

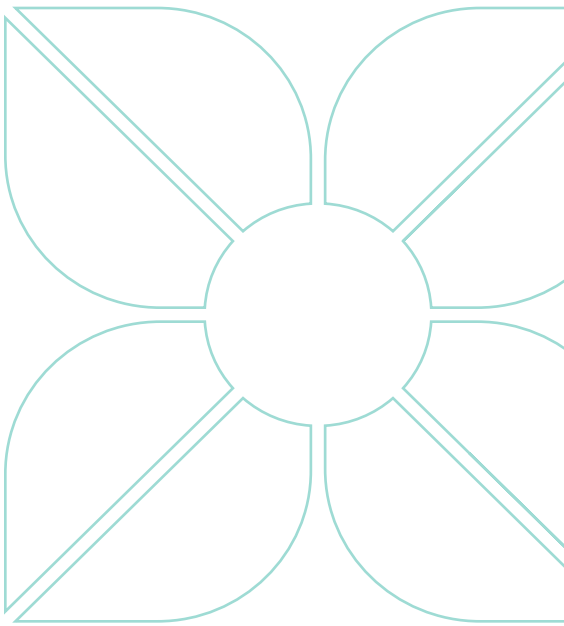
MALALA[®] FUND



ANNUAL REPORT

APRIL 1, 2023 - MARCH 31, 2024

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NOTE FROM OUR
EXECUTIVE CHAIR

A message from Malala

When I think about girlhood, I think of it as a time of optimism and potential – a time for girls to learn, explore and experience the simple joys of life.

Yet as I look back on this year, I see growing threats to and attacks on girlhood in many parts of the world.

In Afghanistan, the Taliban have made girlhood illegal, banning girls from attending school past grade six for more than 1,000 days. Girls living through war and conflict, from Palestine to Sudan to Ukraine, are unable to learn as their schools are destroyed and normal life is upended. All the while, most governments are still not spending enough on education. The stakes could not be higher.

Despite these challenges, girls are leading the charge, demanding accountability from those in power and fighting for their right to learn. Their determination is my reason for optimism.

At Malala Fund, while our resolve may have been tested, it has never weakened. Rather than stepping back, we are doubling down on our mission to support girls' education.

In March, I celebrated International Women's Day with Afghan women and girls in New York, where I heard their courageous stories of resilience and activism. Their strength – and the strength of millions of girls in Afghanistan – is what drives Malala Fund's work through our Afghanistan Initiative. We refuse to let the world ignore their plight and have stepped up our global advocacy for gender apartheid to be recognised as a crime against humanity so that we can hold the Taliban to account. In parallel, we are directly supporting Afghan advocates who are helping girls learn while schools remain closed.

I also revisited Nigeria where I caught up with Amina. She graduated from university and started working as an educator, teaching the



next generation of girls. In Brazil, I met 16-year-old Thuézia, an activist combating school dropout in her disadvantaged community. Through her activism, she has helped dozens of girls return to school.

I know so many girls and young women like Amina and Thuézia. I want to share thousands more stories like theirs. **Thanks to your unwavering support, Malala Fund is helping millions of girls in Amina and Thuézia's communities and around the world.**

As I reflect on Malala Fund's 10 years of work, I am immensely grateful for your support and partnership. Together, we have helped millions of girls learn and lead. And our organisation has grown more focused, nimble and impactful.

With nearly 120 million girls still out of school, I am calling for renewed action as Malala Fund enters its next decade. As you read through this year's report and learn more about our programmes, I hope you will feel as inspired as I do about the work we are doing together.

Girls – from Nigeria to Pakistan to Afghanistan and throughout the world – are counting on us more than ever.

From the bottom of my heart, thank you for supporting our work and for believing in girls.

Malala

MALALA FUND TURNS

10



Celebrating 10 years of girls' education

Over the last decade, Malala Fund has awarded more than 400 transformational grants to partners who are breaking down the barriers to girls' education. Our partners' impact on girls in their communities and countries has extended far beyond the length of their Malala Fund grants.

One of our organisation's greatest strengths is the mutual trust we have with our partners.

In a recent survey, they described Malala Fund as a “leading voice on girls’ education”, “instrumental in organising and empowering women, girls and youth” and having “an impressive capacity for political impact”. For many of them, we were the first organisation to fund their work, helping them attract more donors and reach more girls as a result.

Below, some of our partners reflect on our shared impact on girls’ education in the last 10 years.



Aydin Sahba

**Student from Afghanistan and
Assembly contributor**

“During an incredibly challenging time for the girls of Afghanistan, Malala Fund provided me and many other young Afghan girls with an amazing platform to share our stories and ensure that the plight of Afghan girls did not go unheard.”

Habiba Mohammed

Team Leader, Centre for Girls Education in Nigeria

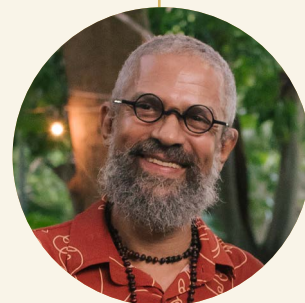
“Malala Fund’s engagements with its Education Champions has spotlighted the issues of girls’ education, increased their visibility and amplified their result. Additionally, Malala Fund’s network engagement with Champions has broadened their ability to see value, learn global best practices and identify work areas for collaborations. The Education Champions Network is working!!!”



Rogério Barata

Advisor, Centro de Cultura Luiz Freire in Brazil

“Malala Fund’s grants were crucial in advancing advocacy wins for the education rights of quilombola girls and young women in Mirandiba. We successfully consolidated these rights into law in a municipality with predominantly Black residents who have been historically marginalised by structural, institutional and environmental racism.”



Suzan Yumbe

Executive Director, Afyaplus Organization in Tanzania

“Thinking about Malala Fund makes me emotional and grateful not because of the grant provided to us – it’s about the life and education of more than 30,600 school girls in Tanzania, the lives of 37 Afyaplus staff, the ability to trust the local founder and youth-led organisation, and the grace of opening doors to five other Afyaplus partners and donors.”



Murshed Alam Sarker

Executive Director, POPI in Bangladesh

“When it comes to providing education to the most marginalised and disadvantaged girls, Malala Fund has stood out as a unique organisation. The efforts being carried out with the assistance of Malala Fund are preventing hundreds of thousands of girls from being denied an education, which is why the organisation’s endeavour is unique and deserving of praise.”

