

Learning for Life

A guide for philanthropists and changemakers to bring **quality education to all**



The COVID-19 pandemic led to an unprecedented disruption in education systems, affecting the most vulnerable children the hardest and exacerbating existing problems and inequalities. Yet, it also brought an increased appreciation and awareness of the important work of teachers, of the key role of parents, and of the multiple functions that schools fulfill in providing for the academic learning, health, and well-being of children and youth.

As it shed light on existing deficiencies in the education system, the pandemic also opened an enormous opportunity to rethink education design and delivery. And it has created a sense of urgency and a desire to collaborate towards the construction of a more inclusive and resilient education system.

The Sustainable Development Goals

In 2015, the United Nations adopted 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The goals strive to inspire everyone to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all by 2030. SDG 4 aims to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.

But the world isn't on track to reach the goals. To get there, developing countries alone need to fill an average funding gap of 2.5 trillion US dollars – every year. And the COVID-19 pandemic has sent countries further off track. For SDG 4, the UN considers the pandemic's impact on schooling to be a "generational catastrophe."

That's why we need to collaborate – philanthropists, families, changemakers, entrepreneurs and investors. The world is waiting, and philanthropists can lead by example. This guide gives the facts you need to ensure a quality education for all, head on.

Like you, UBS is on a journey to give the world's children the future they deserve – and we'd love to join you on yours.

Tessy Antony de Nassau
Award winning Philanthropist
and Business Executive

"To be educated in the 21st century is not an opportunity, but a right, which we all should be entitled to no matter where we are born in this world"

Lewis Hamilton
Seven times Formula 1 world champion
and Education activist

"There are a lot of people around the world that don't have the opportunities that some of us had, the opportunity that I had, to learn. That needs to change."

At a glance

Education can be a path to prosperity and social mobility, but the increasing gaps between the advantaged and the disadvantaged must be urgently addressed.

Barriers to access

258 million children worldwide are out of school.¹



Out-of-school children are disproportionately located in **low, lower-middle income, and conflict-affected countries**²



Children from **the poorest 20% of households** dominate the out-of-school populations and are far less likely than higher-income children to ever enrol³



Children with disabilities are **2.5 times more likely** than their non-disabled peers **to have never been in school**⁴

Disruptions

Even short disruptions in a child's schooling can cause significant and lasting harm to learning.



Displaced children miss an average of

4 years of education.

The longer children are out of school, the more likely it is that they won't be able to return and their learning will regress⁵

Gender

Globally, there are now equal numbers of boys and girls in school.⁶ Unfortunately, there are still big differences at the country level.

Equal numbers of boys and girls have only been achieved in:



2 in 3 countries for primary education

1 in 2 countries for lower secondary education

1 in 4 countries for upper secondary education⁷



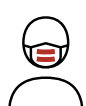
In conflict-affected countries, **twice as many girls are out of school** compared to global averages⁸

Poor learning

53% of children in low- and middle-income countries were unable to read and understand a simple text by age 10, even before the pandemic.⁹



in Sub-Saharan Africa, the figure was closer to **90%**¹⁰



Due to COVID-19, the percentage of children in low- and middle-income countries unable to read and understand a simple text by age 10 **has risen from 53 to 70%**¹¹



Globally, **household wealth** is a major predictor of poor achievement¹²

What can you do as a philanthropist?



Prioritize equity and quality

- Focus on children that are at risk of exclusion from education as a result of factors such as gender, poverty, disability, displacement or other characteristics.
- Support programs backed by evidence for improving outcomes particularly for the most disadvantaged.
- Ask for the measurement of performance across different groups of children, particularly those failing to reach minimum standards, to understand who is/ isn't benefitting and why.



Extend support to caregivers

- Recognize the key role that caregivers – at home and school – play in children's learning.
- Support innovation and build evidence for approaches that address the settings that influence children's lives, and improve outcomes for both children and caregivers.



Work across sectors

- Address issues that can affect children's ability to learn, such as nutrition, health, and emotional well-being.
- When possible, prioritize interventions that combine structures and services across sectors (e.g., health and education) to provide holistic support and create lasting change for the most vulnerable children.



Leverage on innovative financing

- Leverage on outcomes-based funding to deliver learning outcomes at scale.
- Invest in sustainable investments that put money to work for good while aiming to provide returns comparable to traditional investments.



Support governments

- Prioritize interventions that align with the government's agenda.
- Fund initiatives that build capabilities within governments and are led by them.



