

RIGHT TO EDUCATION INDEX

WHAT IS RTEI?

The Right to Education Index (RTEI) is a global accountability initiative that aims to ensure that all people, no matter where they live, enjoy their right to a quality education. RTEI works with civil society, research institutions, and governments to drive accountability and progress towards the right to education in countries all over the world.

RTEI is a global index built out of the international right to education framework to monitor national progress towards its fulfillment, covering issues such as:

- Is the right to education guaranteed by the constitution?
- Is there a policy for free education?
- Have school fees been abolished?
- Are there enough classrooms, textbooks, and trained teachers?
- Is corporal punishment illegal?
- Does the law protect pregnant girls from being expelled?
- Are schools meeting the needs of children with disabilities?

RTEI reveals key areas in need of improvement, offers country-to-country comparisons, and tracks progress over time. RTEI seeks to strengthen civil society expertise and capacity, hold governments accountable to their commitments, and uphold the right to education for everyone, everywhere.

WHY IS RTEI NEEDED?

Despite increases in access to education worldwide, 263 million school-aged children still remain out of school. Nearly 40 percent of children of primary school age (250 million) are failing to learn basic skills like reading, writing, and arithmetic. Girls, children with disabilities, and other marginalized groups continue to be disproportionately left behind.

In 2013, civil society organizations came together with RESULTS Educational Fund to identify a new intervention to accelerate much-needed progress towards realizing the right education. What emerged was RTEI, a national and international research-to-action advocacy initiative to monitor education development, hold governments accountable to their commitments, and achieve the right to education around the world.

RTEI currently works with partners in:

Australia
Brazil
Canada
Chile
Democratic Republic of Congo

Ethiopia
Haiti
Honduras
Indonesia
Kenya

Nigeria
Pakistan
Palestine
Philippines
South Korea

Tanzania
Uganda
United Kingdom
United States
Zimbabwe



HOW DOES RTEI WORK?

RTEI partners with civil society organizations, research institutions, and governments to collect data on a wide range of indicators explicitly derived from the international right to education framework. The data is used to form the Index, which can be used by the public, civil society advocates, researchers, policymakers, and government officials to identify areas in need of improvement and place efforts where they are needed most.

RTEI operates on a two-year project cycle, with the first year being research and data collection to complete the RTEI Questionnaire and the second year seeing support to partners to develop and implement in-country advocacy campaigns based on their findings.



RTEI is based on the 32 legally binding treaties and conventions that establish and constitute the right to education.

From this international right to education framework, 79 indicators on government obligations have been extracted to form the RTEI Questionnaire.



The Questionnaire is completed by in-country civil society organizations using national data, peer reviewed by national research institutions, and made available to governments for review.

Questionnaire results are used to produce country briefs, reports, advocacy materials, and the data-driven RTEI website.



Results and findings support evidenced-based in-country advocacy campaigns on the right to education.

Ultimately, RTEI forms a platform for partnership and support to coordinated advocacy efforts to realize the right to education.



WHAT IS RTEI'S IMPACT?

Whether it is to increase girls' access to education, improve teacher training on inclusive education, or monitor education budgets, RTEI civil society partners use RTEI findings to work with their communities and governments to address key education issues. RESULTS Educational Fund supports civil society to translate RTEI findings into impact through specific channels of influence, including:

- National education planning and sector reviews
- Parliamentary engagement
- Citizen mobilization
- Media engagement
- UN Committee reporting
- SDG shadow reporting

RTEI was piloted in five countries in 2015, saw its first official round of data collection in 15 countries in 2016, and supported five civil society partners to develop and implement in-country advocacy strategies based on their findings in 2017. In 2018, RTEI has grown to include 20 countries in its next phase of research. RESULTS Educational Fund looks forward to supporting the growing network of RTEI partners to further the impact of coordinated civil society action to make the right to education a reality for everyone, everywhere.

Visit [RTEI.org](https://rtei.org)

- Download the data
- Explore RTEI by theme or country
- Access over 300 education resources
- And much more!

Photo Credit: GPE/Carine Durand, Tara E. O'Connell and Chantal Regaud

