



Statement from Save the Children

Delivered by Joseph O'Reilly

Save the Children is the world's largest, independent children's rights organisation. We work in 120 countries, saving children's lives, and supporting them to fulfil their potential.

We have a particular commitment to protecting and promoting children's right to education and are delighted to have the opportunity to share our plans for doing so over the next three years.

Save the Children's priorities and approach closely mirrors the new priorities of the Global Partnership for Education.

Our work in education focuses on improving access to education for out of school children especially in conflict affected and fragile states. We're also committed to improving the quality of children's experience at school and their learning outcomes.

And our efforts to improve children's access to school and their learning achievement recognizes the particular challenges for girls.

In 2006 we committed to ensuring that 3 million children in conflict affected fragile states get access to school. At the end of the last reporting period we'd helped 1.64 million children go to school. We remain committed to securing access for 3 million which we plan to achieve over the next three years.

We are also scaling up our support for children to acquire early grade reading and writing skills. Our approach to doing so, which involves testing, teacher training and community mobilization in support of literacy and the literate environment is called 'Literacy Boost' – it's a proven, scalable method of improving early grade reading skills - and we plan to massively increase the number of children, teachers and families that benefit from this programme.

The outcomes of our pledge will be a further 1.36 million children in conflict affected fragile states, half of whom will be girls, who have access to school.

And over half a million children will benefit from literacy boost.

These two figures represent a small proportion of our broader effort in education which will in fact benefit some 35 million children and adult teachers and parents over the next three years.

By the end of 2014 we will be spending some \$400 million on education annually.

We're all to aware that this is a tiny proportion of the effort required to close the global education gap and we will be redoubling our efforts to develop our partnerships with and advocacy to other stakeholders to secure the breakthrough in funding and activity necessary to achieve the millennium development and education for all goals.