

A close-up photograph of a young child with dark skin and short hair, smiling broadly and waving with both hands. The child is wearing a green and yellow plaid shirt. The background is blurred, showing other people in similar clothing. The word "Bridge" is overlaid in the top right corner in a white serif font, preceded by a stylized sunburst icon.

 **Bridge**



The Bridge mission

Our mission is to give millions of children a life-changing education.

We are committed to helping governments achieve United Nations Sustainable Development Goal Four: to ensure inclusive and quality education for all and promote lifelong learning.

By supporting a life-changing education for children in underserved communities we help put children, their families, communities, and their countries on a better development path.

We believe that education is one of the most effective ways to end the cycle of poverty; enabling growth and prosperity. It reduces conflict, enhances stability and strengthens nations.

Across Africa and Asia we are helping governments to improve learning outcomes for children without the need for larger education budgets.

About Bridge

Since 2009, Bridge has reached three-quarters of a million children through schools across Africa and Asia. We believe every child has the right to a high-quality education. So, we work in partnership with governments, donors, communities, and teachers to support powerful public schools.

We are data-driven, evidence-based, and our approach adapts to the needs and requests of individual governments. In Liberia we are part of a public private partnership; in Edo State, Nigeria we are technical partners; and, in Andhra Pradesh, India we have an infrastructure partnership.

In Edo State, the Governor's flagship EdoBEST programme is transforming the public education system and improving learning outcomes for 300,000 children. In Liberia, the government's Liberian Education Advancement Programme (LEAP; formerly Partnership Schools for Liberia) is lifting educational opportunity for children across the whole country.

Bridge takes a flexible approach so that we can support local leaders, serve more marginalised communities and improve learning outcomes for children.



The global challenge

Education is in crisis around the world as most children are not learning the basics of reading and maths. Two-hundred and sixty-two million children are out of school, and 600 million children are in school but not learning. In addition, an extra 69 million teachers are needed by 2030 to achieve UN education goals.

Many education systems are burdened with inadequate materials and poor management systems; leading to chronic teacher absenteeism and a lack of learning. Education transformation is challenging but is urgently required to prevent another generation of children missing out and to realise the economic potential of communities and nations.

By demonstrating that high-performing public schools are possible, even on a developing country's limited budget, we have enabled governments to quickly and systematically improve their teaching and their schools.



Bridge improves learning

In Liberia, a three-year randomised control trial was run from 2017-19 evaluating the government's public private partnership LEAP programme. In Bridge-supported schools pupils received the equivalent of 2.5 years of additional learning; effectively achieving 5.5 years of schooling in just 3 years.

A DFID commissioned research paper found that children from the most economically disadvantaged families in Lagos, Nigeria were reaching higher attainment levels in Bridge run schools than their more prosperous peers in neighbouring schools. Plus, Bridge pupils excelled in the federal common entrance exam and in Edo State, a government commissioned study showed improved learning in EdoBEST public schools.

Over five consecutive years pupils in Kenya have significantly outperformed the nationwide average in the national primary school exit exam. In 2019, those at Bridge schools exceeded their peers nationwide by over 16 marks, the equivalent of 0.25 standard deviations and an additional year of learning.

In Uganda, pupils have outperformed the nationwide average in the national primary leaving examination (PLE) two years in a row. In 2018, 95% of pupils passed, giving them the opportunity to go to secondary school. In addition, Bridge girls overturned the national trend and outperformed boys both at Bridge and nationwide.

We are replicating these successes across all the countries we serve when pupils take their national exams and as more studies are completed.





Bridge supports pupils

We believe that every child should have the opportunity to fulfill their potential regardless of their economic status. Children we educate can be as young as three-years-old and globally around 50% of pupils we support are girls.

In fragile communities where children are often left without good quality schooling, Bridge schools remain open to support children. In Borno State, Nigeria where there is frequent extremist activity, Bridge is part of a public private partnership to offer girls and boys a top-quality basic education. This partnership with the local government and others has been so successful and over-subscribed that the programme is being expanded to more government schools in Borno.

We believe that co-curricular activities are an important part of learning and most of our pupils take part in sport, music, drama, and dance. Children we support have represented their schools at national level and sometimes graduate from this to represent their country at international tournaments.



Bridge helps families

Bridge helps families by lifting the quality of free government schools and upskilling local government teachers.

We enable families to enjoy seeing their children learn, improve and flourish at Bridge supported government schools.

Families in these communities can be earning just \$1.90 per person a day; a level the World Bank notes is at extreme poverty.

By putting learning at the centre of all we do, Bridge has become an extremely popular choice for underserved families, low-income communities and governments.

Bridge empowers teachers

Bridge is empowering a generation of better trained and supported government teachers. We believe that with the right support and resources, average teachers can become great teachers and that great teachers can change lives.

All of the government teachers we support benefit from additional training by professional teaching experts and are taught to utilise technology and classroom management techniques. They are supported throughout their career with continuing professional development programmes—inside and outside—of the classroom. Bridge supported government teachers deliver interactive lessons, lead small groups and use one-to-one instruction, creating a rich and diverse teaching environment that helps pupils learn.

In Liberia, we support government teachers to excel. In Nigeria, we run teacher training programmes for government that provides teachers with lesson content and technological support.

All of the teachers use handheld e-readers that provide them with high quality lesson plans. International agencies around the world use teacher guides; which have been demonstrated as one of the most effective ways to improve learning outcomes in developing countries.