Collaborate with others

- Join an existing collective to combine resources, roll out proven solutions and increase impact.
- If an issue is not currently being addressed, join forces with others to propose a solution.



Support key milestones

- Support life-course programs that empower children at pivotal moments in their educational journey, particularly the foundational years (early childhood and primary education) and transitions across settings and educational levels.



Scale cost-effective solutions

- Rather than reinventing the wheel, leverage on existing evidence on cost-effective approaches to improve learning. Support the scaling of such approaches.
- Support research that can help build further evidence on promising interventions for which rigorous, actionable evidence is in short supply.



Think about scalability from the start

- When supporting interventions in early stages, make sure that they are designed and planned for scale from the outset (i.e., that consideration is given to the actors that need to be involved to achieve scale, including government; and to the capacity that the systems in which programs operate need to support growth, including budget and human resources constraints, among others).



Empower teachers

- Invest in teachers and support their well-being, recognizing their crucial role in transforming education systems.
- Support teachers' professional development, protect their creativity and enable the conditions so they can attend the diverse learning needs of their students.

About UBS

Changing the world needs leadership. As one of the world's largest wealth managers, at UBS, we want to lead the way to a better future – for ourselves and generations to come.

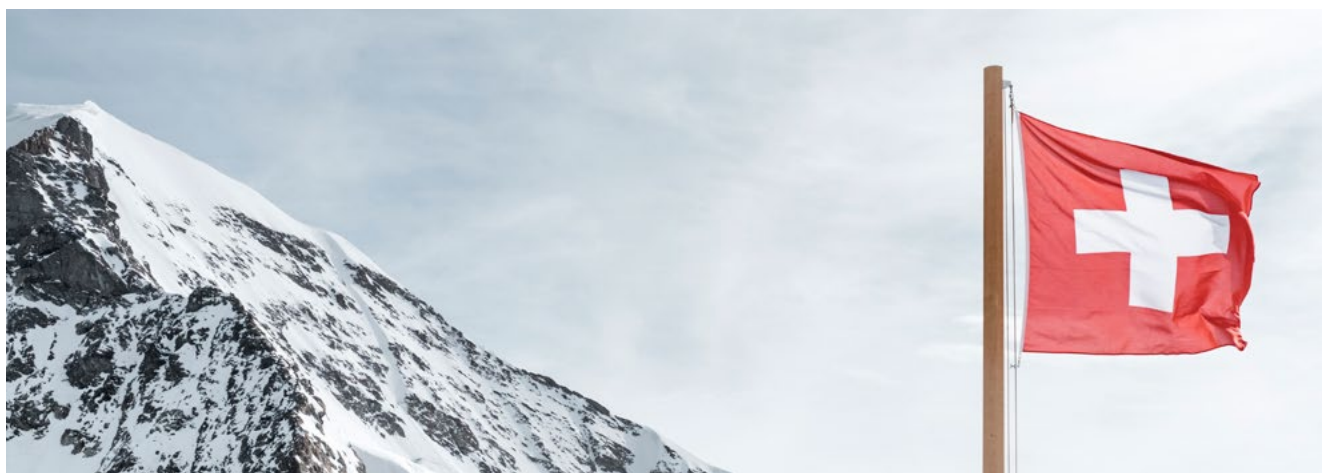
We believe people's desire to make the world a better place will keep growing. People will increasingly seek to do good by choosing sustainable investments and philanthropic solutions. We are here to help you have more impact with your wealth. Together, we'll explore your purpose and help you make a difference through giving, investing, connecting, and leading the change you want to see.

We're recognized globally for our philanthropy services and expertise. With over 20 years' experience, we can help you and your family maximize your impact locally, nationally and globally. And we're proud to be among the founding signatories of the Principles for Responsible Banking (PRB) of the United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative (UNEP FI). We were also among the first banks to shine a light on the United Nations' Sustainable

Development Goals and what it takes to make them investable for clients.

Today, we're always seeking to develop solutions that direct investments towards those goals. Our philanthropic grant-giving foundation, the UBS Optimus Foundation, focuses on education, health, social protection, and environmental and climate issues. We've also launched UBS Collectives to help you connect with other philanthropists and take your solutions to the world. We cover the costs of running your collective, match investors' funding by 10%,¹³ and provide a deep learning experience over three years.

As with any investments, the value may fall as well as rise, and you may not get back the amount you originally invested.



