All Children Reading: A Grand Challenge for Development advances EdTech innovation and research to improve reading outcomes for marginalized children in low-resource contexts.

Despite decades of investment in global education, children’s learning outcomes have failed to show significant gains, particularly in foundational literacy skills. Innovative solutions are vital to advancing the literacy targets of the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goal 4, which seeks to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education for all.

Since its inception in 2011, ACR GCD—a partnership between the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), World Vision and the Australian Government—has funded more than 90 solutions through our competitions. Building on this experience and the collective reach of our partner organizations, ACR GCD is uniquely positioned to leverage past successes and the rapid growth of the EdTech sector to support the scale of literacy innovations to ensure the most vulnerable children are provided the resources and opportunities to learn to read.

An estimated 584 million children globally are unable to read by the end of primary school (UN, 2021)

What We Do

Source New Solutions
We invest in promising EdTech innovations and approaches for addressing gaps and barriers to child literacy.

Test New Ideas
We partner with leading education researchers to measure the impact of EdTech innovations on child literacy.

Scale What Works
We advance innovations with the greatest potential to improve reading outcomes for more children in low-resource contexts.
JOIN THE COMPETITION

Global solvers can win up to $300,000 for proposals outlining the most cost-effective approaches to creating packages of quality, early grade books in one or more of 30+ underserved languages in Africa, Asia, the Pacific and the Middle East. Local organizations are encouraged to apply. Solvers must use one or a combination of the following approaches to create books to support each year of a child’s literacy development (pre-primary, Kindergarten, Grades 1 and 2):

1. ADAPTING EXISTING BOOKS FOR LANGUAGE, LEVEL AND/OR CONTEXT: 200 BOOKS
Books already available on the Global Digital Library can be adapted for language, level or context.

2. CONVERTING EXISTING BOOKS INTO DIGITALLY ACCESSIBLE FORMATS: 200 BOOKS
Books from other digital libraries can be converted into accessible (EPUB) formats.

3. DEVELOPING NEW BOOKS: 50 BOOKS
New books can be created when existing books are either unavailable or not appropriate to a specific context.

4. ADAPTING OR CREATING SIGN LANGUAGE BOOKS: 50 BOOKS
New books can be developed or existing books can be adapted to include videos of stories communicated in local sign languages.

APPLY NOW
Proposals will be accepted through November 15, 2019. To learn more and submit your proposal, visit www.AllChildrenReading.org

Our Impact

- Funded 90+ innovative solutions
- Reached 1.2 M children in 49 countries
- Distributed 1.8 M+ local language instruction and reading materials in 140+ languages including sign languages
- Created 2500+ accessible digital books, including 11 sign languages and braille
- Assessed 11,263 students
- Adapted the Early Grad Reading Assessment for children with print disabilities and for children who are deaf/hard of hearing
- Collaborated 30 entities to co-invest and expand the reach of EdTech solutions
- Published 20+ research and evaluation reports

Our Focus

ACR GCD focuses primarily on advancing proven solutions to improve reading for children in priority countries in Africa, Asia and the Pacific. Through competitions, acceleration/scaling support, research, evaluation and collaboration, ACR GCD seeks to improve literacy outcomes across three focus areas:

1. Enhancing literacy learning for children with disabilities
2. Driving the development and use of accessible books in underserved languages
3. Strengthening foundations for literacy to improve early childhood learning

Be Part of the Solution!
You can be part of the solution for the 584 million children waiting for the opportunity to learn to read. Use one of the solutions developed already through our competitions or partner with us. Join a community of changemakers committed to a future in which all children can learn to read.

AllChildrenReading.org
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