

Intervention	Description	Target Audience
Literacy Boost (LB)	Focuses on developing children's core skills. Its components are: assessments, teacher training, mobilizing communities and enhancing reading environments.	Primary 1-3
Numeracy Boost (NB)	Based on the LB model, Numeracy Boost improves numeracy through assessing student knowledge and strengthening teachers' skills and involving the community in math-based activities.	Primary 1-3
Teaching at the Right Level (TaRL)	TaRL uses a simple learning assessment ('ASER') to organise children into levelled learning groups (based on their learning level rather than age).	Primary 4-6
Community-based learning	Community based learning clubs target children falling behind with additional learning time and supported by community learning facilitators. After just 12 weeks, a significant percentage of participants can read and write to a standard that allows them to learn independently.	All children P1-6: Children with need for extra learning time
Teaching & Learning Materials	Additional Teaching & Learning materials made available, including book banks.	All children P1-6 (with priority for those furthest behind)
Teacher Professional Dev't (TPD)	Seeks to develop teachers' competencies and ensure they have an environment that motivates them to achieve results.	All children P1-6 (all Teachers & Head Teachers)



Sierra Leone Education Innovation Challenge (SLEIC)

Sierra Leone Education Innovation Challenge (SLEIC) is a three-year project which aims to improve learning outcomes for both boys and girls in 65 primary schools in Bo, Kenema and Kailahun



Background

Sierra Leone Education Innovation Challenge (SLEIC) is a three-year project which aims to improve learning outcomes for both boys and girls in 65 primary schools, by building teacher capacity in literacy and numeracy, increasing children's access to reading and maths materials at school and at home, and creating community-supported supplementary learning as well as parental support that promotes children to practice maths and reading at home.

This project uses a cost-effective, sustainable, systems strengthening approach to increase the proportion of girls and boys who attain age and grade appropriate learning outcomes, focusing on literacy and numeracy, for primary education. It will strengthen learner-centred, gender-sensitive and inclusive teaching techniques and provide more learning opportunities in and out of school and use approaches that promote whole class teaching to facilitate literacy and numeracy skills acquisition amongst school going boys and girls.

Project focus

SLEIC project goal is to improve the number of boys and girls that achieve age-appropriate learning outcomes upon completion of primary education by:

- Improving teacher motivation and competencies to ensure safe and inclusive literacy and numeracy learning for boys and girls
- Improving leadership and supervision competencies and motivation to support teaching and learning at school and district level
- Increasing access for girls, boys and teachers to sufficient quality and appropriate teaching and learning materials for literacy and numeracy
- Improving safety environment in and around schools for both boys and girls

Status of Education in Sierra Leone

Despite efforts by the Government of Sierra Leone (GoSL), the education sector in Sierra Leone remains weak at delivering education outcomes. Enrolment rates have increased¹ with the introduction of Free Quality School Education

¹ 2019 Annual School Census Report

(FQSE) in 2018, but literacy and numeracy outcomes remain low. The Education Innovation Challenge (EIC) baseline assessment (December 2019) found that levels of reading, comprehension and basic numeracy were low. There is an “alarming gap” in literacy rates between males (59.4%) and females (43.9%) (National Education Sector Plan (NESP)). In summary, children are not gaining foundational literacy and numeracy skills during the early years of primary school that are essential for success in later years.

Project location

The project will be implemented in Bo, Kenema Kailahun

Budget and Donor

The Project is funded by the Education Outcomes Fund² to a tune of \$2.1 million dollars as commercial tender with payment upon achievement of outcomes

Expected outcomes (because we are just starting and cannot report on successes)

1. Improved learning outcomes for literacy and numeracy among boys & girls in primary grades 1 to 6 by 2025
2. Increased number of boys and girls in meeting minimum competencies in literacy & numeracy

Teacher Professional Development: We will support to 400 teachers to participate in a 3-year Teacher Professional Development (TPD) course, which will improve teacher competencies in teaching literacy and numeracy for girls and boys, and also provide a motivating and encouraging environment for them to thrive. P1-3 teachers will participate in modules that draw on Save the Children's literacy boost and numeracy boost approaches. P4-6 teachers will learn how to apply 'Teaching at the Right Level' in their classroom, which will allow them to target their teaching at children's specific learning level.

- **Strengthened School Leadership & Management:** We will also train school leaders and school supervisors in the 3 districts to provide

² [Home | EOF \(educationoutcomesfund.org\)](http://Home|EOF(educationoutcomesfund.org))