

# Accelerated Learning



Globally, millions of young people are excluded from formal education due to poverty, displacement, conflict, climate shocks, disability, or restrictive age or gender norms.

EDC's Ready Right Now Accelerated Learning (RRN-AL) programs support these out-of-school learners, including in fragile, conflict-affected, and developing education systems.<sup>1</sup>

Our RRN-AL programs are grounded in the principles of the interagency Accelerated Education Working Group and use evidence-based strategies that enhance quality, relevance, inclusion, and learning outcomes. We build on learners' strengths, promote safe and inclusive learning environments, and work with partners to create pathways to lifelong learning and well-being.

## Contextually Responsive Programs

- EDC's asset-based approach values youth voice and local knowledge. We ensure that learning is responsive to the needs, strengths, and aspirations of those it serves.
- We partner with local nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), disabled persons' organizations, and youth-serving institutions to reflect community priorities and build on existing capacities.
- Rapid Education Risk Analyses, Safe Learning Environment Assessments, and gender analyses inform curricula and environments that support youth mental health and protection.

## PARTNERSHIPS FOR SYSTEM STRENGTHENING

- With Ministries of Education and local partners, we define learner eligibility criteria, assessment, and placement procedures; program content and duration; and transition pathways into formal education or livelihoods.
- We support governments to monitor learner progress, evaluate outcomes, and maintain strong linkages between accelerated learning and the formal education system.
- We co-develop tools, strengthen system capacity, and support sustainable locally led development.

<sup>1</sup>Such as Afghanistan, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Liberia, Mali, Philippines, Rwanda, South Sudan, and Timor Leste

## Locally Relevant Curriculum

- Our learner-centered curricula build on lived experience and reflect national priorities, such as peacebuilding, climate resilience, gender equality, and civic responsibility.
  - Curricula are condensed and sequenced to align with national curricula, standards, and policies.
  - Universal Design for Learning (UDL) strategies ensure that all learners can succeed.
  - RRN-AL literacy addresses oral language development, explicit instruction in essential reading skills, purposeful reading, and authentic writing.
  - RRN-AL mathematics promotes real-world problem-solving, addressing number sense, measurement, geometry, spatial thinking, algebraic thinking, data analysis, and interpretation.
  - Hands-on activities strengthen critical-thinking and leadership skills, promote collaboration, and help youth reconnect meaningfully with learning.
- Facilitators create nurturing, healing-centered classrooms grounded in mutual respect, positive discipline, and collaborative learning.
  - Psychologically and physically safe and inclusive accelerated learning environments are welcoming, inclusive, and accessible for all.
  - Curricula address health and well-being needs specific to youth, including physical and mental health and violence prevention, and build positive strategies for decision-making.

## Professional Development

- Professional development helps RRN-AL facilitators—including volunteer and uncertified teachers—lead inclusive multigrade classrooms.
- Coaching focuses on providing differentiated multimodal instruction; managing large classes with locally available materials; and fostering safe, respectful, and learner-centered environments.
- High-quality training is supported with remote tools such as interactive audio instruction (IAI), mobile coaching and mentoring, and practical teaching aids that reinforce consistency and confidence.

## Integrated Well-Being Support

- RRN-AL programs support self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship-building, and responsible choices.



### LIBERIA

In Liberia, EDC partnered with the Ministry of Education to develop, test, and disseminate **Program Quality Standards** for accelerated basic education programs and to develop and institutionalize a new **national AE policy**.



### PHILIPPINES

EDC collaborated with the Philippines Department of Education and Technical Education and Skills Development Authority to support accelerated learning teachers, improve institutional frameworks, enrich curricula, and increase opportunities for 2 million youth to pursue further education or to enter the job market. Of the program completers, **68.8%** transitioned to further education or to new or improved employment.



### MALI

Through repeated waves of conflict in Mali, EDC kept learners in Accelerated Learning Centers, addressed their social-emotional needs, and prepared them to transfer to formal school.

Results included:

- **75%** completed the Education Recovery Support Activity (ERSA) program.
- **90%** transferred as planned, demonstrating significantly better literacy results than formal school peers.

## ABOUT EDC

EDC works with partners worldwide to advance every person's journey to [learn](#), [work](#), and [be well](#). Since 1958, we have been a catalyst for community-led initiatives that promote sustainable change and advance solutions to the world's most pressing challenges.



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