

First

# GLOBAL LEARNING LAB

14th Ed Leadership  
International Roundtable



23 TO 25 SEPTEMBER 2024

26 SEPTEMBER SCHOOL VISIT



# Foundations *to* Flight

Accelerating Learning for All

Spotlight on Research | Largest FLN & ECCE Fair

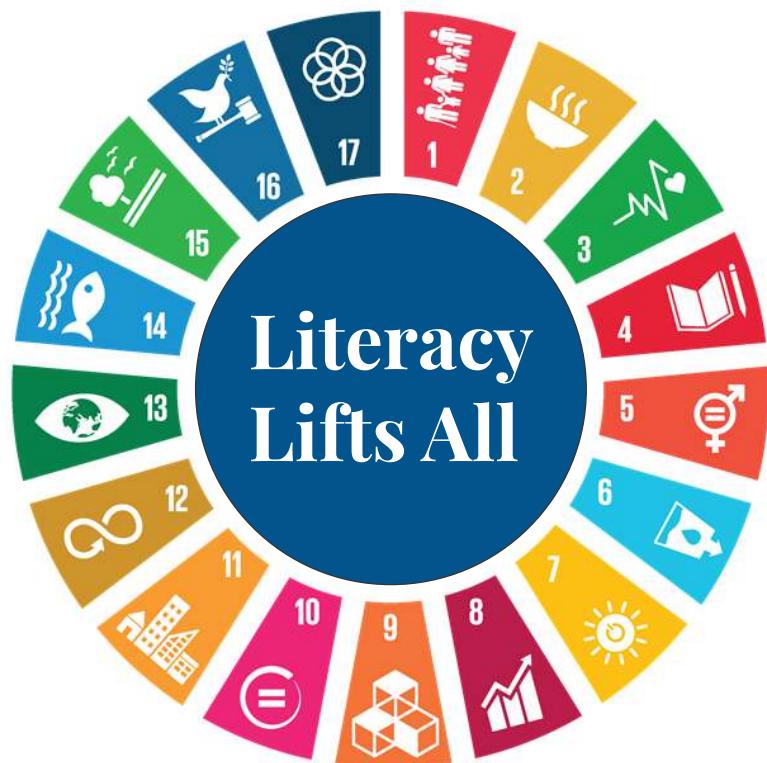
COME LEARN | BE EMPOWERED | LEAD CHANGE

Come Learn

Be Empowered

Lead Change

# Reach SDG 4.1 and 4.6 Before Time



Organised by



**Global Education & Training Institute**  
learn. teach. share.



**DEVI SANSTHAN**  
Dignity Education Vision International  
Leave no one behind



**DIGNITY EDUCATION VISION INTERNATIONAL**

In collaboration with



www.eea-aper.org



Centre for Educational Development Foundation  
(ISO Certified Training & Assessment Unit)



**CMS**  
City Montessori School  
World's largest school

**HOST: World's Largest School**  
**City Montessori School,**  
**Lucknow**  
[www.cmseducation.org](http://www.cmseducation.org)

## Join Us in Pioneering Change

The crises in education is the crises of pedagogy. It is already past half-time for SDG4. Yet, a quality education is implausible without first addressing the problem of Foundational Literacy and Numeracy (FLN) & Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE).

We need an evidence-supported transformative pedagogy that is capable of addressing FLN & ECCE at both speed and scale; a pedagogy that is both holistic and inclusive, and that addresses climate change, and that can be easily integrated in existing systems.

## A Global Learning Lab

The launch of the Global Learning Lab is an opportunity to not only witness the new pedagogy in action, but to go back empowered to scale this up in your own contexts.

## Universal Literacy

A systemwide implementation of this transformative pedagogy is the surest path to universal literacy and to ensuring that all children receive a quality education within the systems.

We invite your active participation and catalytic role.



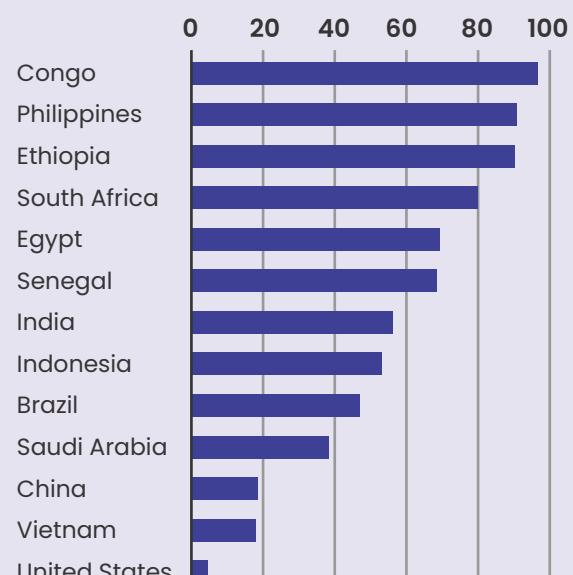
**Sunita Gandhi**

Convenor

Former Economist, The World Bank, USA  
PhD, Physics, Cambridge University, UK  
Founder, DEVI Sansthan, India  
Chief Academic Strategist,  
CMS, World's Largest School

### There are no words

Children who cannot understand a simple text by age ten, selected countries, % 2019 or latest available



Source: World Bank



# Join the Global Learning Lab to Revolutionize Education with ALfA

Away from the murmur of syllables and words, this Global Learning Lab is all about action. Come to discover the latest advancements in education: ALfA – Accelerating Learning for All. ALfA is transforming the educational landscape with unparalleled evidence, surpassing all other pedagogies. Its growth is

exponential, and this conference is your opportunity to find out why. Return empowered to revolutionize education, where 21st-century skills are built-in, not add-ons. Ensure all children excel faster and better within a new definition of quality education.

## Create Your Own Research Implementations

Share your transformation story and spread your impact.

## Scale-Up ALfA

Expand ALfA in your contexts and witness its profound impact through system-wide implementation.

## Become an ALfA Ambassador of Change / Trainer

Transform education in your context by leading and supporting change.

