

IRC, Education Above All, and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation enhance youth resilience to climate shocks in Nigeria

DOHA, QATAR, September 15, 2025 /EINPresswire.com/ -- The International Rescue Committee, [Education Above All Foundation \(EAA\)](#) and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation are pleased to announce the successful completion of their collaborative project "LearnToEarn Plus."

The 16-month initiative aimed to strengthen the resilience of 1,000 young people in Adamawa State in Northeast Nigeria, an area severely affected by climate-related shocks that force people to leave their homes. As a result, many children and young people drop out of school as they are forced to move with their families to new areas, many of which often have limited or no access to education services.

The programme set a lofty goal of reaching 1,000 out of school children, adolescents and youth with access to early learning, vocational, financial literacy and other life skills aimed at helping them cope with climate related shocks and livelihoods support.

Against this, the project not only met this goal, but achieved significant impact in other areas too:

- In partnership with the National Agricultural Seed Council, participants were trained in seed



The project aims to strengthen the resilience of 1,000 beneficiaries



Beneficiaries engaging in hands-on activities

distributorship and received improved rice and maize seeds to enhance agricultural productivity.

- 500 adolescent girls and women learned to produce reusable sanitary pads and soap using local materials - promoting hygiene, health, and income generation.

- 10 Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs) were established in Farang-Farang with total savings of ₦4.28 million; 180 members accessed loans worth ₦977,400, strengthening financial inclusion and community resilience.



The project helps children, youth and adolescents cope with climate-related shocks

Moreover, the joint project supported displaced families to get back on their feet through providing irrigation equipment to boost farming during dry seasons, agribusiness and financial literacy training to youths to improve productivity and boost incomes. Throughout, the project also supported learning opportunities for out of school children and improved access to clean water and hygiene services in the community.

David Miliband, President and CEO of the IRC, said, “We are proud to have partnered with Education Above All Foundation and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to support children and youth access to education amidst challenges caused by harsh weather and climate patterns. This initiative complements our work in Nigeria, which spans over a decade. The rise in extreme poverty, including the absence of education in fragile and conflict settings requires new thinking and action, which is why we have been so inspired by the success of this initiative.”

Janhvi Kanoria, Executive Director of EAA Foundation’s Innovation Development Department, said, “This partnership underscores our commitment to ensuring that every child, regardless of their circumstances, has access to quality education. By addressing the impacts of climate change on education and livelihoods, we aim to create a sustainable and resilient future for the communities.”

Zahira El Marzouki, Head of Middle East Relations, Gates Foundation said, “We are delighted to have partnered with EAA and IRC to develop sustainable and inclusive solutions to climate challenges in Northern Nigeria. We are inspired by the learning opportunities for kids and adolescents created through this program, and the improved well-being of local communities gives us hope.”

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About the IRC

The International Rescue Committee responds to the world's worst humanitarian crises, helping to restore health, safety, education, economic wellbeing, and power to people devastated by conflict and disaster. Founded in 1933 at the call of Albert Einstein, the IRC works in more than 50 countries and in 28 U.S. cities helping people to survive, reclaim control of their future, and strengthen their communities. Learn more at www.rescue.org and follow the IRC on Instagram, Twitter, TikTok and Facebook.

About Education Above All Foundation

The Education Above All (EAA) Foundation is a global foundation established in 2012 by Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser. EAA Foundation aims to transform lives through education and economic opportunities. We believe that education is the single most effective means of reducing poverty, creating peaceful and just societies, unlocking the full potential of every child and youth, and creating the right conditions to achieve Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Through our multi-sectoral approach, unique financing models, focus on innovation as a tool for social good, and partnerships, we aim to bring hope and real opportunities to the lives of marginalised children and youth. EAA Foundation comprises the following programmes: Educate A Child (EAC), Al Fakhoora, Reach Out To All (ROTA), Protect Education in Insecurity and Conflict (PEIC), Innovation Development (ID) and Together project.

For more information about EAA Foundation, please visit <https://www.educationaboveall.org/>

About Gates Foundation

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation is a nonprofit fighting poverty, disease, and inequity around the world. For over 20 years, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation has been committed to tackling the greatest inequities in our world. It focuses on improving people's health and giving them the chance to lift themselves out of hunger and extreme poverty. Based in Seattle, Washington, the foundation is led by CEO Mark Suzman, under the direction of Co-chair Bill Gates and the board of trustees.

<https://www.gatesfoundation.org/>

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