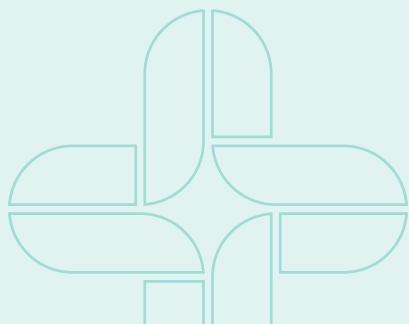


ABOUT US

The state of girls' education



Nearly 120 million girls remain out of school today – 85 million of them are adolescents. Girls, especially those in lower-income countries, drop out of school at higher rates as they get older and transition to secondary school.





The following factors significantly restrict girls' access to free, safe, quality education.

- **Reversal of progress on gender equality**

Widespread gender bias shapes policies that limit girls' opportunities to learn. In some countries, progress on gender equality is reversing. In Afghanistan, the Taliban have issued more than 85 laws depriving millions of girls and women of their rights, a system of oppression called gender apartheid. Girls and women cannot go to secondary school, work or leave the house on their own. As a result of gender apartheid in Afghanistan, 75% of girls are out of school. The ban on girls' secondary education excludes an estimated 1.4 million girls from school beyond the sixth grade, increasing the global number of out-of-school children since 2021.

- **Strained education budgets**

Since the COVID-19 pandemic, almost half of all lower-income countries have cut their education budgets. Government debt continues to increase at alarming rates, leaving governments without the funds to provide good quality secondary schools and teachers where girls need them. In Nigeria, large debt repayments force the government to sacrifice investment in public services, including

education. As a consequence, households shoulder 72% of total education spending. Families facing stretched finances often pull girls out of school first. The same dynamics are repeated in other lower-income countries, leaving education severely underfunded and girls on the sidelines.

- **Increased conflict and climate shocks**

Increasing levels of conflict and climate shocks like storms, droughts and floods disrupt girls' education. In the first four months of the conflict in Gaza, bombing severely damaged or destroyed 80% of schools. Since the escalation of conflict in Sudan in April 2023, 6.5 million children have lost access to school. Three years of conflict in northern Ethiopia has disrupted education for 1.5 million children. And since 2020, climate disasters have triggered the displacement of 13 million school-aged children across 27 countries, interrupting their education. Conflict and climate shocks worsen existing barriers to learning for girls including gender-based violence and early marriage — placing adolescent girls at highest risk of dropping out of school during crises.

OUR MISSION

Malala Fund is working for a world where every girl can learn and lead.



Founded by Malala and Ziauddin Yousafzai in 2013, **we champion every girl's right to 12 years of free, safe, quality education.** Together with our board, leadership council, donors, staff, champions and girl activists, Malala Fund is creating a more equal world by making sure all girls can go to school.

What we do

We invest in and build networks of education advocates

Through our Education Champion Network, we invest in local educators and activists — the people who best understand girls in their communities — in regions where the most girls are missing out on secondary school. We leverage their collective power to create broader change and make it easier for all girls to learn.

We advocate to hold leaders accountable

We advocate — at local, national and international levels — for resources and policy changes needed to give every girl a secondary education. The girls we serve have high goals for themselves — and we have high expectations for leaders who can help them.

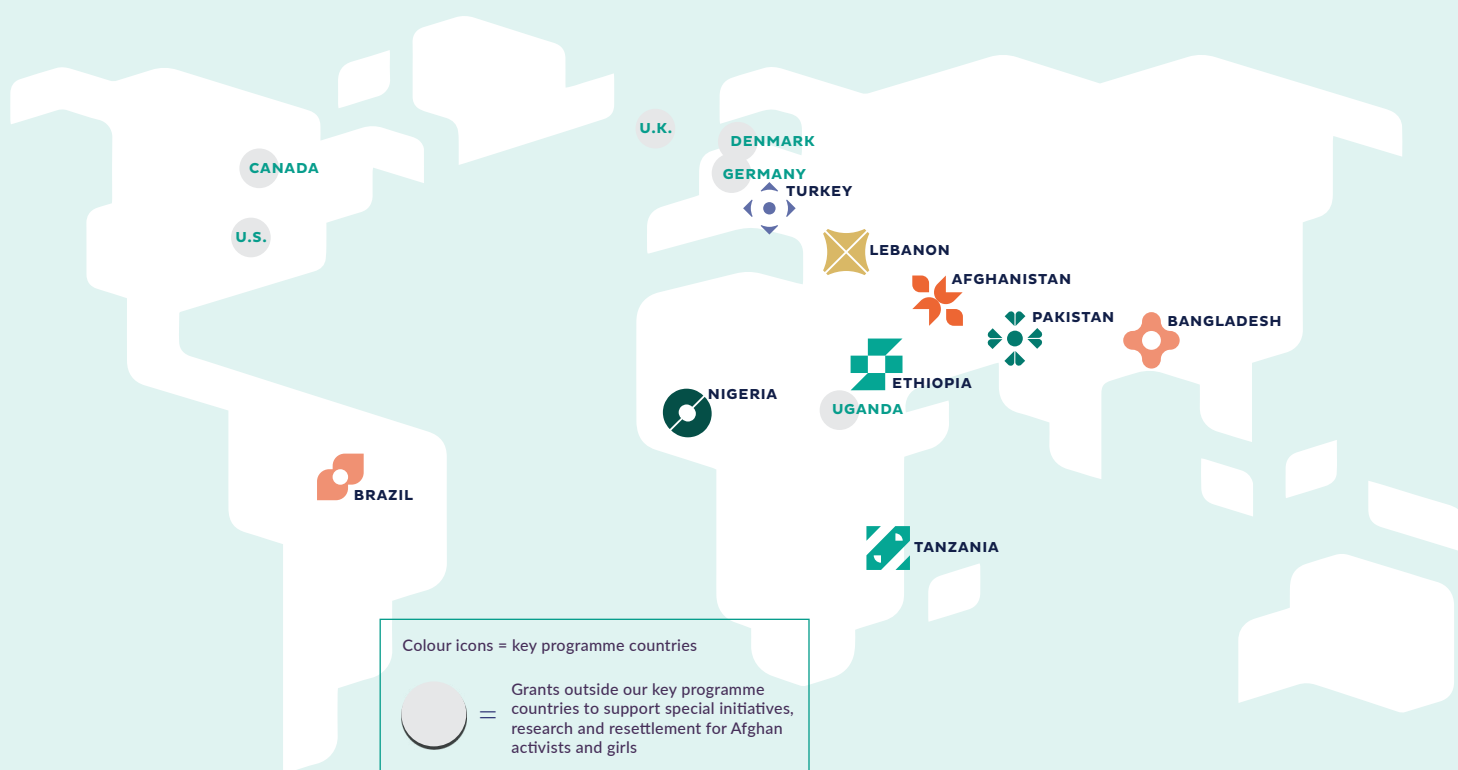
We help develop the next generation of young leaders

We give girls the tools they need to advocate for education and equality in their communities and a platform for the world to hear their voices. Girls should speak for themselves and tell leaders what they need to learn and achieve their potential.