# Opening by The Chief Guest

## Shri Rajnath Singh

Honorable Minister of Defence, India

I want to congratulate Sunita Gandhi for her concept and program ALfA: Accelerating Learning for All that is running in different parts of the country.

I hope in the coming times, this program becomes more successful and gets wider reach. The Government is proactively and diligently working to improve FLN outcomes among children as per the visionary approach adopted in National Education Policy, 2020, which gives the highest priority to achieving universal literacy and numeracy in primary schools.

If Government, Civil Societies, Education Institutes, Government Development Agencies, and Donor Agencies work in unity, we can hope to achieve the cherished goals for our country and the whole world.



Kindly click or scan the QR Code to listen to Rajnath Singhji's views on ALfA



# ALFA

Accelerating Learning for All

## A Pedagogy of the Future, Today

**INDIA** From 20 to 15,000 schools

**FAST**

45 DAYS



**HOLISTIC**

21st CENTURY SKILLS



**INCLUSIVE**

CONNECTEDNESS



**EVIDENCE-BASED**

12 COUNTRIES &  
15,000 SCHOOLS IN INDIA





# School Heads & Teachers TAKEAWAYS

## EMPOWERMENT

Gain insights into global research and trends in FLN, ECCE and quality education.

Learn about the latest pedagogy and its impact on diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Learn directly from school heads and teachers implementing change.

## NETWORKING & RECOGNITION

Foster collaborations with peers.

Share your successes and receive recognition.

## RESOURCES

Explore assessment methods for measuring impact and progress.

Access new curriculum, books, and strategies for teacher training.

Form agreements to advance education in your context.



# Policymakers & International Agencies

## TAKEAWAYS

### EMPOWERMENT

Observe new educational practices.

Enhance professional development with new ideas.

Witness cutting-edge pedagogy.

### NETWORKING & RECOGNITION

Engage in discussions with government, heads and teachers.

Build global educational networks.

### ACTIONS & MOUs

Enroll teachers in online training.

Start a 45-day pilot project.

Take-away resources for implementation.

Sign MOUs for collaborations.

# Disruptive Talks on Literacy



The D-Talks by DEVI Sansthan have witnessed the participation of 174 speakers from 22 countries in its first series that began during the Covid in June 2021.

Speakers have included activists, academics, policymakers and

practitioners at all levels: government, international agencies, non-profit sector, donor community, corporations, youth, university professors, and school heads.

We look forward to engaging discussions with you in Series 2.0 of the D-Talks that have resumed in 2023.

## 174 Speakers from 22 Countries Include



**Robert Jenkins**

Global Director, Education & Adolescent Development,  
UNICEF



**Dr. Abdulla Rasheed Ahmed**

Minister of State for Education  
Head, National Institute of  
Education (NIE), Maldives



**Vicky Colbert**

Founder & Director  
Fundación Escuela Nueva  
Columbia



**Jon Corripo**

Concept Author, Eduprotocols  
USA



**Mary McCool Berry**

Reading Specialist  
Literacy for All Advocate  
USA

Albania

Argentina

Bangladesh

Brazil

Bulgaria

Colombia

India

Kenya

Maldives

## Country *wise* Talks



Scan Me To Watch the D-Talks



Pakistan

Portugal

Qatar

Serbia

Slovakia

South Africa

Switzerland

UK

USA

Nepal

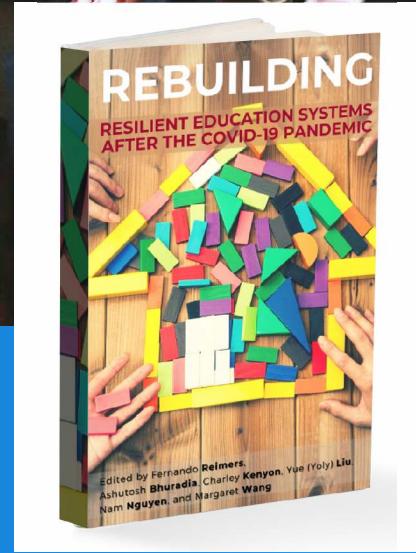
New Zealand

Netherlands

Nigeria



# Research Community **TAKEAWAYS**



## EMPOWERMENT

Get insights into trends, challenges, and opportunities for FLN & ECCE globally.

Review new pedagogy and its impact on diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Learn about the scalability and sustainability of innovative practices.

## NETWORKING & RECOGNITION

Foster collaborations for FLN & ECCE research and advancement.

Share your research and receive recognition.

Meet like-minded researchers from global institutions.

## MOUs & PARTNERSHIPS

Explore assessment methods for measuring impact and progress.

Implement strategies for training teachers.

Reach agreements for advancing FLN & ECCE research in different country contexts.



# CSR/Donor Agencies TAKEAWAYS

## EMPOWERMENT

Understand the needs, data, and gaps in Foundational Literacy & Numeracy and Quality Education (SDG4).

Learn about solutions and their ROI.

## NETWORKING & RECOGNITION

Network with other CSR heads.

Discover international trends in philanthropy.

Share successes and receive certificates.

## MOUs & PARTNERSHIPS

Sign MOUs to collaborate on ready-made projects with governments and NGOs.

Make a large-scale, visible impact. Get recognized.



# Non-Profit Organisations **TAKEAWAYS**

## EMPOWERMENT

Gain insights into global research and trends in FLN, ECCE and quality education.

Learn about the latest pedagogy and its impact on diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Learn directly from school heads and teachers implementing change.

## NETWORKING & RECOGNITION

Foster collaborations with peers.

Share your successes and receive recognition.

## MOUs & PARTNERSHIPS

Explore assessment methods for measuring impact and progress.

Access new curriculum, books, and strategies for teacher training.

Form agreements to advance education in your context.



# Start your 45 day FLN Research Implementation

Achieving FLN with Alfa takes just 45 days. We invite governments to begin their 45-day FLN research implementation, enabling children under 10 to achieve foundational literacy and numeracy skills—reading, writing, and arithmetic—at 10 times the usual speed.

Select the geography or number of schools where you want to start implementation.

Conduct a Benchmark Assessment / Pre-Test.

Train Teachers and FLN Managers, both offline and online.

Print the Alfa materials.

