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ACCELERATED QUALITY EDUCATION FOR LIBERIAN CHILDREN ACTIVITY

March 2017 - July 2021 | Implementer: Education Development Center

The USAID Accelerated Quality Education for Liberian Children (AQE) activity aims to increase access to quality education services for 48,000 out-of-school and overaged learners and support future Accelerated Learning Programs in the country. The activity offers accelerated learning programs that condense six years of the primary education cycle into three years. To institutionalize a nationwide Accelerated Learning Programs, AQE will leverage partnerships and align its activities with those of other donors with the goal of supporting the overarching Ministry of Education's (MoE) goals.

Current Activities

Over four years, the USAID Accelerated Quality Education for Liberian Children activity focuses on improving education for out-of-school and overaged learners. The activity has worked to:

- Provide relevant, flexible, and quality education for out-of-school children, giving them the opportunity to pursue further education or training
- Provide technical assistance to the Ministry of Education to institutionalize a credible, nationwide Accelerated Learning Program
- Strengthen the policies, systems, and resources available to the MoE, particularly in the area of accelerated education
- Foster positive gender norms, including a heightened attention to girls, who are least likely to have access to education in Liberia, and female teachers, whose greater numbers could promote girls' education

Accomplishments to Date

- Reached/enrolled 62,352 learners (Female 30,059; Male 32,293) in Bong, Grand Bassa, Lofa, Margibi, Montserrado and Nimba, while implementing ALP classes in 264 sites
- Distributed 443,704 primary or secondary textbooks and other teaching and learning materials (TLM) to ALP learners and teachers
- Active engagement & ongoing Institutional Capacity Assessment with CEOs and DEOs; and conducted joint visits with education officials (Eos) and Ministry of Education (MoE) technical staff for monitoring, management and/or data collection activities
- Finalized the integration of school quality assessment tools for alternative education into MoE EMIS in coordination with MoE and GPE partners
- Produced and aired radio drama in 6 counties (community radio stations) addressing the importance of school
- Conducted 43 events of Participatory Theatre in all 6 USAID focus counties
- Trained 275 Parent Teacher Associations (PTAs) and facilitated engagement with Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA) and traditional leaders
- Trained 954 community members to support/promote education in their communities and challenges of PTAs in promoting attendance and safer learning environments
- Trained 1,229 teachers and 600 school administrators/officials (principals, DEOs, CEOs, etc.) in six counties on ALP curriculum, methodology, monitoring, as well as Safer Learning Environment (SLE) topics
- Conducted WAEC assessments in 152 sites for approximately 2,000 Level 3 learners.
- Rehabilitated 111 classrooms across 3 counties (Bong 92, Grand Bassa 36, Montserrado 46)
- Conducted critical listening surveys involving more than 1,000 school community members (PTA, principals, and teachers) to track effectiveness of the MoE Teaching by Radio program during the COVID-19 pandemic

Planned Outcomes

- Harmonized Policy for AE implemented; Policy for Learner Eligibility and Certification approved and launched
- 73% pass rate of ALP learners Level completion in school year 2019/2020
- 66.03% of the sites met the acceptable quality threshold of safe learning
- Launched the “MY Voice” SRGBV/child abuse reporting system launched in Margibi with The Global Citizens’ Initiative
- PTAs trained, provide support to prevention and response to SRGBV, skills in advocacy increased, and lead community dialogue and actions to protect children