Our investments

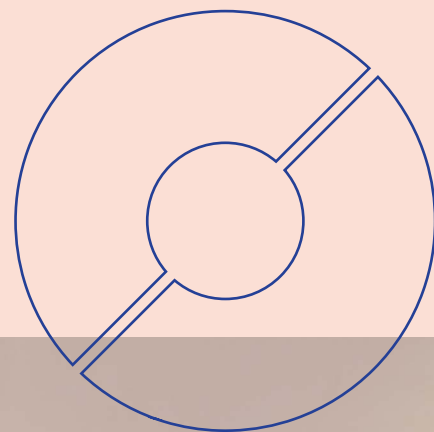
This fiscal year, Malala Fund awarded \$9.7 million in grants to organisations in 12 countries. We disbursed funds through our core initiatives, the Education Champion Network and Girl Programme, and launched a new Afghanistan Initiative to support alternative and digital learning programmes for Afghan girls while they are barred from secondary education and global advocacy to end gender apartheid. We awarded additional grants to key partners focused on issues that directly impact girls' access to education.

Fiscal Year		Champions supported	Girl Programme fellows + partners	Additional partner organisations	Countries	Cumulative amount invested	Cumulative students reached
1	2017–18	9	—	—	4	\$3.5M	792,873 ¹
2	2018–19	27	—	—	6	\$7.3M	1,676,294 ²
3	2019–20	39	—	—	7	\$11.7M	2,338,053 ³
4	2020–21	61	—	23	8	\$15.9M	14,278,302 ⁴
5	2021–22	81	25	75	10	\$25.8M	17,955,582 ⁵
6	2022–23	102	49	198	9	\$39.7M	21,009,583 ⁶
7	2023–24	120	63	226	7	\$56.2M	21,781,521 ⁷



GLOBAL ADVOCACY

Supporting girls at the global level



After 10 years of fighting for every girl's right to 12 years of education, Malala Fund understands that progress is not always linear. Through a global pandemic, systematic attacks on girls' rights, natural disasters and conflicts, girls were determined to continue learning – and we remained committed to supporting them.

Keeping the world's attention on girls' education is an important part of Malala Fund's mission to see all girls in school. At global events this year, we advocated for expanding the international right to education to 12 years. We called for global leaders to act on the Taliban's increasing, systematic oppression of women and

girls and their ban on girls' secondary education in Afghanistan. We amplified and supported Afghan activists' efforts to get gender apartheid recognised in international law. We built momentum and support for advancing gender equality in and through education and unlocking more global funding for girls' education.

Highlights from our work this year include:

Drawing global attention to gender apartheid in Afghanistan

- On December 5, 2023, Malala delivered the 21st annual Nelson Mandela Lecture in Johannesburg, South Africa, as the youngest-ever speaker in the lecture series' history. During her speech, Malala spoke about the Taliban's systematic oppression of women and girls in Afghanistan. She also brought attention to a growing effort by activists to expand the definition of apartheid to include gender-based oppression. The lecture launched our Afghanistan Initiative's efforts to raise global awareness of gender apartheid and strengthen networks of Afghan women activists and organisations advocating for the recognition of gender apartheid in international law.
- Malala Fund co-hosted an event on International Women's Day in New York City to discuss gender apartheid in Afghanistan, with partners including the International Peace Institute and Atlantic Council. Malala, legal experts and Afghan activists made the case for the codification of gender apartheid in international law to senior diplomats,

Afghan partners and government officials. Malala and our team also met with senior representatives from Malta, Mexico, South Africa and Albania. The meetings drummed up support ahead of an important U.N. General Assembly 6th Committee meeting where countries discussed including gender apartheid as part of the draft Crimes Against Humanity treaty.

Expanding the global right to free education to 12 years

- Malala Fund worked with partners to advocate for expanding the international right to education to 12 years — to include free, full secondary education and one year of free pre-primary education — ahead of the U.N. Human Rights Council session in Geneva in June 2023. More than 70 countries pledged their support for changing international law on free education at the session. Luxembourg, Sierra Leone and the Dominican Republic are taking the initiative forward, aiming to agree on next steps to develop a new legal instrument that expands the right to free education to the secondary level.





Advancing and tracking gender equality in and through education

- As part of our work to promote gender equality in and through education, also known as gender-transformative education (GTE), we consulted with education activists around the world, including at the Women Deliver conference in Rwanda and the U.N. General Assembly. Through the consultations, we aimed to better understand activists' visions for education systems, the policies that can best advance GTE systems in countries and the global processes and initiatives that can progress GTE.
- In July 2023, Malala Fund launched the girls' education report cards website, which scores countries based on multiple criteria including school completion rates, quality of climate education and social policies. Our site provides girls' education activists with girl-focused education and gender equality data to support their advocacy. It also serves as a key resource on the Global Accountability Dashboard, established by the U.N., Malala Fund and other partners to track progress against government commitments to gender equality and education.

Increasing financing for girls' education

- Throughout the year, Malala Fund convened girls' rights and education groups to discuss how we can work together to unlock more funding for girls' education. We explored opportunities to collectively advocate for changes to the global financial architecture. Our team also met with dozens of activists, organisations and multilateral institutions at the U.N. General Assembly, IMF-World Bank annual meetings, COP28 and the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) to discuss how reforming global debt and tax policies could free up billions more dollars for education in lower-income countries. At CSW, our proposed language on debt and tax reform was incorporated in the Commission's agreed conclusions.

PROGRAMMES



Investing in education advocates and activists



Malala Fund invests in the work of educators, advocates and activists to help more girls access and complete school in their communities and countries. This fiscal year, we awarded \$9.7 million in grants to new and returning partners.