Bridge technology

Bridge uses wireless technology that's been adapted to support people in low infrastructure environments. By using the power of connected devices we deliver professionally developed, up to the minute lesson plans based on national curricular that provide every teacher with the core foundation needed for a successful learning experience in each subject, every day.

This frees teachers from time-intensive planning and administrative tasks, which gives them more time for them to focus on pupils' learning and to help pupils where they are struggling.

Our technology platform processes 100 million data points every year. We track performance and attendance—for both pupils and teachers—in every single school. We use that data to make evidence based decisions that continually improve children's learning.

Bridge supported government schools and nurseries

Bridge helps to improve government nurseries, primary schools and junior secondary schools.

Every single school remains fully under the authority of the local government and Bridge only helps in ways that governments have asked for help.

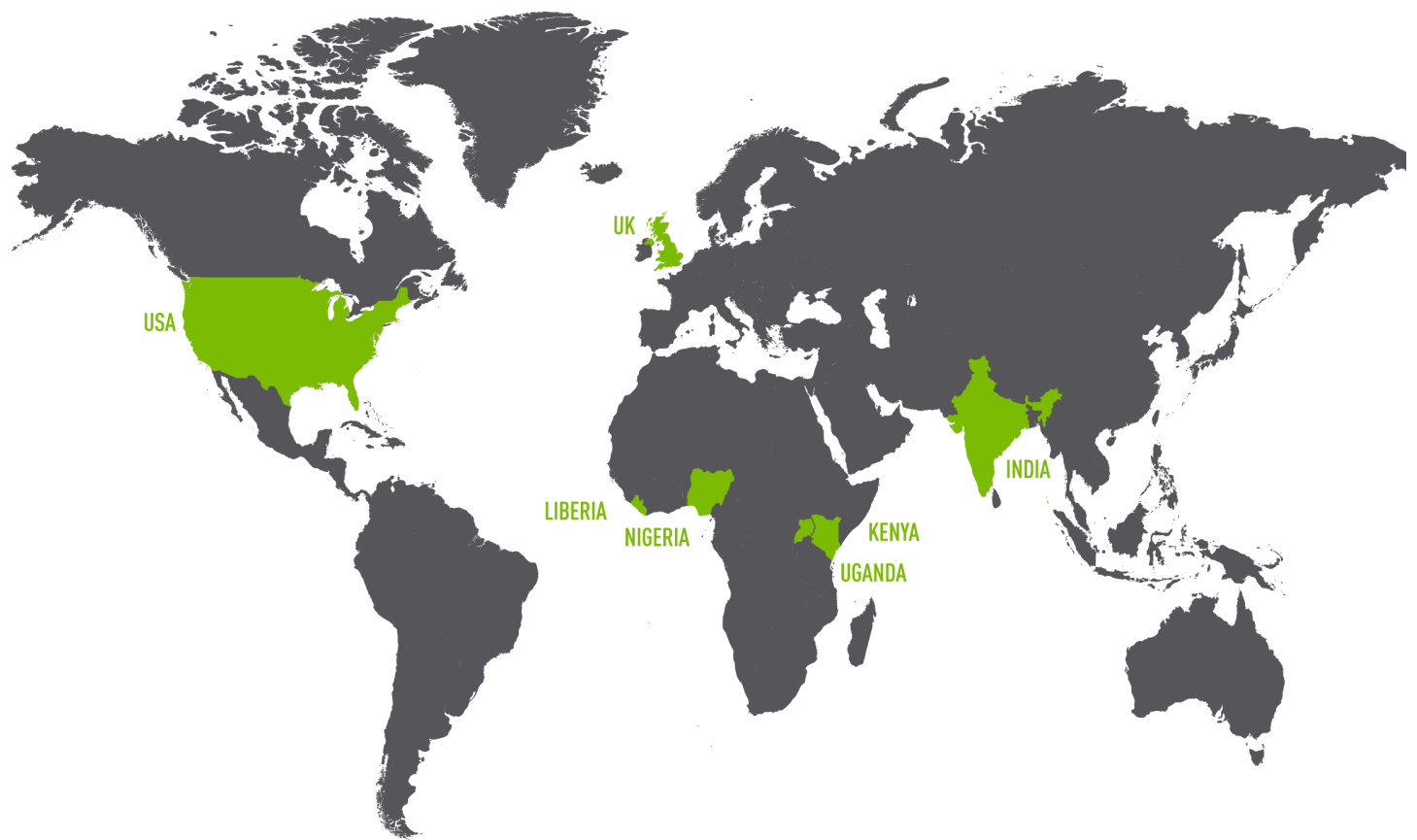
Bridge strongly believes that school performance should be measured by children's outcomes not school inputs. So we'll naturally focus on and invest in the teaching that is happening in your classrooms and the learning gains being achieved by your pupils.



Where we work

Find out more about the services we offer: bridgeinternationalacademies.com/what-we-do/

If you have questions, or would like to discuss potential partnership opportunities, write to: media@bridgeinternationalacademies.com



Map not to scale: Maps are for geographical purposes only, they do not claim to represent a legal boundary of a state or a country. Bridge International Academies cannot assume liability for any damages caused by any errors in representation.



Bridge | JANUARY 2020

Visit our website: bridgeinternationalacademies.com

Search for “Bridge International Academies” using your favourite social network.