Implement the program for 45 working days.

Conduct a Benchmark Assessment / Post-Test.

Scale-up based on the results.



# MOOT Roll Out on A Global Scale

## MOOT

### MASSIVE OPEN ONLINE TRAINING

MOOT is a catalytic initiative by DEVI Sansthan to quickly empower teachers, trainers and policymakers all over the world with Alfa tools to scale up literacy and provide a quality education on a massive scale for free, leading to immediate implementation. MOOT overcomes the lag times, costs and constraints of physical training. It has been designed to combine the best aspects of a physical training – participation, engagement and discussion – into an online format – and make it more accessible to remote places and far corners of the world. It's also low carbon!



### Free, Catalytic & Rapid

If 45 days could make a person foundationally literate & numerate, would you not do it?

Top chat replay ▾

- S Sunil Kumar 6
- B Bhawna Chundawat 6
- P Priya Vijay 6
- S Sunil Kumar 123, 132, 231, 213, 312, 321
- A Asiya Begum 6

How many numbers can you make using the three chits?

2:13:00 / 3:59:56 Devi Sansthan, Dignity, Education, Vision International

Activity: How many numbers can you make using the three chits: 1, 2 & 3?



*Join the Largest FLN & ECCE Fair*

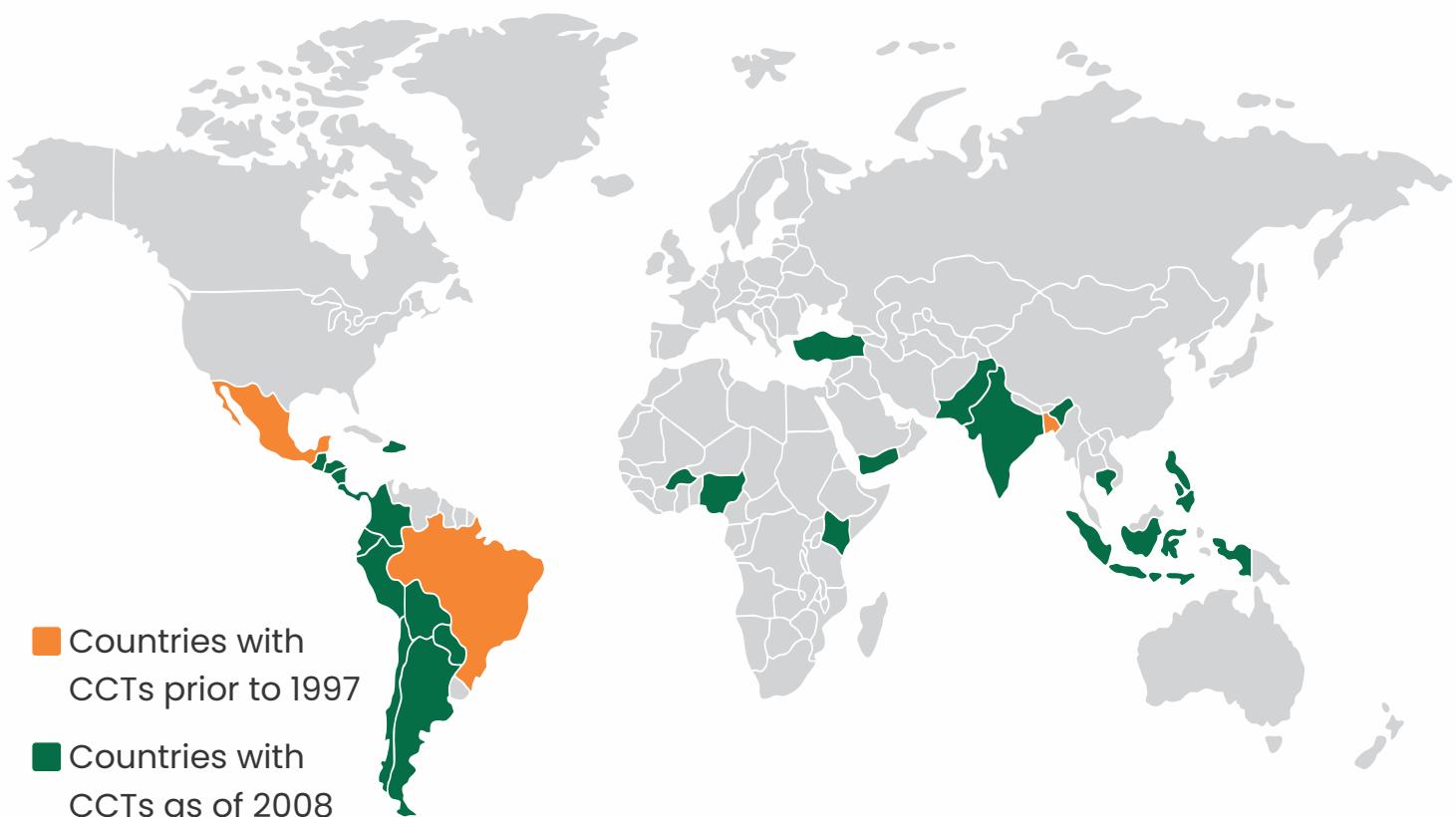


# A Disruptive Approach

Conditional Cash Transfers (CCTs) are more effective in ensuring high attendance and preventing dropouts. CCTs have a particularly powerful impact on school enrolment and attendance for the extremely poor and marginalised, as the cash they receive can make a huge difference in other areas of life.

Brazil's Bolsa Familia program is a global

leader: families are given cash transfers conditional on their children's school attendance and health check-ups. Numerous countries in our region, including Bangladesh and Pakistan, have also used such programs with considerable success.<sup>5</sup> India should trial a conditional cash transfer program for upper primary schools in aspirational districts with a high dropout rates.



