

Photo by Niels van Laar

STRENGTHENING PRIMARY EDUCATION SYSTEMS THROUGH PERFORMANCE-BASED FINANCING

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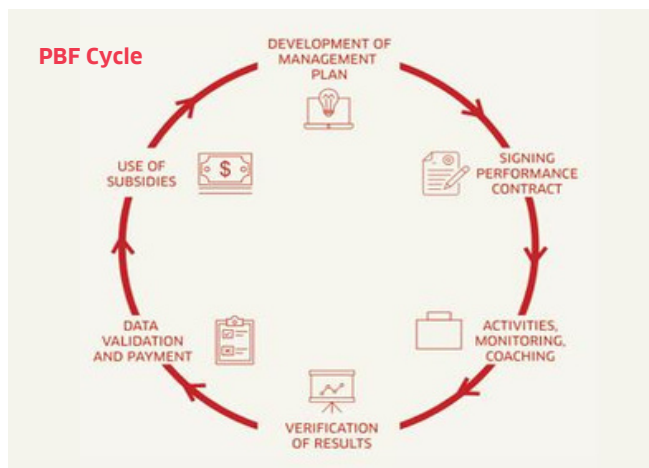
Education is a foundation for life and a gateway for personal, social, and economic development. However, according to the UNESCO Institute for Statistics, 2022, more than 250 million children and youth worldwide are not in school, and among those in school, many fail to reach minimum proficiency levels in reading and mathematics due to a poor learning environment. Cordaid contributes to the improvement of primary school education through Performance-Based Financing.

WHAT IS PBF?

Performance-Based Financing (PBF) is a system-strengthening approach that aims to improve the:

- Equitable access to education
- Quality of education
- Governance of schools and the education sector





The essence of PBF is a direct link between funding and verified results: contrary to traditional input financing, payments to contracted primary schools are only made after their outputs are verified.



“Before, I stayed at home, I used to go to the fields with my mum for lack of money. Now I’m happy to go to school like the other children in my village.”

Godé BASUE, girl admitted in Primary School 1 LUTULU, DRC.

PBF is more than a change in the way schools and education governance actors are financed: it is an education system reform strategy that introduces checks and balances, motivates staff, promotes entrepreneurship, and involves governmental departments and agencies, as well as parents, pupils and community representatives. PBF has six elements:

-  Link payments to results measured by indicators
-  Separation of functions: regulator, provider, verifier, purchaser, financier
-  Contract and submit the management improvement plan for verification
-  Community empowerment: feedback and customer satisfaction: beneficiaries voice
-  Autonomy in terms of money use, hiring and firing staff
-  Equity measures

RESULTS OF PBF IN EDUCATION

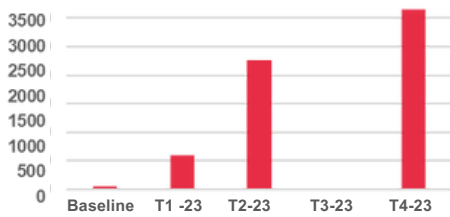
The Cordaid PBF primary education programme has the following scope:

- **DRC: 14 provinces: 1350 schools, 630,000 children**
- **Burundi: Muramvya, 125 schools, 110,126 children**
- **Ethiopia: Shabee district: 54 schools 36,010 children**
- **Uganda: Kamuli district: 50 schools 31,750 children**

Cordaid is exploring the development of new projects in Mali and Burkina Faso.

Example of a PBF result in Ethiopia

NUMBER OF CHILDREN AT RISK OF DROPOUT FOLLOWED UP BY THE SCHOOL



Trimester 3-23: No verifications done because of school holidays.



Photo by Mickael Franco

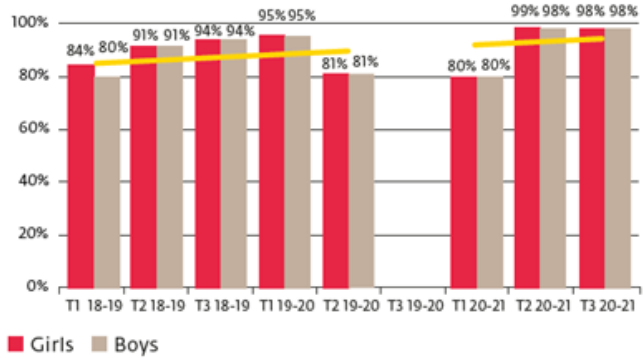
Teacher and children in front of their school (PBF Programme Burundi)

“Before Cordaid’s intervention, every parent tried to cater for their children. Only around 30% could afford to take porridge but now with the PBF subsidies earned, the school offers food to all pupils equally. The school now registers high retention of pupils because of the feeding as well as a very good performances at the national level.”

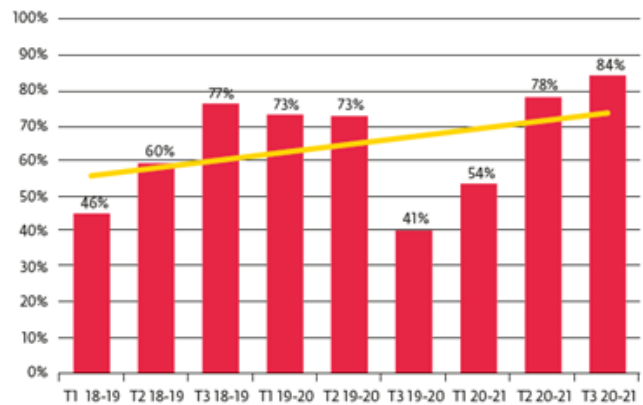
PBF Education programme, Kamuli District, Uganda.

Examples of PBF results in DRC

Between 2018 and 2021, as part of the PAQUE project with funding from the Global Partnership for Education, managed by the World Bank, Cordaid provided technical assistance to all levels of the Democratic Republic of Congo’s (DRC) education system, supporting the Ministry of Primary, Secondary and Technical Education (MEPST) through PBF in primary education. Some examples of the results achieved are shown in the graphs below:



During the 3rd term of 2019-2020, schools were closed due to Covid-19 so no verification of pupil attendance could be done.



ABOUT CORDAID

Cordaid is a value-based international development and emergency relief organisation, based in the Netherlands with offices in 14 countries. We work in and on fragility and support communities in their efforts to improve health care, education, food security, and justice. Where disaster strikes, we offer humanitarian assistance.

Cordaid is deeply rooted in the Dutch society with more than 250.000 private donors. The Christian values of human dignity, justice, compassion and care for the planet guide us in our work. Cordaid is a founding member of Caritas, CIDSE and ACT Alliance.

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