

Global Education Innovations

[Architecting new approaches to education innovation and system change, The Luminos Fund]

An Education program by **UBS Optimus Foundation**

Summary

- The Luminos Second Chance program is a 10-month accelerated education program designed to get out-of-school children back into the formal school system. Using a condensed curriculum, children learn reading, writing, and arithmetic skills through a child-centric approach.

The problem

- The Civil War (1989 – 2003) devastated the country's infrastructure, and an entire generation missed out on education
- In 2015, schools across Liberia closed for a full year due to the Ebola outbreak. Over 700,000 primary-school-aged students had their education disrupted due to the school closures.
- Liberia has the highest rate of out-of-school children in the world, with 62% of primary-school-age children out of school

The partner

- The Luminos Fund was incubated by the Legatum Foundation and is founded on a core belief in the power of private philanthropy to drive innovation in education.

The philanthropic solution

- Speed School is an accelerated learning program that brings drop out children or those who have never been to school back into the formal school system
- The innovative child-centric pedagogy leverages activity-based learning methods to cover the first three years of the national curriculum in just 10 months

The evidence

- A 6-year longitudinal evaluation conducted by the University of Sussex Centre for International Education shows that
- 75% of Second Chance students were still in school six years after graduating from the program and
 - Former Second Chance students are less likely to drop out compared to government school students

Voices from the field

- In Ethiopia most children are forced to work around the home or outside. At 13 Takola had never been to school. His mother, Yeshi, is a potter and his father, Barassa, helps on farms. Takola's teacher Wogene: 'Before Speed School started, Takola was out of school and had no education. He now has the opportunity of an education. He is becoming literate and numerate now.'

One line pitch statement

- The Luminos Fund's innovative and scalable education solutions help children learn and thrive and influence education systems as well as cultural shift, helping society think differently about preparing children for life.



Source: The Luminos Fund

The UBS Optimus Foundation is a grant-making foundation that offers UBS clients a platform to use their wealth to drive positive social and environmental change. The Foundation selects programs that improve children's health, education and protection, ones that have the potential to be transformative, scalable and sustainable as well as programs tackling environmental and climate issues.

This document is for informational and educational purposes only and has no regard to the specific objectives, financial situation or particular needs of any specific recipient. It is not intended as a promotion of any UBS services nor an offer or a solicitation of an offer to sell or buy any product or other specific service. UBS Optimus Foundation does not provide investment, legal or tax advice. It strongly recommends to all persons considering the information herein to obtain appropriate independent legal, tax and other professional advice.

In the U.S., Wealth Management services are provided by UBS Financial Services Inc., a subsidiary of UBS AG. In providing wealth management services to clients, UBS Financial Services Inc. offers both investment advisory and brokerage services, which are separate and distinct and differ in material ways. For information, including the different laws and contracts that govern, visit ubs.com/workingwithus.

© UBS 2023. All rights reserved. The key symbol and UBS are among the registered and unregistered trademarks of UBS. UBS Financial Services Inc. is a subsidiary of UBS AG. Member FINRA/SIPC.

UBS AG
UBS Optimus Foundation
P.O. Box
8098 Zurich

ubs.com/optimus