

Room to Read believes that World Change Starts with Educated Children.® We envision a world free from illiteracy and gender inequality, where all children have room to read, learn and grow, creating lasting change.

Room to Read develops children's foundational literacy skills, as well as life skills that promote gender equality. As a leading implementer, Room to Read nurtures these essential skills in children by training and coaching educators, creating quality learning materials and spaces, and strengthening education systems – all while honoring the dignity of every child. We develop and deliver evidence-based materials and approaches directly and with partners. We are a valuable partner of choice for government, other system and program partners as well as investors focused on education.



Literacy Portfolio

Our Literacy Portfolio develops children's literacy skills and nurtures a love of reading— enabling them to pursue lifelong learning and make informed decisions. We create quality curriculum and children's book content in local language, train and coach educators, and establish enriching learning spaces that enable children to become independent readers.

Gender Equality Portfolio

Our Gender Equality Portfolio supports all adolescents, particularly girls, to develop life skills that promote gender equality — enabling them to pursue lifelong learning and make informed decisions. We improve the availability of quality curriculum and content, skilled and supported educators, and enriching learning spaces. Our life skills curriculum focuses on key skills — collaboration, resilience, leadership, decision-making and critical thinking

Research and Insights

We generate evidence and share insights on what works. And we collaborate with government, social and private sector partners to enhance and transform learning systems — to benefit the most children, as quickly as possible. To implement innovative and dignified learning approaches for children we partner with educators and local communities.

Our Strategic Direction

Room to Read's Core Competencies



Curriculum and Content



Educator Training and Coaching



Delivery Structures



Research and Insights

Our programmatic core competencies, or areas of expertise, are continuously cultivated and guided by what children need to develop literacy skills, and life skills that promote gender equality. Room to Read works in the following areas, developing and delivering quality programming directly, while also strengthening relevant policies and practices with partners

Curriculum and Content

Quality, contextualized literacy and life skills curricular materials, supplementary teaching and learning materials, and children's literature – in a variety of languages and format.

Educator Training and Coaching

Training and coaching for educators to improve literacy and life skills development for all children, using inclusive and sensitive teaching practices that encourage children's development of self-worth and gender equality.

Delivery Structures

Safe and accessible learning spaces for children as well as the time and technology to use them effectively. We also strengthen supply and demand chains that enrich these spaces.

Research and Insights

Generation and utilization of measurement tools, data and evidence that support programmatic improvements and innovations as well as overall improved literacy, life skills, dignified learning, and gender equality outcomes.



Our Approach



Literacy Portfolio

Room to Read is a partner of choice. Our teams are situated in the communities we serve — adapting our materials and approaches to meet local needs. With practical learnings from all over the world, we refine our materials and approaches to ensure effective solutions can be shared across Room to Read teams and with our network of partners.

Teacher Training and Support

We equip educators from government schools with vital coaching and professional development. Faced with limited resources and support, educators need practical, on hand support. Through our training and ongoing coaching, educators master effective instruction techniques and engaging reading activities.

Quality Reading Materials

We craft developmentally appropriate and culturally rich literacy curricula, teaching and learning resources, and children's literature. Through co-creation and partnerships with publication houses and local governments, we are expanding access to children's books and ensuring they reflect children's local contexts and environments.

Child-friendly Learning Environment

We create access to the spaces, time and tools that make learning possible. Safe and accessible learning environment, dedicated literacy instruction time and joyful reading experiences set up every child to develop strong reading skills and habits.

Family, School, and Community Engagement

We conduct parent's workshop to promote all-round culture of reading. It is essential that all stakeholders such as school committee, caregiver and local government is engaged through meetings and workshops.



Gender Equality Portfolio

Gender Equality Portfolio supports all adolescents, particularly girls, to develop life skills that promote gender equality, enabling them to pursue lifelong learning and make informed decisions. Within our portfolio, Room to Read implements Girls' Education Program through which girls build the skills they need to succeed in school and negotiate key life decisions.

Life Skills Education

Our research-based life skills curriculum follows girls through secondary school, helping them build competency in areas such as resilience, leadership, collaboration, critical thinking and decision making. Through workshops and extracurricular activities, girls learn how to apply key skills in their daily lives and become better equipped to handle challenges.

Individualized Support and Mentoring

Essential to our program are social mobilizers, local women hired as mentors to work one-on-one with girls and their families to ensure that girls stay in school. The program support is tailored to each girl's individual need and grade level in addition to local conditions in her community.

