LITERACY IS A HUMAN RIGHT IT IS A TOOL FOR PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT AND ESSENTIAL FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, POVERTY REDUCTION, GENDER EQUALITY, MATERIAL BETTER, CHILD MORTALITY REDUCTION, AND PEACE AND DEMOCRACY. LITERACY IS AT THE HEART OF SDG 4. EDUCATION FOR ALL AND PRODUCTION OF LIFELONGS LEARNING SOCIETIES.

LITERACY IN THE WORLD

LOW LITERACY POPULATION

HIGH LITERACY POPULATION

YOUTH LITERACY POPULATION

CONTRIBUTION TO THE NUMBER OF LITERATE ADULTS

288 MILLION

161 MILLION

126 MILLION

LOW LITERACY RATE

HIGH LITERACY RATE

OVER 50%

UNDER 50%

UP TO 40%

LESS THAN 10%

UP TO 50%

UP TO 50%

UP TO 50%

US TO 50%

NO DATA

"NEWLY LITERATE WOMEN HAVE A POSITIVE RINGEFFECT ON ALL DEVELOPMENT INDICATORS" 

Byma Bokora

LITERACY AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

EVERY LITERATE PERSON IS A VICTORY OVER POVERTY

171 MILLION PEOPLE WOULD BE OUT OF POVERTY IF ALL LITERATE ADULTS IN THE WORLD ENROLLED IN SCHOOL WITH BASIC READING SKILLS

EDUCATED MOTHERS REDUCE CHILD MORTALITY

2.1 MILLION ADDITIONAL CHILDREN WOULD SURVIVE EACH YEAR BECAUSE OF INCREASED MOTHER'S EDUCATION LEVEL

"LITERACY PROVIDES TOOLS FOR MEN AND WOMEN TO BETTER UNDERSTAND THE WORLD AND SHAPE IT TO MEET THEIR ASPIRATIONS." 

SAN KI-Moon

PEACE AND DEMOCRACY

POORLY LITERATE INDIVIDUALS ARE LESS LIKELY TO PARTICIPATE IN DECISION MAKING PROCESSES AND HAVE FEWER CHANCES TO FULLY EXERCISE THEIR CIVIL RIGHTS.

LIVING IN A CONFLICT-AFFECTED AREA INCREASES THE LIKELIHOOD OF NOT BECOMING LITERATE OR OF NOT GAINING ACCESS TO EDUCATION

42% OF CHILDREN IN POOR AND CONFLICT-AFFECTED COUNTRIES ARE OUT OF SCHOOL

LITERACY HAS TRANSFORMATIVE POTENTIAL IT EXPANDS INDIVIDUAL FREEDOMS AND PEOPLE'S CHOICES ENGAGES PEOPLE IN MEANINGFUL SOCIAL PARTICIPATION PROCESSES AND HELPS INDIVIDUALS RESIST ABUSE AND MANIPULATION.

"LITERACY IS A BRIDGE FROM MISERY TO HOPE " 

Kofi Annan

SOURCES

LITERACY

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