

HOPE FOR CHILDREN IN REMOTE AREAS

Thousands of Sudanese children supported with the innovative e-learning project "Can't Wait to Learn" in times of crisis.



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2019 has been a tough year for children in Sudan. Conflicts, floods, and instability caused the number of children dependant on humanitarian aid to rise from 2.5 to 4.6 million. Luckily, there is also positive news! Thanks to your support, nearly 6000 children in remote areas were able to attend school for the first time since a long time. With the help of tablets, they learned to read, write, and do math, amongst other things.

SUDAN

POPULATION:

43
MILLION



NUMBER OF
CHILDREN:

21
MILLION

3 million are out
of school.

<50
PERCENT

of the children
in rural areas are
going to school.

GOALS SET

1000 Sudanese children will learn how to read etc. on **3000** tablets.

100 learning centres will be built.

100 local mentors must be trained in the use of tablets and managing a classroom.

In every province, an e-learning department within the ministry of education will be built.

GOALS ACHIEVED

5843 children were able to learn on **2370** tablets in e-learning centra.

79 e-learning centres were built and furnished and **77** solar energy installations have been installed.

80 local mentors were trained.

4 offices have been built for the new e-learning teams of the Ministry of education.

WHAT WE ACHIEVED

In the first months of 2019, the focus was on selecting and training teaching staff and drawing up a work plan together with the Sudanese government. Mid-2019 marked the construction of 79 learning centres and 77 solar energy installations to charge the tablets with. In addition, we trained 80 local mentors. Can't Wait to Learn is part of a larger UNICEF education project in Sudan which targets 5843 out of 65.000 children by the end of December. Thanks to the 2370 tablets that have been made available, children have the opportunity to learn how to read, write and do math. Last but not least, UNICEF invested in the development of e-learning departments within the Sudanese government. This way, the government will be able to take over the programme. Four offices were built and provided with IT-devices, one on the national level and three provincially. Furthermore, UNICEF has trained involved officials.

THE CHALLENGES

Unfortunately, implementation has been more difficult than expected, due to political unrest and the instable situation in Sudan. Shortly after the government coup, 732 tablets were stolen. This caused a change of plan. Besides this, the financial crisis lead to devaluation. As a result, costs were higher than expected. Moreover, it has not always been possible to reach and monitor remote areas due to weather conditions, safety barriers and fuel shortages. The result is that less children have been targeted with this programme than hoped.

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

Despite the challenges, UNICEF remains committed to support vulnerable children in Sudan. The goal is to continue the programme until 2021 and give more children access to education with the Can't Wait to Learn programme. Yet, we do have to take into account the negative impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the necessary measures. Nevertheless, we believe that we can make a big difference through this innovative education project. Your help is crucial in this regard!



Najat (left) lives in Dabat with her family. When she was seven years old, she attended school in a nearby village. Due to illness and long travel distance, she had to leave school. This is a common occurrence in her community. Yet, Najat hopes to return someday. She was beyond excited when she heard that a new programme was being set up in her village. She was one of the first to register, and is happy to return to school. She likes the games and achieves good results.

More information

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