CODE launches project at 37 new schools in Ghana

On the heels of a deeply impactful 6-year literacy program in Ghana's Ashanti Region, we've now started work in 37 new schools in the country's Western Region.

While Ghana is often touted as one of the world's emerging economies, many inequalities and social challenges persist - including the provision of quality education for all children.

In the Western Region, students scored on average 33% in English (literacy) on the 2021 national standardized exam - placing them amongst the lowest in Ghana. This is symptomatic of low teaching quality (nearly 40% of primary school teachers in Ghana have no teaching qualifications), and the lack of books with which to learn.

The Reading Ghana - Western program has a powerful, and singular focus. We aim to improve the reading skills of an estimated 12,500 students in Grades 1 - 6 so that they can confidently continue on their educational journeys.

This focus is more important than ever given the United Nations' warning of a generational "learning catastrophe": 70% of all 10-year-olds in developing countries are unable to read a simple text with comprehension.

We look forward to keeping you updated on the amazing work you're enabling through your contributions.

"The students love the books. It has improved their interest in reading and now they even take initiative all by themselves to get the books to read from the library."

-Mr. Ofori, Teacher, Ashanti Region
YOUR LEGACY IN SIERRA LEONE

Three years ago, CODE supporters helped 100 young women in Sierra Leone begin their journeys toward becoming qualified teachers. This was an innovative component of the Global Affairs Canada Transforming Girls' Education Project.

We're thrilled to report that they have almost reached the finish line!

Earlier this year they completed their third and final year of teachers' college! Results from their final exams will be available later this spring and we look forward to sharing them with you via social media.

Given how determined our scholarship participants have been to seize the full potential of this rare opportunity, we have no doubt that they have all fared very well.

The Class of 2023 scholarship campaign supported an urgent, and oftentimes overlooked, need to increase the number of women pursuing careers in education in Sierra Leone. In a country that has, in recent years, declared a state of emergency over rape and sexual assault, the presence of women teachers in schools is tremendously important in creating safe environments, promoting gender equality, and providing mentorship to girl students.

While these young women will go on to inspire classrooms of students for years to come, there are still many more young women hoping for the same opportunity to gain formal teaching qualification. We are actively seeking a philanthropic partner to enable the next round of scholarships. If you're aware of any opportunities please reach out to Janet at jphillips@code.ngo

GIVING WITH IMPACT

For more than a decade, MoneySense's Top Charity listing has been helping Canadians make informed choices about their donations. MoneySense believes donors have a right to know how their money is being spent and whether it's truly helping people. CODE is proud to be recognized as a Top Charity for 2022.

Read more at: code.ngo/accountability