

4 QUALITY
EDUCATION



FUTUREPLUS



SDG 4: QUALITY EDUCATION

A FU⁺UREPLUS GUIDE

+ “ENSURE INCLUSIVE AND EQUITABLE EDUCATION AND PROMOTE LIFELONG LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL.” (By 2030)

Target 4.1 – Free primary and secondary education

Target 4.2 – Equal access to quality pre-primary education

Target 4.3 – Equal access to affordable technical, vocational and higher education

Target 4.4 – Increase the number of people with relevant skills for financial success

Target 4.5 – Build resilience to environmental, economic and social disasters

Target 4.6 – Universal literacy and numeracy

Target 4.7 – Education for sustainable development and global citizenship

Target 4.8 – Build and upgrade inclusive and safe schools

Target 4.9 – Expand higher education scholarships for developing countries

Target 4.A – Increase the supply of qualified teachers in developing countries

+ PROGRESS & INFO

Education enables upward socioeconomic mobility and is a key to escaping poverty. There has been major progress towards increasing access to education and school enrollment rates, particularly for girls.

Nevertheless, roughly 260 million children were still out of school in 2018 and more than half of all children and adolescents (up to age 15) worldwide are not meeting minimum proficiency standards in mathematics and reading.

COVID-19 has wiped out 20 years of education gains, with an additional 101 million children in grades 1 to 8 fell below minimum reading proficiency levels in 2020.

+ THE ROLE OF BUSINESSES

We are only able to empower girls, combat climate change, fight inequality and end extreme poverty if all stakeholders, including businesses, commit themselves to advancing the education goal. While education needs globally are immense, companies can leverage their resources and core competencies to support governments in delivering on their promise of education for all. Strong leadership by companies can help unlock the necessary investments to ensure quality learning opportunities for all children and adults.

The business case to invest in education can range from improving brand leadership to developing the capacity of future employees and building a more diverse employee pipeline.

Education is often a local issue, which will require businesses to work within local education systems and in communities to determine the best utilisation of resources.

+ BUSINESS ACTIONS

- **Create programs**, like internships and work-study programs, that give students earlier access to the business environment.
- You could develop your own mentoring programmes, volunteer tutoring or teaching, and be vocal in encouraging youth to continue studying.
- Provide employees with **continuous opportunities** to improve their (job) skills for their current and future employment.
- Your organisation could ensure that employees are given the opportunity to acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote **sustainable development and lifestyles**, and provide support and mentoring to do so.
- Ensure that regular training takes place within teams so that employees feel knowledgeable about the fields they work in, and are confident in any changes or developments in industry practices.

+ ADDITIONAL ACTIONS

Find a Goal 4 charity you want to support. Any donation, big or small, can make a difference!

Here are a few examples of non-profit organisations focused on improving education:

UK focus:

- [Coach Bright](#)
- [Book Trust](#)
- [Action Tutoring](#)

International focus:

- [World Vision](#)
- [ActionAid](#)
- [Children International](#)

Other things you can do to help:

- Work with your local school, to either offer support, funding or resources.
- Mentor young people, either by allowing staff to take paid volunteer days to offer time, or by engaging as a company with a local charity or school.
- Working closely with suppliers in developing countries to help them offer education opportunities, particularly for women and children.
- Offer summer work experience programs that help teach individuals about important learnings from your sector. Think about who you advertise these opportunities to.

+ NEED MORE HELP?

We also offer consultancy services if you would like more comprehensive support with achieving your sustainability goals.

Please let us know if you would like more information – we would be happy to provide you with a quote: team@future-plus.co.uk