

On current trends, half of the upcoming youth generation—800 million young people—are projected to not have basic skills by 2030. Of these, 61 million children remain out of primary school and 202 million teenagers are not attending secondary school, missing out on vital basic skills needed for future employment.

The [Global Business Coalition for Education \(GBC-Education\)](#) brings the business community together to accelerate progress in delivering quality education for all of the world's children and youth. We believe that transformative change requires more than individual efforts to address a problem – no matter how large or significant the effort.

For companies, investing in education promotes economic growth, leads to more stable societies, fosters healthy communities, and makes it easier to do business.

Education spurs innovation and increases the skills of employees, the income potential of consumers, and the prosperity of communities where business operates.

GBC-Education's assets include the voice, capabilities, resources, and innovations of our leaders and member companies. In the first year of operation, 10 of the world's most influential companies joined the Coalition, and since then, we have expanded significantly with a membership of over 150 leading brands.



GBC-Education members are 'Next Generation Actionists' who understand the power and potential of leveraging their knowledge, resources, and scale in coordination with peers, government, international organizations, and NGOs.

Together we create, accelerate, and propagate new and innovative solutions with the business community at scale.

} A business-led, action-oriented organization,
GBC-Education focuses on four core functions:
Connect, Cooperate, Showcase, and Discover.

} CONNECT

While many companies already engage in education through philanthropic or social investment programs, these actions require coordination to have greater impact.

GBC-Education's forum increases companies' effectiveness by creating "members-only" spaces for company leaders to [connect](#) and identify opportunities for innovation and collaboration.

We work with our members to create economies of scale and identify how core business can be leveraged to generate greater outcomes.



➔ In the Middle East, countries are faced with a skills gap and high levels of unemployment.

Moreover, the refugee crisis has placed a strain on education systems in the region.

GBC-Education opened its doors in Abu Dhabi to [connect](#) businesses in the region to address these challenges, launching a regional task force.

WE CONNECT MEMBERS BY...

- ➔ Organizing members-only gatherings to initiate joint projects where each company brings its core assets, skills and, competencies to the table
- ➔ Facilitating cross-industry connections and access to top education experts
- ➔ Providing data, evidence, and the latest news on progress toward access of quality education for children and youth
- ➔ Widely sharing the best practices of members' investments in education
- ➔ Helping member companies build an internal case for effective investments in education and providing guidance to monitoring progress and results

} COOPERATE

In addition to connecting companies, we create avenues for [cooperation](#) with international agencies, governments, development banks, foundations, and civil society organizations.

We connect members with high-level policymakers to advocate for quality education and learning, and expose companies to the latest initiatives being spearheaded by education organizations around the world.



WE FOSTER COOPERATION BY...

- ➔ Offering direct communication channels and convening opportunities with key education organizations, officials, and other stakeholders.
- ➔ Providing companies with advance notice of new engagement opportunities and education projects in countries around the world.
- ➔ Organizing delegation visits to meet with policymakers and practitioners in communities and regions with the greatest opportunities to make a positive impact.

➔ In Nigeria, GBC-Education worked with the federal government, regional development banks, and donors to address the education emergency in the northern part of the country following the kidnapping of the Chibok schoolgirls.

Collectively, over \$30 million was leveraged to launch the Safe Schools Initiative which has helped nearly 50,000 displaced Nigerian children and youth go to school, provided them with essential supplies, and improved school infrastructure to make safer learning environments.

➔ GBC-Education also recently hosted a donor roundtable, bringing together 15 donor countries and investment banks to explore new ways of [cooperation](#) with business to deliver education.

➔ GBC-Education's REACT initiative connects companies to organizations seeking new solutions to delivering education in emergency and conflict situations around the world.

} SHOWCASE

We show that businesses can be active partners in educating the world's children and youth. GBC-Education highlights its members' work and their thought leadership to large international audiences to communicate the importance of getting involved in education and to inspire others to act.

We identify, help document, and [showcase](#) exemplary education initiatives by companies that are using core assets and competencies, internal policies, social responsibility, and strategic philanthropy.

Our member companies uphold high standards for education investments; in turn, our staff disseminates these examples of effective initiatives widely, bringing positive results to the lives of children, young people, and communities.



} DISCOVER

We facilitate research projects that help businesses [discover](#) the best opportunities for effective investments in education and establish best practices to guide corporate efforts, seeking to bring real educational outcomes for children and youth.

- ➔ Our new policy briefs look at how climate bonds could be applied to education and how blockchain technology can change the way business provides quality learning to youth.
- ➔ GBC-Education membership contributed the business perspectives on education in emergencies to inform the new Education Cannot Wait fund. Our task focuses on girls' education and early childhood education, [discovering](#) the next wave of business engagement.
- ➔ GBC-Education also recently designed a blueprint with UNICEF for how the business community can engage in creating safer schools and communities in Latin America to better develop youth talent.