



## Educate every child, Our future is in their hands.

**About PLANE-** Partnership for Learning for All in Nigeria (PLANE) is a seven-year education Programme, funded by the UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO). It aims to support and realise the Government of Nigeria's commitment to deliver sustainable improvements in learning outcomes for all of Nigeria's children.

The Programme engages with state and non-state actors within the basic education sub-sector to strengthen systems for improved delivery of inclusive, good-quality foundational learning, with a focus on marginalised groups, especially girls and children with disability. It will contribute to transformational change, enabling the delivery of effective and efficient educational services at scale to improve learning outcomes.

**Where we work-** PLANE works at the federal level and in five states (Kaduna, Kano, Jigawa, Yobe and Borno) with legislators, state and non-state education providers, civil society organisations, teachers' union, community leaders, learners and parents. PLANE also works in two regions, the south-east and south-west.

**Nigeria's Learning Crisis** - Nigeria is grappling with a severe learning crisis evidenced by low literacy rates that disproportionately impact marginalised children. UNICEF (2022) reports that in Nigeria, 75% of children aged 7 to 14 years are unable to read a simple sentence or solve a basic math problem. The country's education system faces numerous challenges including limited access to quality education, teacher competency issues, poor teacher-to-student ratios, lack of adequate learning resources, inadequate school infrastructure and the effects of conflict. Appropriate localised language resources are often unavailable to meet children's literacy needs.

The progress being made over the years has continually been undermined by an increasing growth in the population of school-aged children in Nigeria and other factors including the pandemic outbreak which led to school closures, a rise in insecurity and kidnapping sprees where schools are targets.

*All of Nigeria's Children deserve access to a high-quality education system that gives them the skills they need to build a brighter and more prosperous future.*

**PLANE's Mission** is to bring about sustainable improvements in learning outcomes. PLANE seeks to achieve this mission through improvements in teaching and learning with a focus on foundational skills; unlocking governance bottlenecks for better education service delivery; improvements in the regulation of the non-state sector; embedding the use of data and evidence within the education system; supporting the education of children affected by conflict; working with community structures and improving the inclusion and learning of marginalised children as a whole.

**A stark challenge persists in the form of millions of out-of-school children, predominantly in northern Nigeria, with girls bearing a disproportionate brunt.** Current estimates project that over nine million children are missing out on primary education in Nigeria, and rising in secondary school, with 60% of secondary-aged girls out of school. Particularly concerning is the north-east's 40% rate of children out of school, and the north-west's 30% rate. Obstacles including poverty and conflict, and socio-cultural practices such as early marriage compound this educational exclusion. Up to two in five adolescent girls in this region enter marriage prematurely, further accentuating the urgency of securing girls' education and addressing early motherhood.

PLANE works closely with and in support of state and federal governments to strengthen and improve their systems, education delivery and optimising government expenditures in the education sector. The programme's scope extends across three strategic windows of intervention, namely foundational skills development, education in emergency situations, and community-centred initiatives. It is supported by the DELVe evidence, learning and accountability function. See window table on the next page.



# PLANE OPERATIONAL WINDOWS

## Window 1

**Getting the Foundations Right**



Strengthened Learning & Teaching



Improved Governance for State Education Systems



Improved Governance for Non-state Education Systems



Increased use of Data and Evidence

## Window 2

**Education in Emergencies**



Resilient Systems for Children Affected by Conflict

## Window 3

**Community Support to Learning**



Growing Communities' Support for Children's Learning

**The PLANE programme's anticipated impact is significant and far-reaching, with the potential to reach up to eight million children.** It aims to enhance teaching and learning for approximately 1.5 million children. Additionally, PLANE's initiatives in education during emergencies are expected to benefit around 600,000 children. By targeting various aspects of the education landscape, PLANE seeks to lay the foundation for improved learning outcomes, increased accessibility and enhanced educational quality for generations to come.

**By advocating for and supporting basic education services in crisis-affected areas, PLANE contributes to regional stability and development.** The programme's comprehensive approach, which involves engaging with government entities

and fostering inclusive education, aligns with broader policy objectives aimed at empowering girls, promoting inclusivity and facilitating socio-economic growth through education.

### **Sustainability is at the heart of PLANE's approach.**

It recognises that lasting change requires building relationships, fostering capacity and promoting public awareness. By creating a framework for sustainable improvements, PLANE aims to ensure that the positive impact extends well beyond the programme's lifetime. Through these efforts, the programme endeavours to leave a lasting legacy of improved education and enhanced opportunities for the children of Nigeria.

## PLANE PROGRAMME ACHIEVEMENTS

**Teacher training and improving foundational learning skills-** in 2023, PLANE's window 1 programme worked closely with government partners to transform education delivery by improving foundational learning skills in 2,544 basic education schools across three states (Kano, Kaduna and Jigawa) in Nigeria. Through this engagement, 8,202 Headteachers were trained in school leadership and management, 10,845 teachers were trained on 21st-century pedagogy, subject content knowledge as well as attitude and behaviour. All the trained teachers were provided teachers' guides to improve classroom delivery, while 554,648 learners were provided Hausa literacy and mathematics learning materials to improve their capacity to participate in classroom activities and learn by doing.