Family and Community Engagement

Social norms, expectations and challenges can significantly affect a girl's ability to stay in school. Room to Read engages with families and communities by hosting workshops, events, and other activities to raise awareness about the importance of education and the resources that exist to support girls' learning, especially during crises.

Material Support

For some families, the cost of school uniform or safe transportation is prohibitive to sending their daughters to school. We support them to provide need-based material support for school costs such as tuition fees, school supplies, uniforms and exam preparation.

Our Global Reach

52 M children benefited across 29 countries globally since 2000. 4.1 million adolescents benefited cumulatively through out gender equality programming.

44.5 M

books distributed, including more than 5,058 original and adapted titles published by Room to Read in 57 language

153.4 M

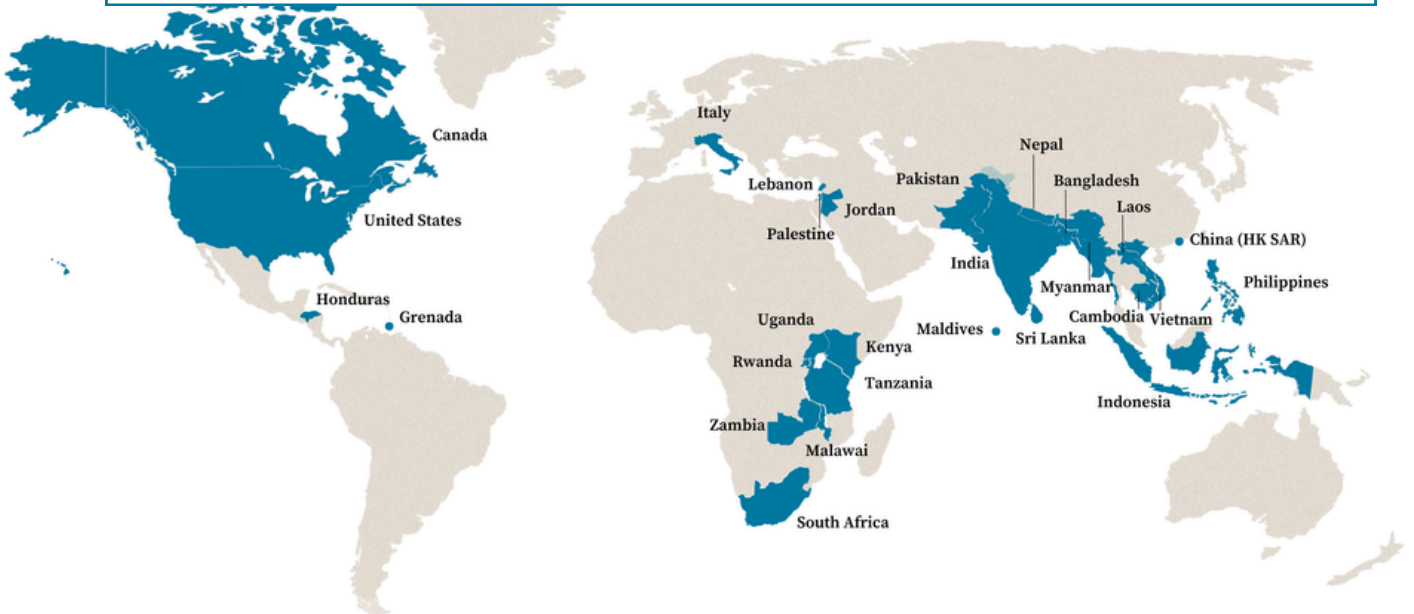
books checked out from Room to Read libraries

2X

more correct words/minute read and comprehension questions answered than Grade 2 students in comparison schools

81%

of surveyed Girls' Education Program 5-year alumnae enrolled in tertiary education and/ or employed.



Our Reach in Nepal

Room to Read has its humble origins in Nepal, where we started off by distributing donated books to rural communities. Today we are a global organization committed to increasing literacy and creating a gender equal world. Since 2000, Room to Read has worked in 32 districts across Nepal. In 2025, Room to Read operates in 721 schools of 67 palikas across seven districts—Nuwakot, Syangja, Salyan, Banke, Gorkha, Kapilvastu, and Tanahun—spanning four provinces.

4.4 M

children benefited across 32 districts.

10.6 M

books distributed, including more than 413 original and adapted titles published by Nepali language

31,709

government school teachers and roaster trainers trained.

74%

of girls pass secondary education examination after receiving life skills and mentoring support

5,265

government school libraries supported since 2000



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