*The global spread of conditional cash transfers. Source: Fiszbein & Schady (World Bank), 2009.*

## Research & References

1. UNESCO Institute for Statistics. 2019 <http://uis.unesco.org/en/topic/out-school-children-and-youth>
2. International Labour Organisation. 2020. COVID-19 may push millions more children into Child Labour – ILO and UNICEF. <https://www.unicef.org/press-releases/covid-19-may-push-millions-more-children-child-labour-ilo-and-unicef>
3. UNICEF. 2021. 10 Million Additional Girls at Risk of Child Marriage Due to COVID-19. <https://www.unicef.org/press-releases/10-million-additional-girls-risk-child-marriage-due-covid-19>
4. The Himalayan Times. 2019. Midday Meal Increases Attendance of Students. <https://thehimalayantimes.com/nepal/midday-meal-increases-attendance-of-students>
5. Fiszbein & Schady. 2009. Conditional Cash Transfers: Reducing Present & Future Poverty. World Bank. <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/2597>

- Standardise a transparent process for NGOs to apply to work in government schools, specifying the intervention, its desired outcomes, how success will be measured, and budget.
- Upon approval of a project proposal, sign a one-year non-financial MoU. Select schools from within the desired geographical range to randomly allocate, while ensuring that no two NGOs are allocated the same school.
- Give the NGO authority to work with considerable freedom for the duration of the project, including the ability to visit schools, train teachers, provide different TLMs.
- Across different NGO projects, conduct third-party evaluations of students' learning outcomes and progress relative to baseline.
- Select the most promising projects to be scaled up as part of the system, using government human and financial resources.



A volunteer from Literacy Chicago, USA, helps a man with low literacy skills form a word using letter and picture cards provided with the ALfA materials

# Join the Training of Trainers

## Become an ALfA Ambassador of Change!

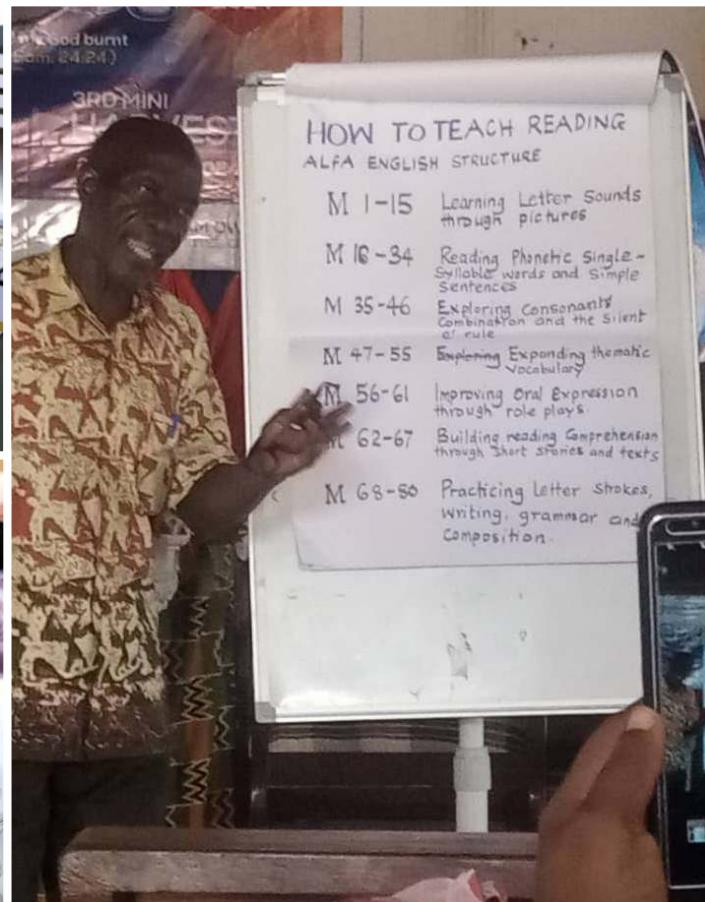
Transform as an ALfA-certified Master Trainer with our immersive 2-hour sessions over 3 impactful days. Learn how to drive practical change in education and inspire teachers with the innovative ALfA teaching-learning approach.

As an ALfA Ambassador, you'll forge connections with educators, principals, and government officials, positioning yourself as a catalyst for lasting change

in the education system. Lead dynamic ALfA workshops and empower teachers to create powerful learning experiences.

Join us in our mission to achieve a fully literate world!