### PLANE Window 1 reached:



Foundational Learning skills improved in  
**2,544**



School Leadership and Management Training for  
**8,202**



21st-century pedagogy, subject content knowledge, attitude and behaviour training for  
**10,845**

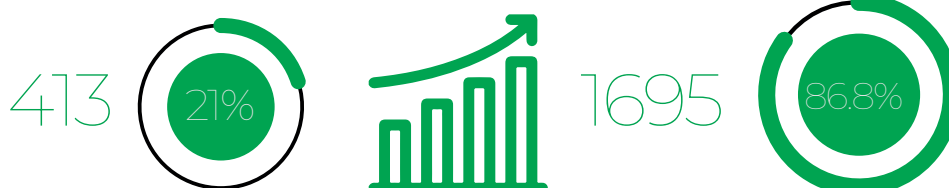


Provided Hausa literacy and mathematics materials to  
**554,648**

**System strengthening:** As part of system strengthening, PLANE worked with federal and state-level governments to review existing policies and domesticate federal-level policies in Kano, Kaduna and Jigawa, to strengthen the policy environment in the state. These include Teacher Recruitment, Deployment and Development Policy, Girls' Education Policy, Gender Policy, Quality Assurance Policy, National Policy on Safety, Security and Violence Free Schools among others. Based on these and other policies, PLANE worked with partners to support the three states to develop state-level strategic plans and budgets for basic education focusing on state-specific priorities.

**Monitoring and Evaluation:** PLANE built the capacity of actors at the state, local government and school level to carry out studies and to monitor activities and course-correct. Specifically, the Department of Monitoring and Evaluation in the Ministries of Education and State Universal Basic Education Board (SUBEB) were trained to develop a monitoring framework, deploy technology and conduct monitoring activities which included school support visits. With this training, the three states (Kano, Kaduna and Jigawa) have adopted the use of education dashboards to track and report in real-time, the results from monitoring activities in schools. With this intervention, school support visits have increased in PLANE-supported schools from 413 (21%) to 1695 (86.8%).

*Increase in school support visits for PLANE-supported schools from*



**Promoting coordination and strong partnerships:** PLANE has provided technical assistance for state governments to improve coordination of stakeholders in the delivery of basic education. For example, the Kano State Government in partnership with the Nigeria Union of Teachers (NUT) trained headteachers on leadership and management in all the primary schools in Kano State and have agreed to make this a joint annual activity going forward. In all three states, the government is coordinating all foundational learning programmes behind the state agenda to improve learning outcomes. This is expected to increase capacity, improve the use of resources, reduce waste and duplication of efforts.

**Embedding safeguarding policies and practices:** PLANE has advocated for zero tolerance of violence and abuse in schools and supported states to domesticate the National Policy on Safety, Security, and Violence-Free Schools (NPSSVSFS). As part of the implementation of the NPSSVSFS, 2,487 schools have created safeguarding plans and referral pathways, providing opportunities for learners to identify and report safeguarding concerns, fostering a more conducive and safe learning environment for both learners and teachers.

**Increased use of evidence for decision making:** Studies conducted by PLANE are providing states with additional evidence to help prioritise actions that will improve education delivery. For example, following the dissemination of findings from PLANE's baseline study, Jigawa State has employed over 5000 additional teachers to improve the quality and quantity of teachers available to facilitate learning in schools. Following the success of the PLANE pilot study conducted on the Graded Assessment in non-state schools, Kaduna State has now adopted a 'Whole School Development Approach' for both private and public schools across primary and secondary schools in the state. Results from the graded assessments will also guide school development planning in the state.

**Increased focus on improving foundational skills:** PLANE supported Kano State to implement an Accelerated Learning Programme for 113,472 Primary 4 to Primary 6 girls and boys in seven local government areas, using the TaRL (Teaching at the Right Level) and British Council Dual Language approaches. This resulted in the number of pupils able to read and do foundational mathematics at grade 1 level increasing by 15%, while the number of pupils who cannot read basic words and recognise 2-digit numbers was reduced by 25%. Kaduna and Jigawa states have now adopted accelerated learning in addition to foundational learning.

**Psychosocial support in conflict affected and challenging environments-** PLANE supported 3,750 teachers to receive psychosocial support through mentoring, enhancing their capacity to support students effectively. Additionally, 1,760 School-Based Management Committees (SBMCs) and Community-Based Management Committees (CBMCs) were trained on gender-responsive and disability-inclusive protection and safeguarding measures. A significant achievement was that 74% of SBMCs operationalised safe school minimum standards through gender-responsive and disability-inclusive Conflict Disaster Risk Reduction Plans, demonstrating a commitment to creating safe and conducive learning environments. While the assessment of children's feelings of safety and protection is ongoing, these efforts collectively represent a holistic approach to improving educational outcomes and well-being for children in challenging contexts.

**Increased communities' responsibility for children through community-based Child Protection Committees-** PLANE has trained 210 Community Based Child Protection Committees in Jigawa, Kano and Katsina. The training was centred on empowering participants on how best to identify, report, respond and monitor child right violations, champion the promotion of their rights through campaigns, awareness, community meetings and advocacy. The committees support children's structures such as Very Young Adolescent clubs, literacy and numeracy boost in the community, building their capacity to understand the signs, symptoms and impact of abuse on children and their development.



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