



Programme Overview- Education

Key figures:

Gross enrolment rate in primary school: 42.7% in 2000 to 81.3% in 2013 (81.6% boys and 81.0% girls)

Completion rate: 59.5% (59.7 percent for girls)

Adult literacy rate: 22.5% for women in 2012; 36.7% for men in 2012. 2011-2021: the number of pupils in primary schools will increase from 2,344,031 in 2013 to 4,179,681 in 2021 (+ 78%).

Source: Ministry of National Education and Literacy (MENA), 2013



Context:

The education sector has achieved significant results over the past decade, as evidenced by the increase in the gross enrolment rate.

However, challenges remain and the strong demand for education has not yet been adequately addressed. A large proportion of children who enrol in primary school do not complete their studies, as indicated by the completion rate of 59.5% (59.7% for girls) in 2013. Those who do complete their primary education are facing another challenge—that of access to secondary education. In turn, those who enter secondary school have limited chances of reaching higher education because of the fact that the education system is costly, and favours the wealthier families living in urban areas.

Although it continues to improve, there is still a disparity between boys and girls' attendance, especially at post-primary level. It is therefore not surprising that the adult literacy rate is much lower amongst women. In addition, it is estimated that 75% of children with disabilities have never been to school.

Geographical disparities are also a problem. For example, the net enrollment rate in cities can reach 75% whilst in rural areas, this is only 37%.

UNICEF's response:

Our education programme aims to contribute to the achievement of the country's national goals in education through: increasing access to quality basic education and improving school performance; reducing gender and geographical disparities and influence behaviour change for better sanitation and hygiene practices.

At policy level, UNICEF has been focusing on:

- ◆ the adoption of child-friendly schools as a model of education;

Funding:

The education programme secured 6,219,556\$ of the targeted 6,845,772\$ in 2014.

UNICEF's response (cont):

- ◆ the promotion of equity thanks to the development and validation of the national strategy for the promotion of girls' education (2012);
- ◆ the integration of education in all emergency responses through the national education strategy (2013);
- ◆ the recognition of the role of parents in the well-being of their children, which led to the revision in 2013 of the national program of early childhood development to incorporate parental education.

Highlights in 2014:

- ◆ the recognition of **child-friendly school as a model** for education. There are 430 child-friendly schools, with 115,000 students (47% girls), supported by UNICEF;
- ◆ **promotion of equity** through better integration of disadvantaged groups such as children with a disability;
- ◆ **promotion of girls' education** at post-primary level: 11,000 girls have access to school (2013-2014) thanks to income-generating activities, provision of school supplies, participation in tutoring programmes and school clubs thanks to UNICEF's support;
- ◆ over 25,000 children could attend **quality pre-school education** ('Bisongos');
- ◆ 10,900 Malian **refugee children have access to education.**



Donors and Partners:

Key donors: the Governments of France and Sweden, UNICEF Japan.

Partners: the Ministry of Education and Literacy, the Ministry of Social Affairs, Plan International, the Red Cross, the Foundation for Community Development.