



**USAID**  
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**OPPORTUNITY**  
International

**FACTSHEET**

# ADVANCING PARTNERSHIPS FOR IMPROVED LEARNING

## ACTIVITY Overview

**Location – Northern Ghana – 17 Districts**

- ▶ **Performance Period** 28 Feb 2023 – 27 Feb 2028
- ▶ **Award Value** US\$14.3 million
- ▶ **Lead Partner** Opportunity International
- ▶ **EduFinance.org | Opportunity.org**



## What we will **ACHIEVE**

**GOAL: Improved learning outcomes for students and financing options for low-fee schools in Northern Ghana.**

In partnership with the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Government of Ghana (GoG), **Advancing Partnerships for Improved Learning** will:

- ▶ improve **education quality** delivered by low-fee schools
- ▶ increase **private sector investment** in low-fee schools
- ▶ **strengthen the capacity** of the Ministry of Education and professional networks to support low-fee schools

## Our Team of **Sub-Awardees**

- University for Development Studies (UDS)
- Ghana National Council of Private Schools (GNACOPS)
- Ghana National Association of Private Schools (GNAPS)
  - Results for Development (R4D)
  - FHI 360

## Our Planned **ACHIEVEMENTS**



**213+**

*Low-fee schools*

improve their education quality, benefiting from access to professional development for leaders, teacher certification courses, in-service teacher training, and MoE curriculum



**\$3.9million**

*Invested in education*

by financial institutions lending to proprietors to invest in school improvements, and to families to pay for school fees and education expenses



**1,278**

*Teachers*

earn Diploma in Basic Education from the University for Development Studies



**New Models**

*Developed*

to support the MoE to strengthen its capacity for low-fee schools monitoring and oversight and ensure quality education delivery



**213+**

*Administrators*

have the necessary skills to run a sustainable, quality school



**426+**

*Teacher Mentors*

are equipped to deliver professional development training and coaching to peer teachers



**2,130+**

*Teachers*

receive regular professional development training and coaching



**52,000+**

*Students*

to benefit from a quality, inclusive learning environment



UNIVERSITY FOR  
DEVELOPMENT STUDIES



RESULTS FOR  
DEVELOPMENT



## Our **APPROACH**

### **1** Improve **Education Quality** in Low-Fee Schools

#### The **CHALLENGE**

Low-fee schools in northern Ghana have challenges hiring and retaining qualified teachers, and school leaders often lack the range of skills they need to run a sustainable, quality school.

#### Our **SOLUTION**

- ▶ Increase teacher certification and retention
- ▶ Strengthen school leadership skills
- ▶ Strengthen teacher in-service training
- ▶ Increase adoption of MoE curricula

### **2** Increase **Private Sector Investment** in Low-Fee Schools

#### The **CHALLENGE**

Low-fee schools in northern Ghana have less access loans to invest in their schools than the rest of the country, and parents have less access to school fee financing, often compounded by lower levels of financial literacy.

#### Our **SOLUTION**

- ▶ Increase financial institutions' capacity to finance low-fee schools and school fees
- ▶ Increase blended finance approaches to unlock private capital

### **3** Strengthen the **Capacity of MoE and Professional Networks** to support Low-fee schools

#### The **CHALLENGE**

While thousands of children attend low-fee schools in northern Ghana, the government is challenged to provide oversight and support to ensure quality education, challenged by the lack of a coherent policy framework to coordinate agencies responsible for low-fee schools.

#### Our **SOLUTION**

- ▶ Improve the policy & regulatory framework governing low-fee schools
- ▶ Strengthen the capacity of the government to oversee low-fee schools
- ▶ Increase collaboration and learning between stakeholders in the low-fee schools sector

## Prioritizing **Gender Equity & Social Inclusion**

- ▶ Schools with women leaders and leaders from marginalized groups like the Fulbe will be prioritized in school selection.
- ▶ Teacher certification & scholarship funding will be specifically marketed with a GESI lens, ensuring equity in allocation.
- ▶ Gender responsive educational approaches are integrated in all school training content.
- ▶ Technical assistance for financial institutions will include recommendations for product terms that address gender and marginalized group barriers to accessing capital, and training on GESI lending approaches.
- ▶ A GESI lens will be used to inform policy recommendations and design new monitoring and oversight models to ensure consideration of implications related to gender and marginalized groups like the Fulbe.