Our Education Champions work to improve girls' access to secondary education in their communities and countries. Our Girl Programme Fund provides flexible grants to groups and organisations that identify as feminist and are led by young women. These partners support girls to develop their advocacy, leadership and movement-building skills.

We stepped up our efforts in countries with exceptionally high rates of out-of-school girls. Working alongside our partners, we deepened and expanded our national advocacy and work in Nigeria, where 7.6 million girls are out of school, and in Pakistan, where 12 million girls are out of school, through our country offices.



NIGERIA

YEAR ESTABLISHED: **2017**

ACTIVE PARTNERS: **19**

In Nigeria, barriers such as hidden school fees, policies that only guarantee nine years of free education and decreasing education budgets keep girls from completing 12 years of school. Additionally, safety concerns loom large in schools, with incidents of student kidnappings and 44% of adolescent girls reporting experiences of physical or sexual violence inflicted by teachers and/or classmates. To address these pressing challenges, Malala Fund and its partners advocate for legislative changes to ensure 12 years of free education for all Nigerian children. We push for the government to fulfil its commitment to allocating 4% of GDP and 22.5% of the national budget to education by 2025. We also support organisations that advocate for policies and deliver programmes to make schools safer for girls.



NIGERIA

OUR NEWEST AND RETURNING PARTNERS

- Bridge Connect Africa Initiative
- Centre for Girls Education
- Connected Development Initiative
- Education as a Vaccine
- System Strategy and Policy Lab



PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

IMPROVING SAFETY AND GENDER EQUALITY IN SCHOOLS

Our partner **Initiative For Leadership Development and Youth Empowerment (Young Leaders Network)** advocated for adopting the National Policy for School Safety and Violence-Free Schools in Bauchi state, one of the states with the highest number of out-of-school children in Nigeria. The policy became a key focus of the Commissioner of Education's tenure, and the state government started implementing the national Safe School Plan, which outlines measures to provide safe learning and teaching environments.

Oyo and Gombe states are working to incorporate our partner **Invictus Africa's** Gender Responsive Education Budgeting framework into various phases of their education budgets. The framework helps policymakers address gender inequalities in education by ensuring that they consider gender in all steps of the budget process. It also outlines activities to improve girls' enrolment and completion rates.

PRIORITISING GIRLS' EDUCATION

Malala Fund Nigeria's involvement in developing the National Education Roadmap 2024–2027 led to the Ministry of Education designating Girl-Child Education as a standalone pillar in Nigeria's education strategy. This achievement was the result of advocacy efforts stemming from Malala's visit to Nigeria in July 2023 to raise girls' education as a priority at the national and state levels. Malala, her father Ziauddin and U.N. Deputy Secretary-General Amina J. Mohammed met with young women, activists and educators as well as key leaders in government, including the Vice President and the Governor of Borno state, who are critical to driving progress for girls' education across Nigeria. As part of a special Malala Day celebration and speech in Abuja, Malala also urged governments to make transformative, long-term investments to get all girls in school.

PAKISTAN

YEAR ESTABLISHED: **2017**

ACTIVE PARTNERS: **21**

Despite education being a constitutional right in Pakistan, widespread gender stereotypes and a shortage of free, quality schools and women teachers keep 12 million girls out of school. Our partners address these challenges by strengthening girls' leadership and confidence, advocating for progressive teaching methods and promoting girls' access to STEAM education. As Pakistan currently allocates less than 2% of GDP to education, falling short of the global commitment of 4%, we also work alongside our partners to push the government to increase investment in education and get all girls in school.



PAKISTAN

OUR NEWEST AND RETURNING PARTNERS

- Blue Veins
- Orenda Welfare Trust
- Storykit



PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

STEAM LEARNING FOR MILLIONS OF GIRLS

Malala Fund's STEAM Education for Girls programme launched in 2022 in partnership with the Pakistani government, Pakistan Alliance for Maths and Science, Science Fuse and Pakistan Youth Change Advocates. The five-year initiative provides girls in Pakistan with access to science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics (STEAM) education, and encourages more families to send girls to school. The STEAM programme has engaged 500,000 girls in 4,500 high schools through initiatives like STEAM girls' clubs and competitions. Over the next three years, the initiative aims to reach 5 million girls in 13,000 public schools nationwide.



SUPPORTING GIRLS TO THRIVE IN SCHOOL AND GAIN DIGITAL SKILLS

Our partner **Bedari** trained 220 teachers from 110 girls' secondary schools in Vehari, Punjab, on counselling skills to help their students deal with personal challenges like their sexual and reproductive health and rights. Bedari's training was so effective that the Punjab government asked them to establish district-wide Child Protection Committees, each consisting of two trained teachers, in girls' secondary schools. The committees counsel and assist students, and escalate cases of street and cyber harassment and child marriage to committees at the Assistant Education Officer level when necessary.

Our partner **Innovate Educate and Inspire Pakistan** launched Tech Sahelis, a digital lab, as a safe space for girls and young women in Hunza to learn digital skills for financial independence. The programme has provided access to digital tools, the internet, skills development and freelance job mentorship to 30 girls and young women aged 15-30. The local community has grown increasingly supportive of Tech Sahelis as a safe, supportive space that is opening up job opportunities for girls.

Country highlights

Outside of Nigeria and Pakistan, Malala Fund awarded grants to 50 partners in five core geographies and five additional locations. With their grants, some of our partners ran underground schools for girls in Afghanistan, provided remedial education for girls in tea garden communities in Bangladesh and worked with village elders to discourage child marriage in Tanzania.

We present highlights from our work in other countries below.



AFGHANISTAN

Year established: 2017

Active partners: 14

Our partners provide alternative and digital learning programmes for girls in Afghanistan who are banned from secondary school, and raise global awareness of the country's gender apartheid as part of Malala Fund's Afghanistan Initiative.

Our newest and returning partners:

- Begum Organization for Women
- LEARN
- Women and Children Legal Research Foundation

Two additional partners have chosen to remain anonymous.

Programme highlights:

- Girls and young women in Afghanistan face immense trauma and mental health challenges from being deprived of their freedom and rights. **Women and Children Legal Research Foundation (WCLRF)** provides online education and psychological and social support through live group counselling sessions for close to 400 adolescent girls across three provinces. WCLRF also offers offline educational and counselling resources for girls while they are excluded from the school system.
- **Civic Engagement Project (CEP)** is building a coalition with Afghan women activists in the diaspora to increase their understanding of the legal aspects of codifying gender apartheid in international law. CEP is also organising workshops with Afghan women activists and thought leaders to develop policy ideas and advocacy strategies to end gender apartheid in Afghanistan.

