

# EDUCATION ACTION GUIDE



Children leave school at the end of the morning school shift in Mandanpur Khadar, Delhi. This overcrowded primary school has 2,400 pupils.

Photo: David Levene/GCE UK

## INTRODUCTION

In 2000, over 180 countries around the world promised that children everywhere, girls and boys alike, would be able to complete a full course of primary schooling by 2015.

In 2000, there were around 110 million children out of school. Early progress towards education for all was rapid and many millions of children enrolled in school for the first time. However, recently progress has slowed down. Conflicts, economic crises and a lack of political initiative meant that 58 million children were still out of primary school in 2015.

## WHY HAS PROGRESS SLOWED?

Good education is about more than just the number of children who attend school. Teachers, teacher training, class sizes and school facilities are also very important if children are to receive a good education. In many countries enrolment has grown without enough investment to make sure children are learning to the best of their ability. In addition social attitudes towards issues like gender and disability prevent many children from attending school. Finally, crises such as conflict, natural disasters and health epidemics are preventing 37 million children worldwide from going to school.\*

## WHAT NEEDS TO CHANGE?

More investment in education is required to meet the needs of girls, poor children, children with disabilities and children living in countries affected by crisis. However, rich countries are not delivering some of the aid money they have promised, and some countries with many children out of school are not spending enough of their own budgets on education.

*The walk to school in Mandanpur Khadar, Delhi*

*Photo: David Levene/GCE UK*



## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

### 1. Inform

Teach others about the issue of education and the many barriers to children learning in school.

### 2. Broadcast

Plan creative actions to help raise awareness in your school and community.

### 3. Influence

Think about how to persuade important decision makers to do something to help.