

# HELPING CHILDREN READ AND GET READY FOR SCHOOL

## BELU AND NORTH JAKARTA, INDONESIA

Strong literacy skills in early childhood provide a solid foundation for a child's future achievements. We know children who can read early in life do better in primary school, and throughout life.


And yet in Indonesia, the reading level for school children is critically low. Early education centres often don't encourage reading and, as a result, interest in literacy is lacking throughout primary school. During a national survey in 2016, it was revealed that only 53% of students in grade 4 could reach a minimum reading standard.<sup>1</sup>

To give children the best chance in life, a love of reading needs to start early and involve the entire school and community. We've been working with schools in two communities in Indonesia to improve reading levels. Cilincing is a sub-district of North Jakarta – one of its poorest and most densely populated – and the Belu District of Nusa Tenggara Timur, bordering Timor-Leste, has some of the lowest literacy rates in the country.

<sup>1</sup> SDG Baseline Report 2017, [https://www.unicef.org/indonesia/SDG\\_Baseline\\_Report\\_on\\_Children\\_in\\_Indonesia\(1\).pdf](https://www.unicef.org/indonesia/SDG_Baseline_Report_on_Children_in_Indonesia(1).pdf)



### 1. IMPROVED EARLY LEARNING



Provided 20 early childhood education centres with **LEARNING EQUIPMENT** in Belu.

Children learn better with quality learning materials, renovated buildings, toilets and clean water.


### 2. TRAINING OF TRAINERS



Teacher training held for **42 MASTER TRAINERS.**

This included 22 early childhood education tutors in Belu and 20 primary school literacy teachers in North Jakarta. Master trainers then worked with local teachers.


### 3. CHILDREN LEADING CHANGE



**40 PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS** were trained as 'reading buddies' in North Jakarta.

Children in grades 3 and 4 supported younger students in their school to become better readers.

### 4. CREATING SUSTAINABLE MODELS



12 early childhood education centres and 5 primary schools chosen as **MODEL SCHOOLS.**

These model schools now guide other centres and schools as they work towards safe learning and playing environments, as well as better literacy standards in their classrooms.



**40% to 90%**

Between 2016 and 2017, the proportion of grade 1 students becoming readers in schools using the Literacy Boost program increased from 40% to 90%.



**52% of fathers and 70% of mothers**

In 2017, 52% of fathers and 70% of mothers who participated in the project in North Jakarta were reading to their children.

#### OUR PARTNERS

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