BANGLADESH

Year established: 2017

Active partners: 14

Our partners expand access to education in regions with high rates of poverty, child marriage and gender-based violence. They also work in climate-vulnerable areas to ensure girls can continue to learn when extreme weather disrupts school and impacts their families.

Our newest and returning partners:

- Alokito Hridoy Foundation
- Efforts for Rural Advancement

Programme highlights:

- **Friends In Village Development Bangladesh (FIVDB)** provided remedial education to 240 adolescent girls at risk of dropping out of school among marginalised, isolated tea garden communities in Sylhet division, where girls have limited access to mainstream education. Participating students increased their test scores in Bengali, English and mathematics by an average of 40%. Despite initial resistance from the community, FIVDB also organised the tea gardens' first ever girls' football tournament. Through football, girls developed communication, decision-making and problem-solving skills, all while having fun and challenging gender stereotypes.
- **Badabon Sangho** brought together more than 300 girls from marginalised castes, religious and indigenous groups and fishing communities in Bagerhat, a climate-vulnerable coastal area, to fight for their rights. At a district-level event organised by Badabon Sangho, the girls' groups advocated for Bangladesh's Child Marriage Restraint Act, 2017 to address early and forced marriages that directly result from the impact of climate change on the reproductive health and livelihoods of those living in coastal communities. The girls' groups and civil society organisations are pushing the government to create an annual plan and budget to support households likely to arrange early marriages.

BRAZIL

Year established: 2018

Active partners: 16

Our partners support Black, Indigenous and quilombola girls from rural communities and low-income urban areas to access quality education. They also advocate for anti-racist, inclusive school environments and to expand national education funding.

Our newest and returning partners:

- Associação Redes de Desenvolvimento da Maré
- Centro das Mulheres do Cabo
- Centro de Estudos das Relações de Trabalho e Desigualdades
- Instituto de Estudos Socioeconômicos
- Instituto de Referência Negra Peregrum
- Odara Instituto da Mulher Negra

Programme highlights:

- **Grupo Curumim** uses essay contests in public schools in Pernambuco state to spark discussions on topics such as gender-based violence, sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) and racism, reaching more than 600 girls. Young women from Grupo Curumim teach girls about these issues and train teachers and school managers to support girls in crafting their essays. This approach helps change educators' attitudes and behaviours towards these issues. To further engage students, they bring Batucada – a group of girls who play the drums, sing and recite poems about women and girls' rights – to perform at the schools.
- **Campanha Nacional pelo Direito à Educação** played a key role in organising the National Education Conference in January 2024, one of the main political spaces for the development of Brazil's new 10-year National Education Plan. Campanha's work resulted in a final document to guide the implementation of the Fund for Maintenance and Development of Basic Education and Valuing Education Professionals (FUNDEB) and the promotion of racial equity as a pillar of education delivery. FUNDEB, a government fund representing 40% of Brazil's public education budget, makes sure marginalised schools get the resources they need to support their students.

ETHIOPIA

Year established: 2020

Active partners: 16

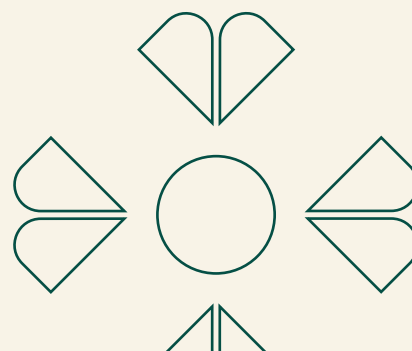
Our partners support girls in rebuilding their lives and completing school after the conflict in Tigray. They also work in other regions to make schools more inclusive and address obstacles that keep girls from learning including gender-based violence and discrimination.

Our newest and returning partners:

- Araya Women and Children Charitable Organization
- Initiative Africa
- Tarkanfi Sustainable Development
- Women Empowerment Action

Programme highlights:

- **Roots and Wings** converted textbooks into sign language videos for more than 500 deaf students in Addis Ababa and ran sign language training for teachers to better support their students. To help support deaf girls to campaign for their rights, Roots and Wings helped create the National Association for Parents of Deaf Children of Ethiopia and are supporting girls to create a Deaf Students Association.
- **Women Empowerment Action (WE-Action)** developed the Gender Safe School Bill to create safe and inclusive learning environments for girls, particularly to combat gender-based violence and foster gender equality in schools. Currently implemented in selected schools in Amhara, the bill includes seven key declarations and actions for schools to undertake. WE-Action aims for the bill to be made into law and rolled out across Ethiopia.



TANZANIA

Year established: 2021

Active partners: 17

Our partners advocate for policies to reduce Tanzania's high rates of early marriage, ensure adolescent mothers can complete their education and strengthen girls' ability to advocate for their own education.

Our newest and returning partners:

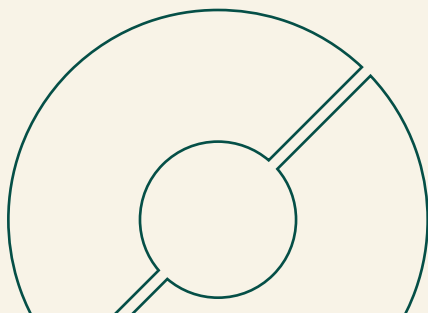
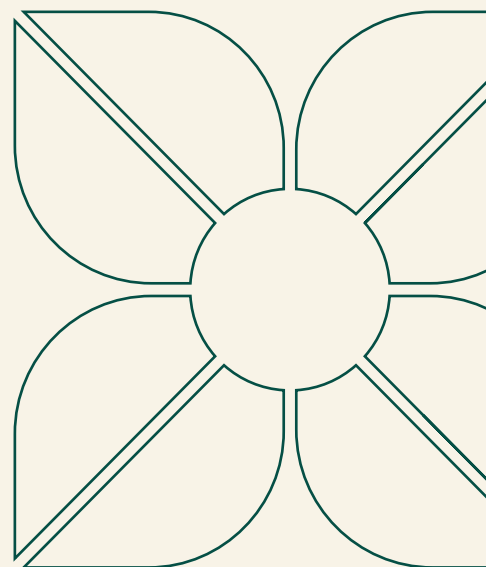
- Hope 4 Young Girls Tanzania
- Okoa New Generation

Programme highlights:

- **KINNAPA** are working with village elders and local government officials in pastoral communities in northeastern Tanzania to develop bylaws, or local laws, that help keep girls in school. The bylaws forbid parents from receiving marriage payments for their daughters if they have not completed secondary school and are under 18. KINNAPA have helped create these laws in 19 villages so far, raising awareness of the importance of girls' education and reducing girls' dropout rates.
- **Zanzibar Fighting Against Youth Challenges Organization (ZAFAYCO)** formed the National Network for Girls Social Shifters to train 60 girls from across Zanzibar to effect positive change for themselves and their peers. The girls started grassroots movements involving more than 350 girls in their local areas to challenge social norms that prevent girls from going to school and support girls in their learning. As a result, more than 20 schools are establishing Girls Care Clubs to address obstacles to girls' learning.