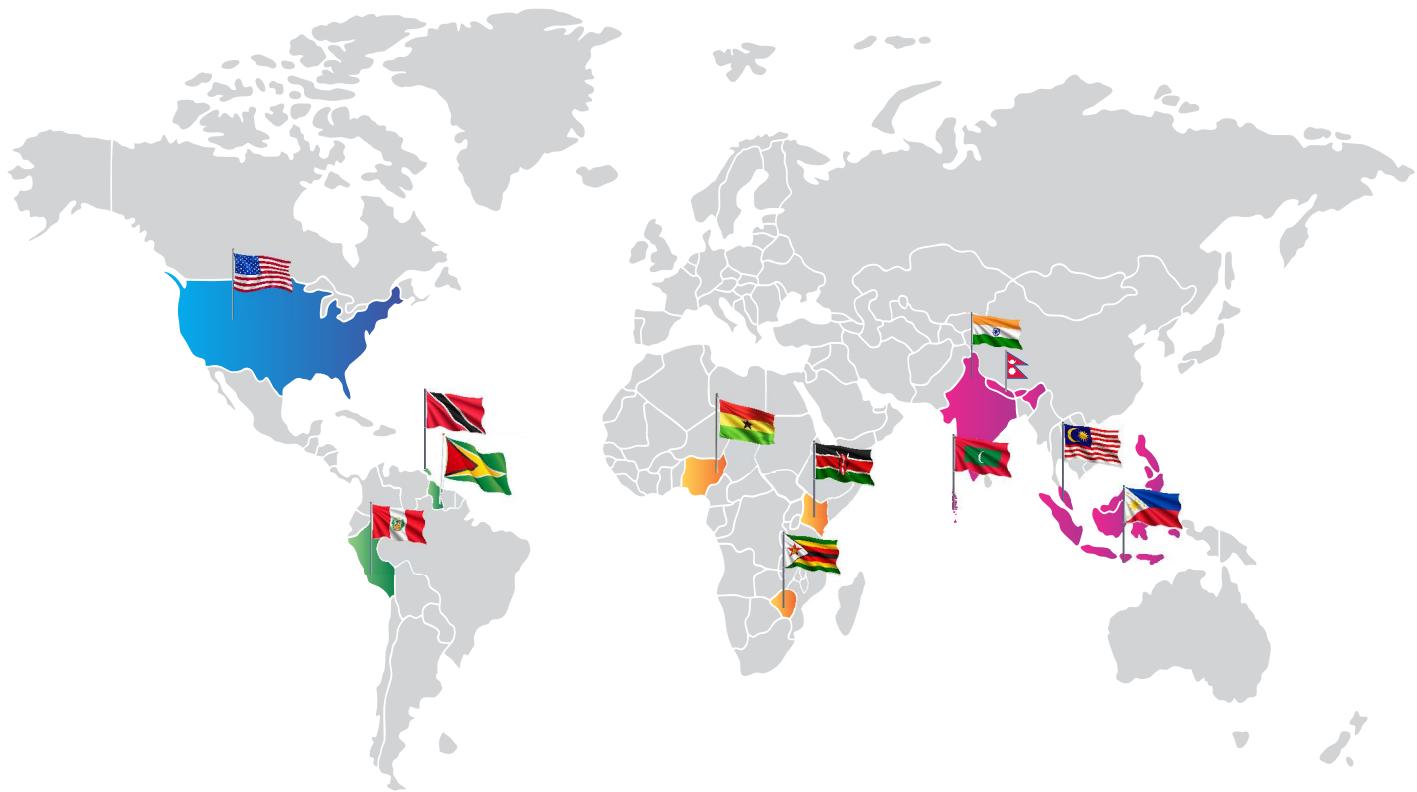
# Early Childhood Education

## The Key to Systemic Change

What goes on inside the classroom is strongly determined by the educational ecosystem surrounding it. To make change sustainable and scalable to every child, we need to transform the education system as a whole – its pedagogies, processes, and policies. This transformation is especially critical in early childhood education, where foundational skills and lifelong learning attitudes are cultivated.

We will examine some key changes the education system urgently requires, particularly in early childhood education, and share some inspirational stories of governments, organizations, and individuals around the world who are transforming education to make a big difference in the lives of thousands of children and adult learners.

# ALfA Worldwide



## Asia

Philippines  
Maldives  
India  
Nepal  
Malaysia

## North America

USA

## Latin America

Peru  
Guyana  
Trinidad & Tobago

## Africa

Kenya  
Ghana  
Zimbabwe

# Largest FLN & ECCE Fair

## Learn from the Changemakers





# Global Ed Innovator Fellowships & Awards

Fellowships and Awards are our way of saying: *"Thank you for being a part of the change process so urgently needed in education."* Fellowships are for promising ideas for research and innovations-in-action. Awards are for programs which are already able to demonstrate their impact with evidence.

## INTERNATIONAL JURY

An international jury will make the selections based on transparent criteria to award between 100 to 200 Fellowships this year depending upon the quality of the submissions.



## FELLOWSHIPS

All GETI Fellows are expected to carry out their ideas for change post selection, and to gather evidence of their implementation on a regular basis in an e-portfolio.

Evidence includes photos, videos, slide presentations, surveys, pre- and post-intervention data (quantitative, anecdotal and qualitative).

All GETI Fellows with evidence will automatically qualify for the Global Ed Innovator Awards.

**Apply in advance for the 14th Ed Leadership Global Learning Lab:**

[https://getilearn.org/Fellowships\\_awards](https://getilearn.org/Fellowships_awards)

Attach evidence with the form submission.

## REAL CHANGE



## TRANSPARENT CRITERIA



## INTERNATIONAL JURY

# Program Structure

## 14th Ed Leadership International Roundtable

First

## GLOBAL LEARNING LAB

Time IST	23rd Sept 2024	24th Sept 2024	25th Sept 2024
9-10 am	Registration, Lighting Lamp, Icebreakers	Plenary 4	Plenary 8
10-11:30 am	Plenary 1	Plenary 5	Plenary 9
11:30-12:30am	<b>Morning Tea &amp; Exhibits</b>		
12-2 pm	Plenary 2	Plenary 6	Plenary 10
2-3 pm	<b>Lunch &amp; Networking</b>		
3-4 pm	Plenary 3	Plenary 7	Plenary 11 Closing Session, Thanks, Awards
4-5 pm	<b>Afternoon Tea &amp; Exhibits</b>		
5-7 pm	Training Session 1	Training Session 2	Training Session 3
7-8 pm	<b>Dinner &amp; Networking</b>		

\*Cultural activities will be integrated throughout

## Contact us

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# Beyond Academics

ALfA provides a truly 21st century education. Beyond literacy and numeracy, the paired learning environment helps children develop crucial skills and traits, including collaboration, communication, critical thinking, creativity, character, citizenship, connectedness, and climate consciousness.



# Climate Education Through ALfA

Education needs to address the climate crises in new and creative ways, for example, reduce carbon footprint by saving millions of tons of paper and ink wasted each year in printing textbooks and workbooks. Learners also need to become climate actors.

## Climate Footprint

Imagine if we could use 1/10<sup>th</sup> or 1/20<sup>th</sup> of the paper currently used in textbooks and workbooks! ALfA booklets are thin, and paper use is further halved when two learners work as a pair. ALfA digital resources are also freely available.

## Climate Consciousness

Children avoid plastic and learn to select and use sustainable materials like pebbles, shells and leaves for hands-on activities.

## Climate Action

Climate action is integrated in the activities. Further, the learners enact roleplays and read stories that inspire climate action.



