EDUCATION
A DRIVING FORCE TO ALLEVIATE POVERTY

RATIONALE
Access to a quality education can break the hold of generational poverty...and when that happens, transformation occurs—individuals prosper, families thrive, economies grow strong, and businesses, organizations and governments look to the future with hope. The Caterpillar Foundation invests in educational programs in the following areas:

• NUMERACY AND LITERACY — Ensuring individuals have the academic foundation to flourish as fully participating members of society.

• SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING & MATHEMATICS — Building proficiency in STEM subjects that enable people to succeed in the global economy.

• MENTORING AND LEADERSHIP — Developing essential study skills to help youth improve their academic performance.

• WORKFORCE READINESS — Obtaining the basic skills and training needed to find and maintain quality employment.

THE FACTS
The longer a girl goes to school, the more informed and knowledgeable she becomes. She will make use of the knowledge she acquires in the areas of hygiene, nutrition and family planning to benefit her family, her friends, and her community. The impact is strong:

• An extra year of primary school boosts girls’ eventual wages by 10 to 20 percent. An extra year of secondary school: 15 to 25 percent.

• Girls who receive an education tend to ensure their own children attend and remain in school.

• Informed and educated women change their behavior in ways that contribute to the reduction of poverty.

• When the number of girls attending school increases by 10 percent, a country’s GDP increases by 3 percent. The estimated economic loss in countries that do not educate girls to the same level as boys is $92 billion per year.

• Investing in girls to be able to complete the next level of education leads to lifetime earnings of today’s cohort of girls that is equivalent to up to 68 percent of the annual gross domestic product.

• 2.8 million children’s lives could be saved each year if all women had access to secondary education.

• If every child received an education, 171 million people would be lifted out of poverty.

• 1.4 percent of humanitarian aid is spent on education.

PROGRAMS & INVESTMENTS:
The Caterpillar Foundation invests in partners who empower people on a Path to Shared Prosperity by providing educational programs at every stage of life from early childhood to workforce readiness. A few of our educational partners include:

YMCA understands that lasting personal and social change is achieved when we work together. In 10,000 neighborhoods across the US, YMCA has the presence and partnerships to not just promise, but deliver, positive change. The Caterpillar Foundation supports programs in local YMCAs across the country where our employees live and work.

THE BOYS & GIRLS CLUB thinks it is time to give our children and our country a better and brighter future. Low graduation rates contribute to increased unemployment, poor health, crime and drug use, lower tax revenues and increased public assistance expenses. The Caterpillar Foundation invests in programs in local Boys & Girls Clubs across the country where our employees live and work.

ROOM TO READ envisions a world in which all children can pursue a quality education, reach their full potential and contribute to their community and the world. The Caterpillar Foundation supports Room to Read’s efforts by bringing holistic educational opportunities to children in India and Vietnam.

OPPORTUNITY INTERNATIONAL provides access to financial solutions empowering people living in poverty to transform their lives, their children’s futures and their communities. The Caterpillar Foundation supports efforts to provide financial education, products and services to millions of people in countries across Africa, Asia and Latin America.

SOURCES

For more information visit:
TogetherStronger.com