

Education



Iraqi children in a refurbished school.



Children painting a mural in Montenegro.



A school girl completing a puzzle in Indonesia.



Elementary students in Sudan.

While it may be a cliché, it is true that the sustainability of any development program rests on the education of the next generation of citizens. International Relief & Development (IRD) takes this truism seriously and weaves education and training throughout all of our programming. From creating safer classrooms to improving teachers' skills to operating vocational training centers, we are giving youth the skills to manage and direct positive change in their communities. Over the last 10 years, IRD has become a specialist in working in conflict and post-conflict environments, taking on the challenge of working in

some of the most complex and difficult places. Our programs are aimed at improving the quality of life for vulnerable groups, including displaced persons, refugees, and others. Together with local communities worldwide, we operate programs to expand clean water and sanitation systems, increase economic opportunities, rebuild infrastructure damaged by conflict or neglect, reduce sources of conflict, and improve the health of children, as well as responding to emergency needs such as the 2004 tsunami, droughts, and other disasters.



Indonesia

Improved Quality of Decentralized Basic Education Objective 3 (DBE 3)

- **Develops training materials for life skills programs.**
- **Encourages active leaning classroom approaches.**
- **Develops more relevant curricula content.**

Donor USAID/Save the Children Federation
 Dates July 2005 – April 2010
 Amount \$3.5 million

IRD is primarily responsible for addressing life and work force skills in the local content curriculum (LCC) and extracurricular activities as well as developing teacher training materials on activity-based learning in central Java. IRD is distributing training materials and training junior secondary school teachers in all five DBE3 provinces. Additionally, IRD has added extracurricular and service learning activities and implemented dropout prevention strategies.

Improving the Nutrition and Health of Primary School Children (SHIP)

- **Targeted 75,000 children in 500 elementary schools in five districts of central Java**
- **Reduced intestinal infections by 30 percent.**
- **Developed water and sanitation advocacy campaign.**

Donor USDA
 Dates April 2003 – December 2006
 Amount \$2.1 million

This comprehensive public health program, IRD built the capacity of teachers to provide health education in schools, trained children to act as peer educators on health and hygiene, and taught community facilitators to promote health messages in their communities. In addition, IRD upgraded water and sanitation facilities in 81 schools. IRD also improved hygiene practices among school children, which resulted in lower prevalence of intestinal parasites in school children. The local government is planning to adapt the methodology as a manual for local providers.

Jordan

Community Mobilization for Partnerships in Jordanian Schools (CMP) Program

- **Develops joint parent-child learning programs.**
- **Builds national awareness for education.**
- **Develops community participation criteria for the Queen Rania Excellent in Education Award Principles Award.**

Donor: USAID
 Date: 2008 – present
 Amount: \$591,295

To stimulate the integration of community participation into Jordan’s educational system, IRD is developing dynamic community-school partnerships that are helping to bring about positive changes in student school achievements and learning. In addition, the program is transforming the communities concept of “schools” to “Community Learning Centers,” which offer life-long learning opportunities and extra-curricular programs.

Laos

Safe Educational Opportunities

- **Improves children’s health and nutrition.**
- **Provides incentives to keep children, particularly girls, in school.**
- **Teaches school personnel basic bookkeeping and accounting skills.**

Donor USDA/Humpty Dumpty Institute
 Date 2007 – present
 Amount \$1 million

This program serves nutritious mid-morning snacks; for primary school children, provides take-home rations for girls and their families, and implements deworming and other healthy activities. Each of the primary schools will receive a \$5,000 mini-grant to be used to make structural improvements in the schools or conduct activities that improve the health of the students. IRD teaches school personnel how to keep accurate financial records, internal audit practices, and accounting to keep track of these grants as well as student attendance and program effectiveness.

Sri Lanka

Hambantota Educational Support Improvement Program (HESIP)

- **Improved children's nutrition.**
- **Repaired school infrastructure.**
- **Increased student performance.**

Donor USDA
Date 2004 – 2007
Amount \$1 million

IRD distributed milk five days a week to 12,000 children in 37 schools in Hambantota District of the Southern Province of Sri Lanka and supported repairs to school buildings and water and sanitation facilities. In addition, IRD screened children for intestinal parasites and provides medication to those who are infected.

For more information, visit www.ird.org