*Click or scan the QR  
to explore our collection  
of climate-themed  
short stories & role plays*



# Harvard On ALfA FLN

Harvard Graduate School of Education, USA

## CHAPTER 8

### Policy Pathways for Improving Foundational Literacy and Numeracy in Uttar Pradesh, India

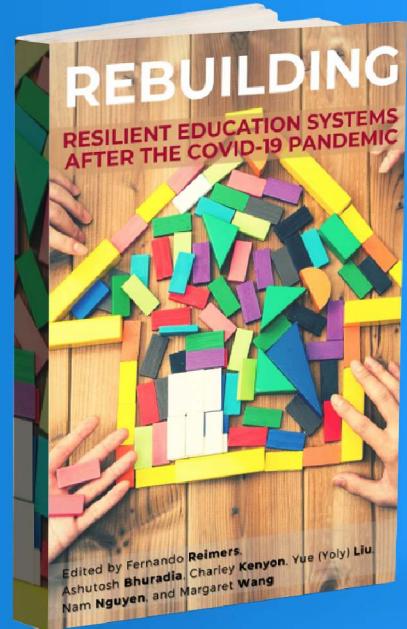
**in "Rebuilding Resilient Education Systems After the COVID-19 Pandemic", March 2023, Amazon**

Chapter 8 of the book by Harvard Graduate School of Education (HGSE), Cambridge, USA, published in March 2023 documents the ALfA program in Shamli, and recommends its widespread adoption in UP.

Chapters 8 also documents results from the ALfA program from a Randomized Control Trial (RCT) conducted in the Shamli district of Uttar Pradesh. The RCT demonstrates a



Click or Scan QR



Book By Prof. Fernando Reimers et al,  
Harvard Graduate School of Education

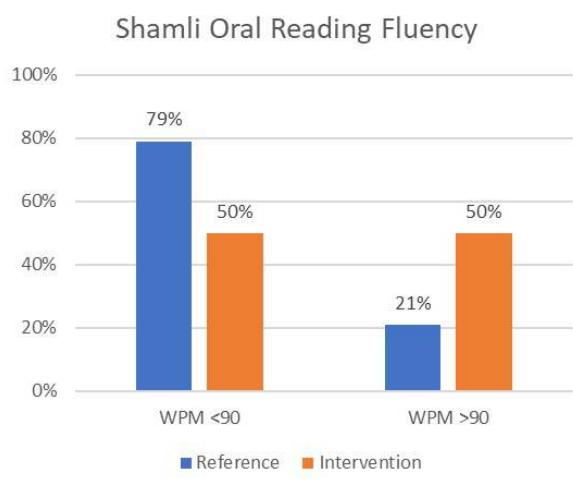
significant effect size of 0.23 for Grade 3 and 0.89 for Grade 5.

Chapter 10 of the same book is about the introduction of ALfA program at the nationwide level in the Republic of Maldives.

On this and next page are some extracts from the chapter on FLN in UP by HGSE.

*We recommend the UP government (1) incorporate the promising ALfA pedagogy developed by DEVI for the first 6 weeks to quickly establish a strong FLN foundation, (2) after the ALfA program, shift to the curriculum.*

*Accelerated Learning for All (ALfA), helps children quickly gain FLN competencies. The pedagogical approach works as follows: students start with known words in the form of pictures, identify the sounds, and work backward to the letters.*



*Students in the intervention groups had much higher ORF [oral reading fluency] levels than those in the reference group. For Grades 4–5, 50% of the intervention group students were able to read the passage at >90 words per minute (WPM) compared to 20% of reference group students.*

*The effect size\* of the project was **0.23 for Grade 3** students and **0.89 for Grade 5**... the results suggest there is significant value in pursuing the ALFA model in other schools if implemented in a coherent, structured, and coordinated manner.*



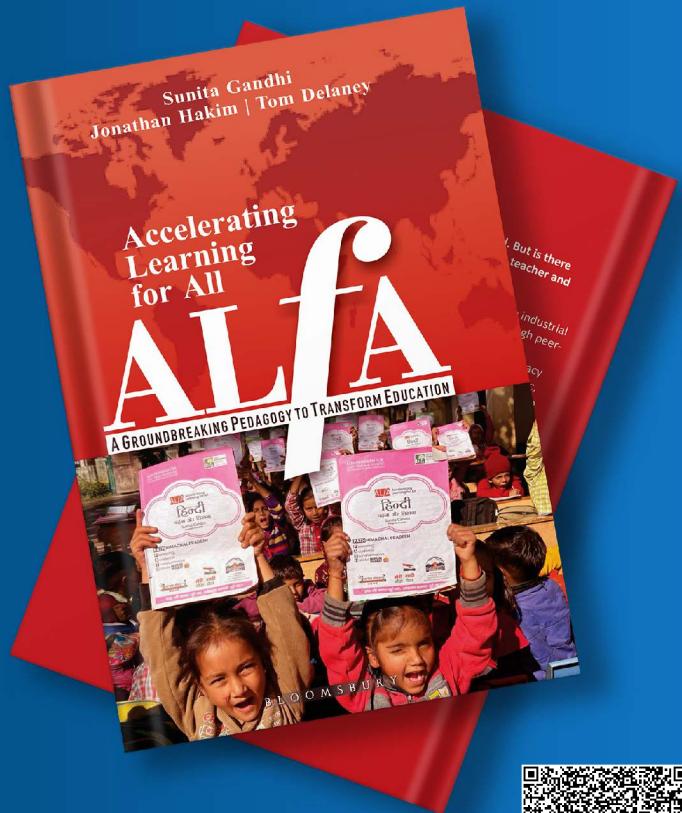
\*Effect size is a statistical measure of how substantial the impact of an intervention is. 0.23 is considered a substantial effect size, and 0.89 very large.

# Publications & Media

## A Groundbreaking Pedagogy

ACCELERATING LEARNING FOR ALL

Published by Bloomsbury  
January 2024



ALfA: Accelerating Learning for All breaks the shackles of the industrial education system, revolutionizing the school experience through peer learning and hands-on activities. The ALfA program enables children and adults alike to learn foundational literacy and numeracy in months rather than years. Beyond reading, writing and arithmetic, ALfA builds the crucial life skills of collaboration, creativity, citizenship and character.

Both a classroom guide for teachers and an implementation roadmap for policymakers, this book explores a transformative approach to teaching and learning. Sprinkled with anecdotes from teachers, principals & students, Accelerating Learning for All inspires and equips us to build a better education system."