ADDITIONAL PARTNERS

Although not included in the above highlights, we continued to support 33 partners in India and Lebanon this year who are tackling gender discrimination and financial and safety barriers that keep girls from finishing secondary school.

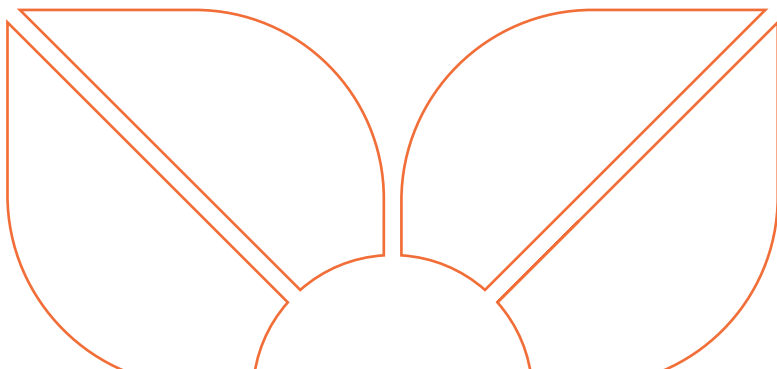


CENTRING GIRLS

Young women driving change



Girls have bold visions for the future — and strong opinions about what leaders should do to achieve them. Through our Girl Programme Fellowship and Assembly publication, Malala Fund puts girls at the forefront of our work, providing them with training to hone their advocacy skills and a platform to deliver their message.



GIRL PROGRAMME FELLOWSHIP



Speaking out on the global stage

Our Girl Fellows shared their experiences and challenges with accessing and completing their education at the Women Deliver conference in Rwanda in July 2023. Our fellows joined Malala in connecting with activists and decision-makers from around the world, and met with other young activists to build connection, community and knowledge.

At the Forum for African Women Educationalists' Conference on Girls' Education in Kenya, our Girl Fellows met with researchers, students, governments and innovators from across Africa who are advancing girls' education. They provided recommendations on how teachers and other stakeholders can better support girls in and through school.



Our newest Girl Fellows

Bangladesh

Sabana Akter
Suraiya Akter

Brazil

Ana Beatriz (Bea Diniz)
Heloise Almeida Luna

Ethiopia

Hassena Eberahim
Ruth Kebede Aytenfisu

Nigeria

Halima Yusuf
Jane Mann-Effiong
Martha Samuel
Sa'adatu Saidu Idris

Pakistan

Aasha Urooj
Urwa Naeem

Tanzania

Jacquiline Godfrey Msambila
Monica Samwel Patrick
Vanessa Aquilin Kiango

Leading community initiatives

As part of their 18-month programme, Girl Fellows each choose and carry out a project to benefit girls in their communities. Here are some highlights from this year:

- **Tamilore Omojola's** project equipped girls in Nigeria with skills to improve their confidence and independence. She hosted weekly sessions with girls and young women in her community in Ibadan on topics like financial literacy, continuing education, climate change and sexual and reproductive health. She also organised an advocacy event where they voiced their perspectives.
- **Dr. Ayesha Kareem**, who focuses on climate justice, conducted extensive research around climate change in some of Pakistan's most populated provinces, including Punjab, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Gilgit and Sindh. She reached 12 schools and completed 140 interviews, resulting in a framework to introduce climate education in Pakistan that she now advocates for.



ASSEMBLY

Our digital publication and newsletter gives girls the space to articulate their challenges, needs and opinions on today's issues, including education access, mental health and gender apartheid in Afghanistan. Assembly is a publication by girls, for girls.



"It is crucial that girls passionate about education and gender equality in Nigeria and around the world see someone like me — a talented, young, ambitious, videographer and comedian — in a male-dominated environment succeed."

— **Taaooma (Maryam Apaokagi)**
a 25-year-old Nigerian influencer and comedian, writes about using her visibility to bring attention to important issues affecting girls in Nigeria.

"I would like the government to be more responsible when it comes to education. It was in the midst of seeing so many people give up, that I got a taste of how difficult it is to excel when structural inequalities play against you, against your education, and against [you] achieving your dreams."

— **Maria Eduarda Moreira**
an 18-year-old from Brazil, reflects on writing the #GirlsDecide manifesto and demanding quality and education for all.

"As a child growing up in this ongoing war, I learned to laugh and play amidst the chaos, but the harsh realities of being an Afghan girl would come to shape the course of my life."

— **Muzhda Akbari**
a 17-year-old activist, writes about growing up in Afghanistan and her hopes for the future.

Some of our most-read stories featured girls' creative expression and perspectives on local issues that grabbed global attention.

AFGHANISTAN

Afghan girls shared their grief and hopes for their home country — protesting gender apartheid through painting and photography and calling out world leaders for their silence on girls' and women's rights in Afghanistan.

ACTIVISM

Young women shared what inspires and fuels their activism for girls' rights and education including comedy, the stories of Afghan girls and Malala.

GIRLS' EDUCATION ACCESS

From Brazil, Ethiopia and Pakistan, girls wrote about the impact of mental health challenges and war on their education and shared how they're fighting for their right to learn.

OUR READERS



From April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024, we published **35+ videos** on Assembly's Instagram ([@on.assembly](https://www.instagram.com/on.assembly)) with **3.2 million total views**.

