

CAPACITY STATEMENT

Zambia Reading for Education and Development

Situation in Zambia

As a signatory to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Zambia ascribes to goal number 4, which addresses quality education. However, the provision of quality education continues to be a challenge. For example, the government's target of an average score of 40% in language and maths has never been reached in either Grade 5 or Grade 9. The 2018 World Development Report indicated that 58% of assessed grade 2 learners in Zambia could not read a single word when given short texts, while the USAID Early Grade Reading Assessment (EGRA) base-line report of 2019, revealed that only 10% of grade 2 learners read with comprehension. Further, the World Vision Zambia end-line assessment of 2021 using the School-based Test About Reading (STAR) tool showed that only 23% of grade 3 learners could read with comprehension.



26% of grade one entrants had Early Childhood Education against the Education For All target of 50% agreed in Dakar in 2000



In most rural and urban schools, the book-learner ratio is at an average of 2:7¹



Adult literacy in Zambia varies notably by gender, with 66% of women being literate, as compared with 82% of men²



Poor sanitation and hygiene contribute towards children missing school, especially girls. 27% of schools provide sanitary towels for girls and 52% of schools offer menstrual hygiene management education³



Pupil-teacher ratio is at 61:1 at primary school levels (with Eastern province having the highest ratio of 87:1), against a national standard of 40:1⁴

Our Programming Approach

World Vision Zambia Education department has been implementing the ZREAD (Zambia Reading for Education and Development) Technical Programme in 23 areas of operation in 20 districts across 8 provinces since October 2016. The Goal of the programme is to provide "Improved numeracy and literacy for 140,000 girls and boys in grades 1-4 by 2025."

By 2021, the ZREAD programme supported 385 schools across grades 1 to 4. The programme is contributing to the achievement of SDG 4 "Quality Education" which aims to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities. In addition, the programme also compliments the Ministry of General Education's Primary Literacy Programme (PLP). It seeks to bring change in learning outcomes in order to improve literacy and numeracy among children in grades 1 to 4.

1, 3 and 4 Education Statistical Bulletin 2018
2 Zambia Demographic Health Survey, 2018

In order to achieve our outcomes, ZREAD implements an innovative evidence-based model called Unlock Literacy (UL) which is being used for literacy enhancement in different parts of the world by World Vision. In Africa, nations currently implementing the UL model include Malawi, Rwanda, Mozambique Ethiopia and Zimbabwe.

The UL model is comprised of three key components, namely

1. Reading Assessment - World Vision Zambia has begun a journey in exploring assessment tools such as Student Testing About Reading (STAR) assesses children’s foundation reading ability. The tool measures reading skills for grade 3 pupils who are the focus of World Vision’s literacy programming.

2. Teacher Training - Comprises of nine training sessions, of which 8 out of 9 must be completed in order for a teacher to be classified as trained. To date World Vision Zambia has trained a total 3,081 teachers across its areas of operation. Teachers learn about pedagogical practices in teaching the five core reading skills which include letter knowledge, phonemic awareness, vocabulary, fluency and reading comprehension. Another aspect of ZREAD’s Teacher Training component is to ensure a print-rich classroom, where the environment has sufficient reading and teaching materials. In order to be classified as a print-rich classroom, the class room must have print-rich walls where at least 50% of the walls are covered by learning materials; non-traditional teaching aids are used; and 90% of students have their own textbooks, exercise books, and pen/pencils.



Idah aged 8, (left) and Charity aged 9 (right), showing off books from the grade 1 library given to the school by World Vision Zambia

3. Community Action - Comprised of two main activities, the Reading Awareness Workshops for parents and Reading Camps which are weekly sessions for Grades 1-4 students who live in the same communities. Reading Camps are designed to be outside school learning sessions to complement what children learn in school and in addition develop a love for reading. In some cases, out of school children have also joined reading camps. Reading Camps are managed by RCFs who are trained by World Vision Zambia. We have currently established 1,071 Reading Camps and trained 710 RCFs. 5,482 parents were trained in Reading Awareness workshops. This equipped parents and caregivers with knowledge and strategies to support their children’s literacy development more effectively.



