

The need for

Quality Education in Developing Countries

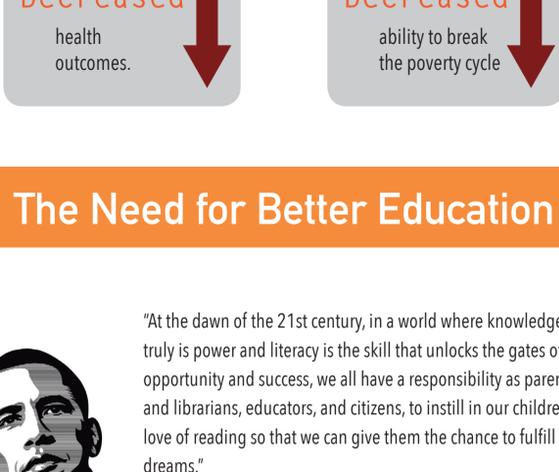
Biola University

THE GLOBAL SOCIAL INNOVATION RESEARCH CENTER



Globally **740 million** individuals and **120 million** primary school children suffer from illiteracy.

Effects of Illiteracy:



The Need for Better Education



"At the dawn of the 21st century, in a world where knowledge truly is power and literacy is the skill that unlocks the gates of opportunity and success, we all have a responsibility as parents, and librarians, educators, and citizens, to instill in our children a love of reading so that we can give them the chance to fulfill their dreams."

A quality primary school education:



Global Illiteracy Rates



Youth literacy rates in Sub-Saharan Africa are the lowest of any region

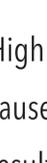
A Closer Look: Kenya



Historical Context

1846 - earliest schools were built by missionaries during the Colonial Period

Girls rarely graduate secondary school, due to low social standing and the inability to care for their monthly cycle



Political Context

2003 - government begins providing tuition-free education at government schools.

Despite constantly changing promises, the government seems to fall short of expectations again and again, often citing economic concerns.

28%

Literacy disparity between ultra-poor and non-poor

81.6%

primary school enrollment rate

vs.

31.9%

secondary school enrollment rate

Economic Context

The high cost of education often prevents enrollment and financial difficulty in the home often means children drop out of school to help with family expenses

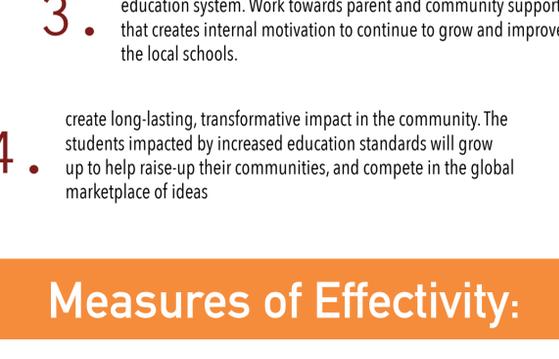
Costs include: tuition, uniforms, supplies, and occasionally boarding if schools are far from the village

\$480 average annual tuition per student (50% of GDP-per-capita)

Current Situation:

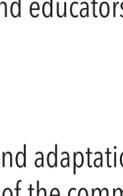
High illiteracy and low school enrollment rates, caused by historical, political and economic factors results in communities that struggle to break the cycle of poverty.

Visualize the Process:



Current Solutions:

Government



many unfulfilled promises cause people to turn elsewhere for answers to education problems

Tuition-free education is hard for poor and slum-dwellers to access

NGOs

Teach For All

Strength: building many schools and providing training to teachers

Weakness: One-size-fits-all solution that focuses on quantity over quality

BILL & MELINDA GATES foundation

Strength: has provided educators to thousands around the world by sending recent American graduates to teach in village schools

Weakness: often cited as a "Band-Aid" rather than sustainable solution

Strength: has provided resources to schools throughout the world - primarily technology and books

Weakness: fails to address teacher empowerment

Road to Sustainable Change:

Where we are:

42 : 1 student:teacher ratio. In certain areas this can even be as high as 85:1, resulting in limited student-teacher interaction.

60% of students attend low-fee private schools which are not regulated or subject to any specific curriculum requirements

Where we could be:

Increased enrollment rates
Lower student:teacher ratios with the training of more teachers

increased perceived value of education, leading to improved drivers to continue to improve the education system.

communities that feel empowered and strong

Paving the Way:

- create mentorship relationships for under-resourced teachers. Create a network of American teachers that are willing to mentor these teachers and provide them with valuable training in the context of relationship

- provide teachers with the materials and curriculum they need to successfully follow through with their training and increased knowledge. Create standards that teachers can use to measure student success.

- work in communities to gain holistic adoption of the new education system. Work towards parent and community support that creates internal motivation to continue to grow and improve the local schools.

- create long-lasting, transformative impact in the community. The students impacted by increased education standards will grow up to help raise-up their communities, and compete in the global marketplace of ideas

Measures of Effectivity:

Schools

Identify local schools and communities that need support

Tools

Provide local schools and educators with training and resources.

Adapt

Continuous feedback and adaptation to adjust to the changing needs of the community

Results

Empowered communities and lasting change

We believe that the best way to combat illiteracy in developing countries is by providing sustainable empowerment to local schools and communities. An NGO can do this by first, identifying local schools and communities that need support. Once, the need is understood an NGO can then work alongside the local community and local educators to build schools and curriculum. Instead of simply sending recent college graduates from first world countries to teach kids in developing countries, which is what nearly every non profit in the global education space does today, we need NGO's that can send highly trained teachers who have experience creating curriculum and teaching kids to partner alongside local educators and train up new potential educators within the community. A highly trained teacher with curriculum building experience will have the ability to provide curriculum tailored to meet the unique needs and challenges that the local community faces. By working alongside local educators and empowering community members to become educators, we can create a sustainable empowerment model that will provide a quality education and pave the way for students to become future leaders and change agents in their community.