*"All students should be able to learn to read quickly so that they can maximize their academic potential and ALfA does that."*

**Jon Corippo**  
Founder of EduProtocols

*"This book provide some insightful and unique ideas about creating a pedagogy of possibility. It will undoubtedly create the conditions for a better world."*

**Sigamoney Naicker**  
Professor, University of the Western Cape

# A Roadmap for Urgent Action

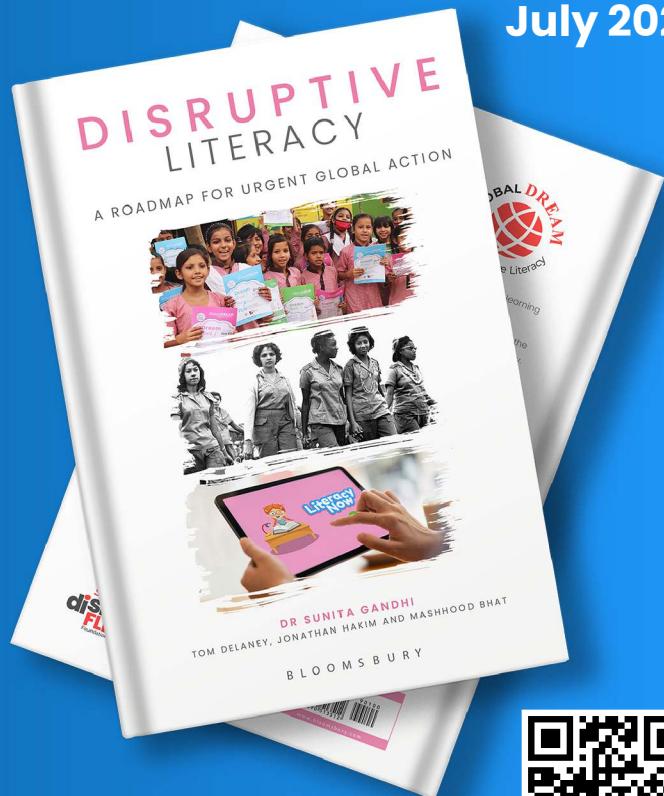
## DISRUPTIVE LITERACY

"Foundational literacy and numeracy are crucial to every person's well-being. A nation's literacy rate is a key predictor of its social and economic progress. Yet the world still has hundreds of millions of children in school but not learning the basics, and adults deprived of these foundational skills. Why?

Drawing from remarkable examples of movements around the world, and sprinkled with stories from the authors' grassroots educational work in the Global Dream Accelerating Learning for All (ALfA) program, Disruptive Literacy is an easy-to-read but hard-to-ignore manifesto that will touch your heart and inspire you to action."

Published by Bloomsbury

July 2022



*"A much-needed manifesto for achieving large scale transformation of the global literacy crisis."*

**Ernesto Schiefelbein**

Former Minister of Education, Chile

*"A must read for policymakers and all those associated with the campaign against illiteracy."*

**Anil Swarup**

Former Secretary of Education, India



# LEADING UP TO THE GLOBAL LEARNING LAB Ed Leadership Conferences

**2008**

Hands-on  
Learning

**2009**

Creating  
conversations that  
lead to  
meaningful change

**2010**

Come let's  
shape a new  
education

**2012**

Creating high  
performance  
education  
systems



**2013**

When the  
best is not  
enough



**2016**

Creating a  
child-centric  
education





**2011**

Metamorphosis  
in  
education



**2014**  
Come let's  
shape  
a new  
education

**2015**

Imagine  
learning



**2017**

Creating  
Spaces for  
Change

**2018**

Well-being &  
Happiness in  
Education



**2019**

A Stress  
Free  
Education

**2021**

The Power of  
Change inspiring  
the teacher  
within

# Stories of Change from Countries Around the World



**Quizizz, International**  
Massive Open Online Trainings partnership



**Teachers Without Borders**  
Toolkit Replication partnership



**World Climate School, Norway**  
Knowledge & Training



**Literacy Chicago, USA**  
Adult Literacy program



**Kupanda Sisters, Guyana**  
Single school pilot



**Arca Beta, Peru**  
Pilot in a school in Amazon



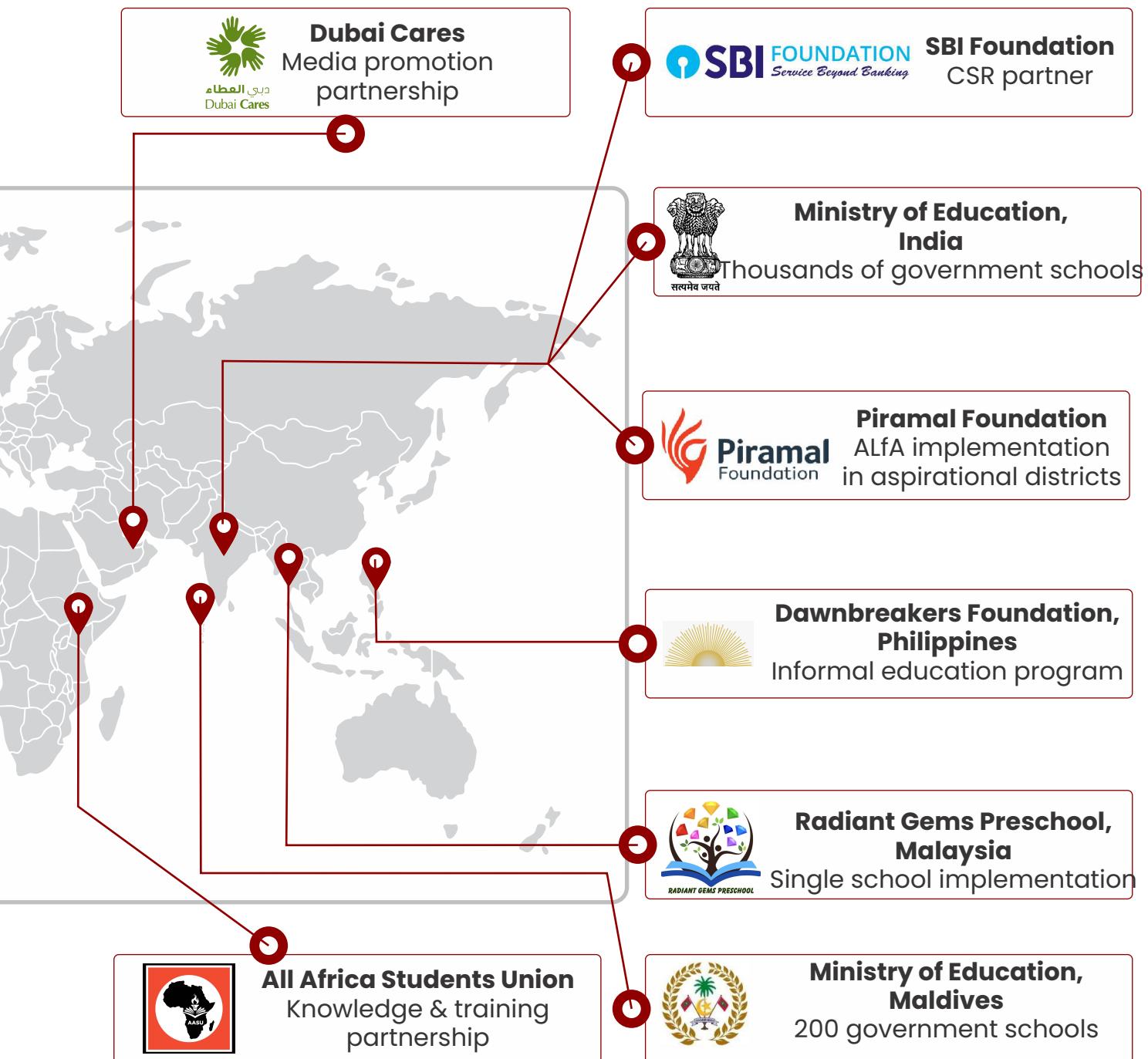
**PATH Youth, Kenya**  
School literacy intensives