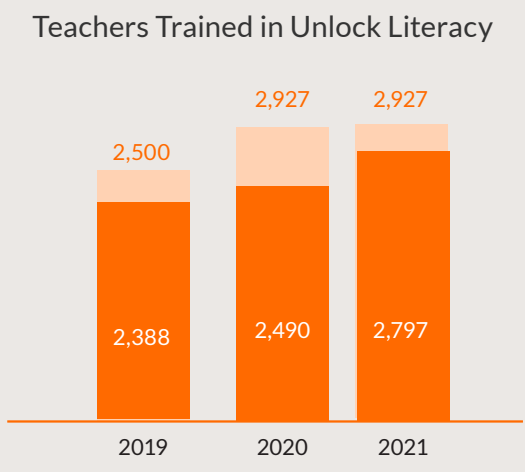
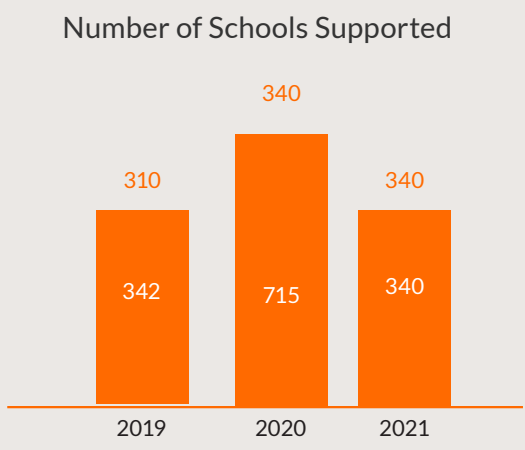
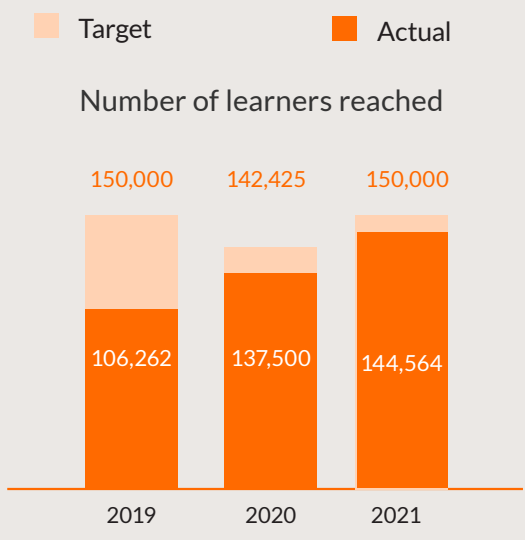
Rabson participating in Unlock Literacy Reading camp in Nyimba District, Eastern Province

2018- 2021 ZREAD Programme Progress			
	2018 Base-line	2021 End-line	
Proportion of parents and caregivers who promote learning and reading	18%	25%	↑
Children attending reading camps	27%	47%	↑
Proportion of students who read with comprehension	13%	25%	↑
Proportion of literacy teachers utilizing the five core reading skills - letter knowledge, phonemic awareness, vocabulary, fluency and reading comprehension.	0%	27%	↑

Donors and Partners



Our Achievements in 2021



Effective teaching of numeracy and core reading



We supported **385** schools in 2021



World Vision Zambia trained **3,081** teachers in Unlock Literacy



427 Education Officers trained and providing literacy supervision to teachers

Learners participate in literacy learning



In 2021 we reached a total of **144,564** learners



In 2021 we supported **767** Reading camp. By the end of the year we supported **31,923** children with literacy activities



We sensitized **4,778** parents to support their children's participation in literacy learning



We developed **30** titles in Chitonga; **25** titles in Icibemba and **4** titles in Cinyanja

Boys and girls have a conducive learning environment



We supported **15** schools with hygiene and sanitation education



In 2021 World Vision Zambia created and supported **71** child friendly learning spaces

Funding Portfolio and Management

PROJECT	BUDGET/DONOR	DURATION	DESCRIPTION
UPLIFT Education	€ 1,200,000 European Union	2021 - 2023	Empowerment of children and youths through increased access to inclusive and quality education by 2023
ANEW	US\$ 20 million	2017-2022	44,015 learners Focusing on education, WASH and improved service delivery
LEGO Learning through Play	US\$ 3 million Lego Foundation/Unicef	2021-2023	Contribute to the holistic development of young children, laying the foundations for lifelong learning in the 6 districts of Zambia by March 2023
ELO	US\$ 1.2 million	2016 - 2019	Prepare and empower female youths for economic opportunities. Safe lodging for female survivors of GBV
ZEST	GBP£ 469, 673	2017 -2022	420 teachers. Strengthen school systems for primary school teachers
NVTP	US\$ 850,000	2017 - 2023	6,768 learners Focus on education, WASH, school renovations/construction
ERE	US\$32,000	2011 -2015	Provide economic opportunities for girls and women to improve child and family wellbeing
E-PAGE	GBP £ 1 million	2017 - 2019	36 schools Improving education services and building capacity of learners



Milando Primary School in Mungwi District was constructed by Toyota Zambia in partnership with World Vision



Chipapa Secondary School in Lusaka Province was constructed by Absa Banl in partnership with World Vision



Nyasowe Primary School in Kalumbila was constructed by Toyoza Zambia in partnership with World Vision

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