



CREATIVE

Project Overview



Vamos Ler! (Let's Read!) Mozambique

Quick Facts

1

The five year program will build early grade literacy skills of over 800,000 students in more than 2,800 schools

2

Over 11,000 teachers will benefit from revised, evidence-based materials, training and coaching, to improve their teaching practice

3

Program-led research studies are building understanding on critical issues including teacher and community attitudes toward bilingual education

Mozambique faces one of the highest illiteracy rates in the Southern and East Africa regions. Less than half of adults can read and write.

Home to multiple languages, Mozambique has lacked a coordinated policy approach for both Portuguese and local language instruction. Throughout the country, schools have gaps in resources like local language reading materials and trained teachers and administrators. A five-year early grade literacy program called Vamos Ler! (Portuguese for Let's Read!) is assisting the Government of Mozambique to fill this gap and build a strong bilingual education framework for national expansion.

The program is improving the reading and writing skills of children in first, second and third grades by developing bilingual literacy materials in the local languages of Emakhuwa, Elomwe and Echuwabo in the provinces of Nampula and Zambézia, where a 2013 USAID-funded student assessment revealed more than 90 percent of second graders could not read two words in Portuguese.

The program is funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development, and implemented by Creative Associates International, in close partnership with the Ministry of Education and Human Development (MINEDH), World Education, Inc., Overseas Strategic Consulting, American Institutes for Research and blueTree Group.

By learning to first read in a language spoken at home or mother tongue, children can build a stronger linguistic foundation needed to succeed in early grades and then

later transition to Portuguese—the nation’s official language—in the fourth grade.

The early grade reading program’s evidence-based technical and material assistance will empower more than 11,000 teachers to deliver bilingual instruction to over 800,000 students in 2,800 schools.

Partnership essential for national scale-up

Creative’s “whole child, whole teacher, whole school and whole system” approach emphasizes the integrative components of developing children into successful readers and lifelong learners.

Based on classroom data and best practices, Vamos Ler! is working alongside the Ministry of Education and Human Development to improve institutional ability to developing bilingual instructional tools and

learning materials, and to strengthen bilingual early grade reading delivery systems.

Collaborating with national, provincial, and district government partners, and university linguists, language experts and classroom teachers, the program is producing culturally relevant learning and teaching materials to improve instruction in the classroom.

With the goal of bolstering local ownership and building sustainable systems, the process requires stakeholders to reflect and discuss each step along the way, taking into account the theories and best practices behind an early grade reading approach.

The program is gathering performance data from the Nampula and Zambézia provinces to inform policies to institutionalize and sustain a national bilingual early grade literacy program. With this national reading program, the government can optimize learning, equip teachers, engage communities and transform schools into responsive centers of learning, care and support.

By disseminating information about the importance of bilingual education to local communities and mobilizing school councils for this bilingual approach, the program is creating an enabling environment for parents and communities to support and engage in bilingual reading activities with their children.



53%

of adults in Mozambique are illiterate, according to the Mozambique National Institute of Statistics



Creative Associates International
5301 Wisconsin Avenue NW, Suite 700
Washington, DC 20015
+ 202.966.5804

Connect with us!



Communications@CreativeDC.com
CreativeAssociatesInternational.com