in the fiscal year 2020 State and Foreign Operations Appropriations bill by funding Basic Education programs, including bilateral education programs and funding for Global Partnership for Education and Education Cannot Wait.

We've made remarkable progress toward the goal of education for all. Since 2000, the total number of out-of-school children and youth has dropped by over 111 million and global primary school enrollment has grown to 91 percent. However, we have more work to do. 262 million children and youth are out of school globally and nearly 40 percent of primary school age children are not acquiring basic literacy and numeracy skills. In conflicts and crises, these numbers are even higher. Nearly one in four children living in areas affected by conflict are missing out on their education. Far too often, hardships such as poverty, displacement, disability, and discrimination inhibit children's ability to access a quality education.

U.S. bilateral basic education programs focus on increasing equitable access to education, providing early learners with foundational skills, and preparing youth for successful careers. With the support of your Subcommittee, USAID reached over 109 million learners in more than 50 countries from 2011-2017, including 22.6 million children living in conflict or crisis settings. Advancing inclusive quality education through U.S. bilateral programming is critical to achieve sustainable economic growth, poverty alleviation, social stability, and participatory democracy.

U.S. support for international organizations, including the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) and Education Cannot Wait (ECW), complements our bilateral programs and leverages additional resources for this important work. U.S. investment in GPE has contributed to the enrollment of 64 million more children in primary school and a 10 percent increase in primary school completion rates. Additional funding for GPE will enable over 80 countries to provide 25 million more children access to quality education. U.S. investment in ECW has helped provide 765,000 children and youth in 19 crisis-affected countries with a quality education. Continued support for ECW will ensure that resources are available to provide 8.9 million children and youth in conflict and crisis settings with access to education by 2021.

We value the impact made by global basic education programs and urge the Subcommittee to fully fund the Basic Education account in the Fiscal Year 2020 State and Foreign Operations Appropriations bill. We greatly appreciate your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,
