

Call to Action

To be delivered to incoming U.S. Administration and Capitol Hill policymakers | Election 2016

As members of the international development, humanitarian, and education communities, we the undersigned organizations and individuals write to urge you to prioritize investments in global education as a critical element in U.S. foreign policy efforts.

The power of education is clear – brighter futures, healthier communities, and increased economic growth for individuals and countries. If all students in low-income countries left school with reading, numeracy and citizenship skills, 171 million people could be lifted out of poverty. Education also provides stability and acts as a form of vital psychosocial support to the 75 million children and youth whose education has been directly affected by emergencies and protracted crises.

Investing in education is not only the right thing to do, it is also a smart use of U.S. resources. Through robust support for global education, we can reduce poverty, enhance security and stability, and promote effective, sustainable development around the globe. For every \$1 spent on education, as much as \$15 can be generated in economic growth. Each additional year of formal schooling for boys and young men reduces their risk of becoming involved in conflict by 20 percent. Education for girls is particularly important; children born to educated mothers are half as likely to be malnourished and twice as likely to be immunized against disease. Improving the educational achievement and economic opportunities of girls and boys around the world can help to stabilize societies and ensure global security.

Through our strong support for bilateral programs, the Global Partnership for Education and the new *Education Cannot Wait: Fund for Education in Emergencies*, the U.S. is well positioned to provide strengthened global leadership to ensure that the talent of young people is realized, no matter where they were born. U.S. investments in global education have set the stage for a whole child approach that supports early childhood development, primary school, secondary school and other learning opportunities for children and youth in the poorest countries around the world.

As you consider your global development priorities, we urge you to recognize the critical role that education plays in building a safer, more prosperous world, and to increase the amount of funding committed by the U.S. Government directed toward global education programs.

Sincerely,

Association for Childhood Education International

buildOn

ChildFund International

EDGE Institute

Edge of Seven

Educate the Children

Fabretto Children's Foundation

Global Business Coalition for Education

Global Campaign for Education - US (GCE-US)

Global Citizen

Global Kids

Helen Keller International

International Rescue Committee

IREX

Jesuit Refugee Service/USA

**Leadership Conference of Women
Religious**

Libraries Without Borders

Mfariji Africa

Planet Aid

RESULTS

Rukmini Foundation

Save the Children

School Girls Unite

SIL LEAD, Inc.

Teach for All

The Hunger Project

The Nobility Project

U.S. Fund for UNICEF

Union for Reform Judaism

**United Methodist Church, General Board of
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**United Nations Association of the United
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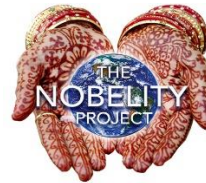
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Teach For All



children first.