Top 10 countries by readership:

- | | |
|--------------|-----------------|
| 1. U.S. | 6. Pakistan |
| 2. India | 7. Philippines |
| 3. U.K. | 8. South Africa |
| 4. Canada | 9. Germany |
| 5. Australia | 10. France |

From April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024 we had:



113,150 new visitors to Assembly's website



235,775 web page views

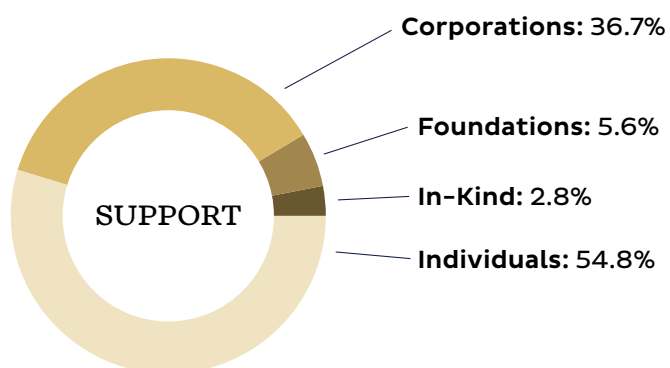


12,100 newsletter subscribers

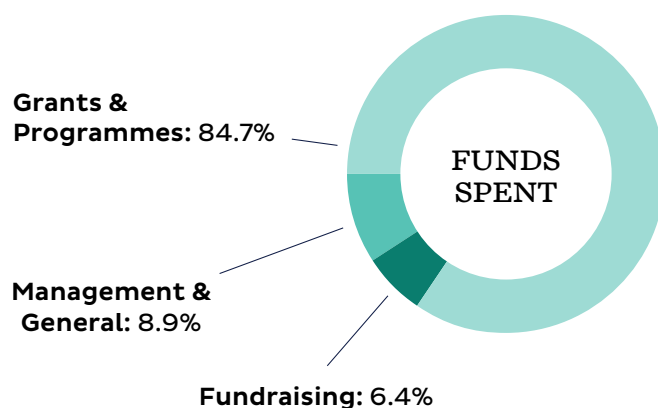
Breaking down our revenues and expenses



Where our support came from



How we spent our funds



Summarised statement of activity

REVENUE AND SUPPORT	2024	2023
Contributions and grants	\$16,526,458	\$55,320,607
Investment income	\$2,505,543	\$(366,842)
Contributed services and materials	\$489,488	\$186,035
Total revenue and support	\$19,521,489	\$55,139,800
EXPENSES		
Programmes services	\$22,091,456	\$22,662,013
Management and general	\$3,021,900	\$2,536,535
Fundraising	\$1,642,447	\$1,587,389
Total expenses	\$26,755,803	\$26,785,937
Change in net assets	\$(7,234,314)	\$28,353,863
Net assets at beginning of year	\$57,061,193	\$28,707,330
Net assets at end of year	\$49,826,879	\$57,061,193

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OUR DONORS

With gratitude and thanks

These generous individuals, foundations and companies helped power our work through the year.

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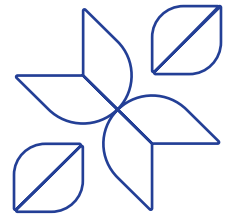
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Why our donors give to Malala Fund



"I'm a 10 year old girl and I can't imagine what my life would be like without school."

— Vivienne, U.S.



"I am a teacher and I have seen first hand what women can do when they are educated, loved, and empowered by others."

— Amy, U.S.

"I feel it's my responsibility to do whatever I can because everyone should have access to education just like I do."

— Marja, Finland



"I believe in a better world and that women all over the world should have the right to study as every human being should."

— Robert, Brazil



"Because I wish all girls had the educational advantages my granddaughters have had."

— Mary, U.S.

"I want to help girls around the world achieve anything they want in life."

— Léa, France



REFLECTIONS FROM
OUR CEO



Learning from the last 10 years

This year, Malala Fund celebrates 10 years in operation, a decade marked by important progress to secure 12 years of education for all girls.

In this time, our organisation grew and evolved. We adapted to address threats to girls' education and worked to keep girls learning through a global pandemic, systematic attacks on girls' rights, conflicts and climate disasters. My role at Malala Fund also evolved. I joined Malala Fund seven years ago and witnessed the organisation transform as our world did. This year, I stepped into the CEO role and I am excited and honoured to lead Malala Fund into its next decade.

As an organisation, we are incredibly proud of our partners' collective impact — together we have reached 21.8 million students over the last 10 years. Our Education Champions' advocacy efforts have secured critical policies to ensure all girls can go to school — from passing a constitutional amendment supporting free basic education in Brazil to eliminating hidden school fees in Nigeria's Kaduna State. Our Girl Programme partners have supported girls to build the skills they need to advocate for education and equality in their communities, and our Girl Fellows have grown as leaders and activists.

In the last year, we strengthened our commitment to Afghan girls and women by launching our Afghanistan Initiative. It is providing more funding for alternative and digital learning programmes for girls banned from secondary school and supporting Afghan activists advocating for the recognition of gender apartheid in international law.



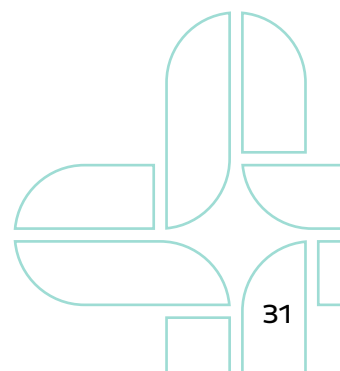
We deepened our engagements in Pakistan and Nigeria, where our country teams and partners successfully advocated for the government to prioritise and increase funding for girls' education at provincial and national levels. Across five core geographies, our partners worked to increase girls' access to secondary education from tea garden communities in Bangladesh to pastoral villages in Tanzania.

We also celebrate 10 years of your remarkable support this year. **Your generosity helped us reach millions of girls and combat the threats to girls' learning. We're counting on your steadfast support to continue powering our global movement to get every girl in school.**

As Malala Fund continues to assess how we can best support girls, our next five-year strategic plan will be shaped by important learnings from the last 10 years. As we step into our next decade, we will be as focused and driven as ever in ensuring every girl can go to school for 12 years.

With my deepest gratitude,

Lena Alfi



SOURCES

1. FY17–18: 9,084 students (5,735 girls + 3,349 boys) attended formal/non-formal education programmes; 452 students (391 girls + 61 boys) attended skills development workshops; 783,337 students (399,563 girls + 383,774 boys) impacted by policy changes.

