



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

HNA
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UNESCO-HNA

Partnership for Girls' & Women's Education

The *UNESCO-HNA Partnership for Girls' and Women's Education* is a five-year partnership formed in 2014 to accelerate gender equality in education in seven countries in Africa and Asia.

About the Partnership

The Partnership between UNESCO and the HNA Group and Hainan Cihang Foundation in China was formed to address the many factors compounding gender equality in education in Africa and Asia.

The US\$5 million, five-year partnership supports strategic investments that aim to:

- Improve and expand access to all levels of education through targeted policies and interventions, with a particular focus on adolescent girls who are hardest to reach;
- Improve the quality and relevance of basic and secondary education to ensure that girls, especially adolescents, stay, achieve and transition smoothly through all levels of education and into the world of work;
- Make learning environments accessible and safe for all children and eliminate school-related gender-based violence.



The Global Partnership for Girls' and Women's Education

The *UNESCO-HNA Partnership for Girls' and Women's Education* is one component of the “Better Life, Better Future” Global Partnership for Girls' and Women's Education launched by UNESCO in 2011. The Global Partnership recognizes that educating girls and women can break the cycle of poverty, foster greater social justice and contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. It aims to expand and improve the quality and relevance of education for girls and women, creating a better life and better future for all members of society for generations to come.






More information:

<http://en.unesco.org/themes/women-s-and-girls-education/better-life-better-future>

Main areas of action

The UNESCO-HNA Partnership for Girls' and Women's Education is promoting holistic, multi-sectoral approaches that reinforce the capacity of the education system and foster cooperation with other sectors such as health and social welfare. It engages communities, including civil society and parents, in the promotion of adolescent girls' education and strengthens community-based and flexible education for those hardest to reach.

UNESCO is working with national ministries of education, teacher training institutions and primary and secondary schools in seven countries to:

	Support gender assessments of education policies, curricula and teacher training materials
	Institutionalize gender mainstreaming in teacher education institutions, through improved gender awareness and gender-responsive teacher education curriculum and pedagogy
	Build the capacity of education policy makers and planners in developing and implementing gender-responsive education policies and teaching materials
	Empower female teachers with the capacities and skills to take leadership roles in schools
	Facilitate gender-sensitive pedagogical innovations through school-based action research and girls' engagement in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) subjects

Countries supported through the *UNESCO-HNA Partnership for Girls' and Women's Education*



Partners

UNESCO Headquarters, UNESCO Asia and Pacific Regional Bureau for Education, UNESCO Field Offices in Cambodia, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Myanmar, Nepal, and the UNESCO Institute for Capacity Building in Africa (IICBA) are working with national and regional partners on the implementation of the *UNESCO-HNA Partnership for Girls' and Women's Education*. The HNA Group and Hainan Cihang Foundation are recognized for their generous support to these initiatives and to UNESCO's work on education.

Background

The UNESCO-HNA Partnership for Girls' and Women's Education was formed in 2014 in recognition of the critical role of the teaching and learning environment in achieving gender equality in education.

Education is a fundamental human right for all. Yet girls still have fewer opportunities than boys to gain access to, complete and benefit from a quality education, particularly at upper primary and secondary levels. In many settings, girls face multiple layers of disadvantage, including social and cultural norms that privilege boys' education, inadequate sanitation facilities in schools, violent and unequal classrooms and limited female teachers and role models.



UNESCO Education Sector

Education is UNESCO's top priority because it is a basic human right and the foundation on which to build peace and drive sustainable development. UNESCO is the United Nations' specialized agency for education and the Education Sector provides global and regional leadership in education, strengthens national education systems and responds to contemporary global challenges through education with a special focus on gender equality and Africa.



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Education
Sector

The Global Education 2030 Agenda

UNESCO, as the United Nations' specialized agency for education, is entrusted to lead and coordinate the Education 2030 Agenda, which is part of a global movement to eradicate poverty through 17 Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. Education, essential to achieve all of these goals, has its own dedicated Goal 4, which aims to *"ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all."* The Education 2030 Framework for Action provides guidance for the implementation of this ambitious goal and commitments.



ED/IPS/IGE/2017/02

Stay in touch

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