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# Mobilizing a Numeracy Movement

GPE Webinar

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# What is Numeracy ?

- Caveat: Mostly for early grades
- Number sense
- 4 simple operations, fluently
- Being able to do mental math
- Simple geometry
- Measurement




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# The Key to a Movement is Partnership

- The key to starting a literacy “movement” was partnership
- What were the elements of that Partnership?
- What does this kind of partnership do?



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# What Can a PARTNERSHIP Do?

1. Social marketing of current key statistics
2. Promote & fund: measurement, assessment, goals
3. Goal-setting
4. Promote a self-aware community of practice
5. Share experiences of dramatic impact
6. Promote knowledge on “what it takes”

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# Social Marketing

This

is

how

most

3rd-grade kids

in

the poorest

countries

read

This

is

how

most

3rd-grade kids

in

rich countries (OECD)

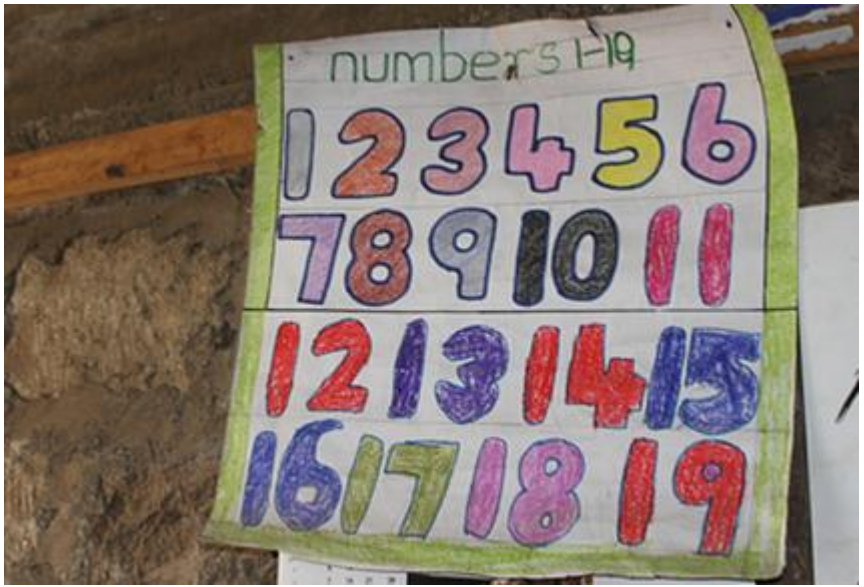
read

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# Making the Case

What do we have in early-grade numeracy that is as summative and stark (yet based on sound principles) as:

- % kids not reading one word
- oral fluency




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# Other Aspects of Social Marketing

- Identifying and reaching the decision-makers, find allies
- More than awareness raising: offer solutions
- Tying to other important goals



# GPE Numeracy Goal

Dramatic increase in the number of children learning and demonstrating mastery of basic literacy and numeracy

"Cut in half number of non-readers by Grade 2 in at least 20 countries in 5 years"

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# Partner's Learning Goals

**USAID**:

- "Help 100,000,000 children improve their reading"

**DfID, AUSAID**:

- Early reading are 'headline' goals in their results frameworks

**Others**:

- Education First: fully literate and numerate by grade 4
- Brookings/UIS: Learning Metrics Task Force

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# How Do We Measure Learning Progress?

- Many tests (e.g., ASER, EGMA): but what is good practice?
- GPE will work with partners to develop "good practice standards" for assessment
  - Early grades oral, plus linked to written, end-cycle
  - Repository of information on assessments

# Learning from Experiences

- Experiences in literacy were available before literacy goals were agreed
- Situation is different in numeracy:
  - How do we get more experiences?
  - Funded by whom?
  - In what countries?
  - Role of gov't, INGOs, CSOs?
  - How do we make them not a burden?



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# Kick-start Action

- GIZ conference in November 2012
- What should be next action?
- What approaches other than workshops and conferences?

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# The Start: Community of Practice

- Increased demand by governments for NGO and donor help
- Need self-aware community of practice
- Higher standards
- GPE strategy calls for “communities of practice”
- Dedication to long run
- Standard-setting or just information sharing?
- Formal knowledge management?

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# Examples of Numeracy Programs

- Save the Children's "Numeracy Boost":
  - Community involvement
  - Teacher training
  - Learning assessment

- GPE's CoP on Numeracy
  - Monthly webinars by experts
  - Exchange of experiences and knowledge

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# Example of Community Component

## Math at Home

- 9 sessions
- Linked to teacher training content
- Simple activities all parents can do
- Take home ‘calendar’



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# Summary

**Partnerships are key to any movement**

- Clear shared goals
- Measurement
- Social marketing of issues
- Stock-pile experiences and ways to improve,
- Community of practice to do the above
- Kick-start it all with some events

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