2. FY18–19: 883,421 students reached in FY18–19; 7,486 students (6,170 girls + 1,316 boys) attended formal/non-formal education programmes; 1,608 students (1,397 girls + 211 boys) attended skills development workshops; 209,486 students (199,153 girls + 10,333 boys) impacted by policy changes; 750 students (350 girls + 400 boys) impacted by scaled-up education models; 27,392 girls in Malala Fund programme countries trained using Malala Fund's Girl Advocate Guide; 636,699 views (616,324 girls + 20,375 boys) of Malala Fund's Girl Advocate Guide online through malala.org, Facebook and other country-specific digital platforms.

Note: Malala Fund suspended Education Champions' grant deliverables between March 1, 2020–June 31, 2020 and in some cases longer or during additional periods due to the COVID-19 pandemic lockdowns.

3. FY19–20: 661,759 students reached in FY19–20; 12,680 students (11,206 girls + 1,474 boys) attended formal/non-formal education programmes; 3,357 students (2,832 girls + 525 boys) attended skills development workshops; 622,078 students (432,078 girls + 190,000 boys) impacted by policy changes; 23,644 students (12,386 girls + 11,258 boys) impacted by scaled-up education model.

4. FY20–21: 11,940,249 students reached in FY20–21; approximately 10,499,379 students reached through Malala Fund's COVID-19 response initiative + 1,440,870 students reached through the Education Champion Network programme.

- *COVID-19 breakdown:* 25,856 students (15,442 girls + 10,414 boys) enrolled in school; 899 girls attended skills training; 16,661 students (12,890 girls + 3,771 boys) received COVID-19 support (materials, lessons, alternative classes); approximately 1,009,100 students reached through radio lessons during COVID-19 school closures; approximately 8,000,000 students reached through television lessons during COVID-19 school closures; 1,446,863 students were reached through education apps and lessons shared through Facebook and WhatsApp during COVID-19 school closures.
- *Education Champion Network breakdown:* 32,040 students (25,291 girls + 6,749 boys) enrolled in school/non-formal education programmes; 6,547 students (6,175 girls + 372 boys) attended skills training; 25,307 students (13,040 girls + 12,267 boys) taught by teachers trained by partners; 1,033,733 students (711,057 girls + 322,676 boys) benefited from policy change; 343,243 students reached through digital tech access and other remote learning support.

5. FY21–22: 3,677,280 students reached in FY21–22; approximately 273,073 students reached through Malala Fund's COVID-19 response initiative + 3,404,207 students reached through the Education Champion Network programme.

- *COVID-19 breakdown:* 273,073 total students – 54,233 students (33,013 girls + 21,210 boys) enrolled in school; 16,003 students (10,445 girls and 5,558 boys) attended skills training; 55,111 students (28,285 girls and 26,826 boys) received COVID-19 support (materials, lessons, alternative classes); 26,883 students (18,359 girls and 8,524 boys) were reached through trained teachers; 2,003 students (1,100 girls and 903 boys) were reached through policy change and 118,850 students (73,713 girls and 45,137 boys) digital tech access.

- *Education Champion Network breakdown:* 3,404,207 total students – 75,380 students (63,776 girls + 11,604 boys) enrolled in school/non formal education programmes; 74,279 girls were reenrolled; 5,398 students (4,962 girls + 436 boys) attended skills training; 38,913 students (31,738 girls + 7,175 boys) reached through trained and recruited teachers; 2,591,413 students (1,368,400 girls + 1,223,013 boys) benefited from policy change and 618,824 students (587,903 girls + 30,921 boys) reached through digital tech access and other remote learning support.

6. FY22–23: 3,054,001 students reached in FY22–23; Total students reached directly = 52,052 (39,638 girls and 12,414 boys); 29,440 (18,742 girls and 10,698 boys) students enrolled; 7,553 (6,982 girls and 571 boys) students enrolled in non formal education; 673 girls re-enrolled; 4,121 (3,875 girls and 246 boys) trained in advocacy; 6,272 (5,896 girls and 376 boys) trained in life skills; 3,993 (3,470 girls and 523 boys) received material support for their education

- 3,001,949 students reached indirectly (1,086,759 girls and 1,915,190 boys); 84,167 (47,861 girls and 36,306 boys) taught by trained or recruited teachers; 2,875,558 (1,012,876 girls and 1,862,682 boys) potentially benefited from policy or practice change; 7,996 (5,052 girls and 2,944 boys) benefitted from scale up; 34,228 (20,970 girls and 13,258 boys) benefitted from Digital tech access

7. FY23–24: 771,938 students reached in FY 23–24; Total students reached directly = 300,895 (220,086 girls and 80,809 boys); 7,103 (6,771 girls and 332 boys) students enrolled; 51,979 (47,265 girls and 4,714 boys) trained in advocacy; 36,216 (31,413 girls and 4,803 boys) trained in life skills; 4,760 (3,704 girls and 1,056 boys) trained in economic empowerment; 6,159 (4,849 girls and 1,310 boys) trained in women's right and gender equality; 57,691 (53,068 girls and 4,623 boys) trained in health and sexual health and reproduction; 39,828 (29,436 girls and 10,392 boys) trained in other types of training; 27,597 (20,817 girls and 6,780 boys) received in-person lesson support; 15,043 (8,908 girls and 6,135 boys) received online lesson support; 20,657 (15,829 girls and 4,828 boys) received education material support; 135,333 (79,439 girls and 55,894 boys) received digital education materials; 11,674 girls received menstrual supplies; 10,056 (6,930 girls and 3,126 boys) received health and mental health support; 9,296 (6,397 girls and 2,899 boys) other support.

- Total students reach indirectly = 471,043 (284,620 girls and 186,423 boys); 91,023 (67,773 girls and 23,250 boys) taught by trained or recruited teachers; 130,712 (81,697 girls and 49,015 boys) benefitted from digital tech access; 102,997 (58,202 girls and 44,795 boys) reached indirectly through other category; 146,311 (76,948 girls and 69,363 boys) will potentially benefit from a policy or practice change

Note: Disaggregated data may not sum to the grand total reach due to double counting of students and parents in various trainings.

WAYS TO GIVE

Support Malala Fund's fight for girls' education



With nearly 120 million girls out of school today, we need your help to reach the most vulnerable girls who are denied an education.

MALALA.ORG/DONATE