**Forum for African Women Educationists**  
Knowledge & training partnership



# AlfA Partner Organisations



# Global Advisory Committee

We thank our advisory committee for their expert guidance and motivation.



**Aïcha Bah Diallo**

Founding Member of  
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**Alesha Anderson**

Senior Program  
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Worldwide, USA



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**Bill Graham**

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Politician, Chile



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**Peter Kwasi Kodjie**

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Ghana



**Rana Dajani**

President, We Love  
Reading, Jordan



**Ravi Sreedharan**

Founder & President, Indian  
School of Development  
Management, India



**Rebecca Doreen**

Founding Director,  
Vadiwa Trust  
Organization, Zimbabwe



**Richard Allen**

Director of Partnerships,  
VOYCE, USA



**Robert Thorn**

Director, Developing Real  
Learners & Academy of  
Learner Development, Turkey



**Samuel Sasu Adonteng**

Programmes Officer for  
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Ghana



**Sigamoney Naicker**

Professor, University of  
the Western Cape,  
South Africa



**Sigbjørn Dugal**

Founder, Pickatale  
Norway



**Stephen Peters**

President, The Peters  
Group, USA



**Sylvia Guimarães**

Co-founder & President,  
Vaga Lume, Brazil



**Vicky Colbert**

Founder & Director,  
Fundación Escuela Nueva,  
Colombia

# A Call to Action

## GOVERNMENTS

Conduct research implementations and scale system-wide evidence-based pedagogy of ALfA



## SCHOOLS

Adopt groundbreaking pedagogy of ALfA

Encourage students to teach a family member or neighbours how to read

Move away from high-stress competitive exams towards compete-with-yourself assessments



## RESEARCHERS

Conduct independent research and share research in journals and with policy-makers



## NGOs

Implement and scale ALfA in their regions and contexts

Partner with DEVI Sansthan

Organise community events and literacy campaigns



## CORPORATE

Fund high-quality education campaigns

Run literacy programs to ensure all workers in your supply chain are literate

Support governments to make literacy a top priority



All for Literacy  
*Literacy*  
for All



# HOST City Montessori School, Lucknow Largest School in the World



World's Largest School  
Recipient UNESCO Prize for  
Peace Education



As the largest school in the world, City Montessori School (CMS), has always upheld the banner of quality education and has promoted an education based on principles of equity and excellence.

A K12 school in the city Lucknow, India, CMS started in 1959 with 5 children and the equivalent of 10 dollars in borrowed capital by Drs. Jagdish and Bharti Gandhi. The school was entered in the Guinness Book of World Records in 1999 and has since

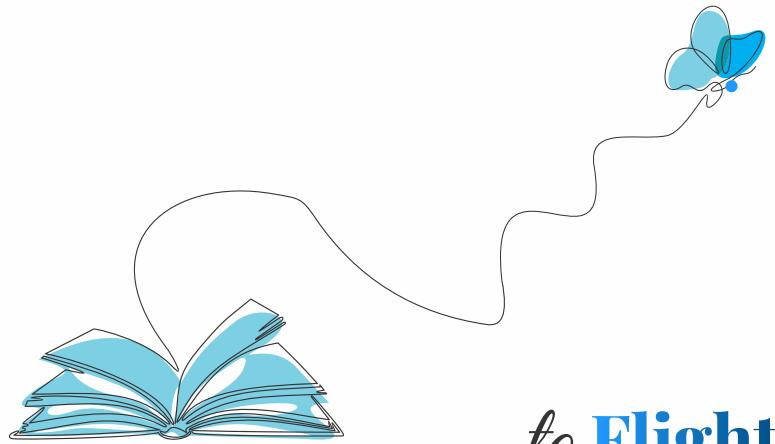
maintained its position as the world's largest school with the current enrollment of 63,000 children.

CMS has promoted an education for peace and world unity. It received the UNESCO Prize for Peace Education in 2002. Children and staff greet each other "Jai Jagat! (Glory to the entire world).

CMS hosts the Annual Conference of the Chief Justices of the World to safeguard the future of the world's 2 billion children.

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₹9,500 includes registration, study materials & meals for all three days

Registration does not include accommodation. Some accommodation is available at the venue on first come, first served basis.

Venue: CMS, LDA Campus, Lucknow, UP, India

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