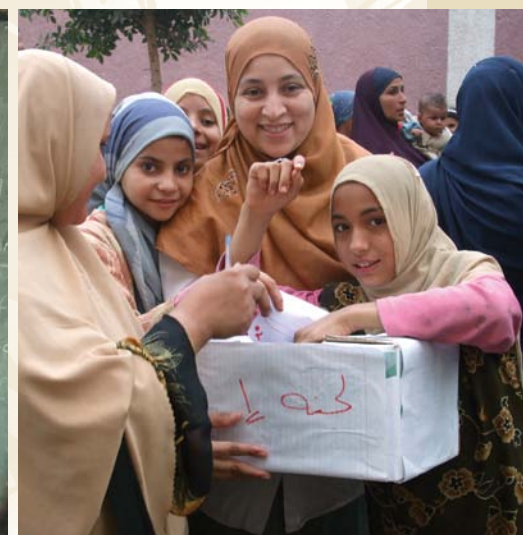


# International Education



RTI International supports education development around the world by strengthening education policy, management, and practice to achieve measurable improvement in teaching and learning. From our well-established reputation in strengthening education systems to our innovative work in Early Grade Reading Assessment (EGRA), RTI is improving education quality, relevance, and efficiency.

## Expertise

- Policy analysis, development, and dialogue
- Education reform support
- Education finance, governance, and management
- Assessment and survey methodology and implementation
- Teacher professional development
- Early grade teaching and learning
- Capacity building of government and local counterparts
- Community and social mobilization
- Project and grant management

Our goal is to equip education policy makers, system managers, teachers, and other stakeholders with the skills and knowledge needed to deliver quality education for all. We work to

- Promote rational policy making and education reform
- Support the use of education information for improved decision making and accountability
- Facilitate decentralization and build the governance and management capacity of education actors at all levels
- Provide assessment and survey expertise to build local capacity to measure education outcomes, design approaches and methods for improvement, evaluate outcomes, and sustain the cycle
- Develop and support appropriate and effective teacher training content, approaches, and delivery

## Policy and Reform Support

Scaling up successful interventions in education requires sector-wide reform. RTI supports education reform from the school to the national ministry by helping counterparts to plan and carry out dialogue, prepare and use data, and develop policies and practices to execute reforms. Through these activities, RTI builds host government and civil society capacity in policy research and analysis, negotiation, monitoring and evaluation, modeling, and planning. In Pakistan, RTI helped the Ministry of Education (MoE) to articulate a vision for the country's schools in the year 2025 through a multistage dialogue. The resulting vision document was written into Pakistan's National Education Policy. RTI has also supported sector-wide education reform in Peru and South Africa.

## Education Data for Accountability

To improve planning and management, education systems must collect, analyze, disseminate, and use data on inputs, outputs, outcomes, and processes in their schools. RTI has developed education management information systems (EMIS) and geographic information systems (GIS) that organize data collection, ensure data quality, and present clear results to policy makers and stakeholders for accountability. In Nigeria, RTI demonstrated the effectiveness of school and district report cards, leading the MoE, schools, and communities to demand data-driven policy. In El Salvador, we established a sustainable National Education Account that provides a comprehensive view of education sector investments and outputs. RTI also supported data for decision making in Guinea, Indonesia, Pakistan, and South Africa.

## Education Management and Governance

Many countries choose to decentralize their education systems to achieve quality and efficiency gains. RTI works alongside governments to facilitate this process. We develop planning and grant mechanisms for school improvement and provide support and training to newly formed school management teams and governing bodies to encourage effective school autonomy. We help embed community participation into institutional policies and practices. We also work with host governments to develop norms and formulas for decentralized education finance, as in Egypt, where RTI advised the government in the design of a shares-based funding formula to move money from the

national level to the local level. RTI implemented education governance and management programs in Indonesia, Pakistan, and South Africa, and currently in Malawi, Mali, and Nigeria.

## Assessment and Surveys

RTI provides assessment and survey expertise to help national and local governments, as well as the donor community, measure the state of learning and management in their schools. For instance, RTI developed a validated set of instruments for assessing foundational skills in reading and mathematics. EGRA is an oral assessment tool used either at the system or classroom level as a simple diagnostic of student progress in reading. The EGRA instrument has been adapted for use in 38 countries, and more languages, around the world. The Early Grade Math Assessment (EGMA) measures student progress in learning math skills in the early primary grades. RTI also developed the Snapshot of School Management Effectiveness (SSME) that collects information on critical school effectiveness factors to provide a rich data set at low cost. We also conduct education-related household surveys at local and national levels.

## Teacher Professional Development

RTI has a proven track record in managing large-scale teacher training programs and designing and delivering teacher training programs that achieve significant results. Typically, we use EGRA or EGMA to provide a baseline of student performance and to create awareness about learning deficits, which motivates teachers, parents, and policy makers to make concrete improvements. We then design instructional materials and approaches to address the learning needs identified and put them into local hands for delivery, supporting teacher training rollout and evaluation. In a pilot program in South Africa in 2009, grade 1 students performed three times better in reading than their peers in control schools after only 5 months of training teachers to improve reading instruction. RTI leads teacher training programs in Egypt and Liberia, and formerly in Kenya, Pakistan, and South Africa, among other countries.

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### For more information, please contact

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