How does UBS support education?

We want to be the financial provider of choice for clients seeking to invest in achieving the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals, including SDG 4: Education. We value the importance of education within our business and global communities.

The in-house UBS University helps our employees build skills and capabilities that are relevant to the ever-changing labor market. In 2021 alone, we invested more than 71 million US dollars in training our employees.

Our long-term success depends on the strength of our institutions and the cohesiveness of the communities we belong to. So we build sustainable partnerships with public institutions, non-profit organizations and social enterprises. We invest for the long term in education and entrepreneurship within our communities. In 2021, our community investment amounted to 31.4 million US dollars. We also run community programs globally that enhance financial literacy, enabling children and young people to act responsibly with money. Many of our skills-based volunteering activities also improve financial literacy, such as the UBS Social Investment Toolkit and UBS Elevating Entrepreneurs.

Education is one of the largest portfolios and longest-standing focus areas of UBS Optimus Foundation, our grant-making organization. We seek to deliver long-term and system-wide solutions to a learning crisis that's leaving more than half of primary-aged children without basic skills. Our work also aims to enable the conditions that lead to better learning. We believe that supporting the most disadvantaged in their foundational years will reduce inequities in education and put the most vulnerable on a path to long-term success. UBS Optimus Foundation's portfolio is improving access to education in three areas:



Early childhood

We support organizations that cross generations and combine support for children and their families to reduce inequities in education that arise from poverty.



Transitions

We seek to make systems more resilient by supporting transitions across educational levels, and reintegration into those levels. Our work recognizes that many vulnerable children drop out of school temporarily and seek to reintegrate at later stages.



Numeracy and literacy for primary-aged children

We want to support children in gaining the foundational skills they need for more complex learning, and to nurture the social and emotional skills they require to succeed in school and life.

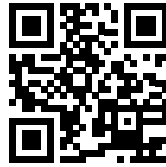
UBS Optimus Foundation reached an important milestone as a founding partner of the Child Learning and Education Facility (CLEF) – a public-private partnership between the government of Ivory Coast, the Jacobs Foundation and fifteen cocoa companies. CLEF aims to mobilize up to CHF 110 million to build schools and improve education for children in cocoa-growing regions. UBS Optimus Foundation has contributed CHF 3.5 million and acts as the main platform for all private contributions to CLEF.

UBS Optimus Foundation has partnered with an outcomes specialist to create and launch a pioneering initiative which aims to invest USD 100 million in 15 to 20 SDG-aligned outcomes-based programs. The programs work with governments and philanthropic donors to design and invest in education, health, employment and environmental projects that support vulnerable children and adults in developing countries. Investors will receive returns based on verified social and environmental impact. The initiative will use an innovative blended-finance structure with 20% of philanthropic first-loss funding. This enables investors to achieve impact at scale, while reducing risk and improving potential financial returns.

To find out more about...



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with your philanthropy:
ubs.com/philanthropy



...how you can invest more
sustainably:
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...what we do as a firm:
ubs.com/socialimpact

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- ¹ New Methodology Shows that 258 Million Children, Adolescents and Youth Are Out of School. (2019).
² Global Education Monitoring Report, Inclusion and education: All Means All. (2020). UNESCO. (Page 27)
³ Reaching the marginalized, p.61. (2010). UNESCO.
⁴ Global Education Monitoring Report, Inclusion and education: All Means All. (2020). UNESCO. (Page 71)
⁵ The Global Cost of Inclusive Refugee Education. A joint World Bank-UNHCR report. January 2021.
⁶ Equity, GEM Report SCOPE.
⁷ *Ibidem*.
⁸ Mind the Gap Report, Arora, A. (2022, January 27)
⁹ The State of Global Learning Poverty. 2022 Update.
¹⁰ Alicia Herbert, Jaime Saavedra, Leanna Marr & Robert Jenkins, The urgent need to focus on foundational skill (2021, November 4), World Bank Blogs.
¹¹ The State of Global Learning Poverty. 2022 Update.
¹² Global Education Monitoring Report, Inclusion and education: All Means All. (2020). UNESCO. (Page 27);
Arora, A., Are Children Really Learning? Exploring foundational skills in the midst of a learning crisis (2022b, May 23), Unicef Data.
¹³ UBS matches any and all donations to Optimus Foundation – whether from client or employee – whether for a Collective or another programme – at 10% as standard procedure.

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