Educate a girl. Change the world.
OUR STORY

Central Asia Institute (CAI) has initiated and supported over 400 educational projects over the last 23 years. These programs have changed hundreds of thousands of lives for the better. It’s crucial that this work continues so that future generations of girls and boys have the same opportunities to succeed.

THE CHALLENGE

One in five children (ages 6-17) is out of school. That’s 263 million children. * With statistics like that, it’s no surprise that 496 million women are illiterate worldwide. **

WHY WOMEN

Education for everyone is our goal. Where we work, women and girls have fewer educational opportunities than boys and men. We want to change that.

What happens when women are educated? Everyone wins.

- A woman’s earnings will be 10-20% higher for every year of school she completes.
- The child of a literate mother has a 50% greater chance of surviving past age 5.
- Children with educated mothers are 50% more likely to go to school.

* UNESCO 2018  **United Nations 2015
School Building, Maintenance, Equipment, and Supplies: CAI provides funding to build new schools, repair and improve existing schools, and purchase equipment — such as uniforms, furniture, and school supplies — for students and teachers.

Literacy & Vocational Centers: CAI supports literacy centers, where women of all ages get free lessons in reading, writing, and math, bringing them to about a fourth-grade level of education. These centers also teach hygiene, sanitation, nutrition, and money management. CAI also supports vocational centers that train women in sewing, weaving, knitting, and cooking, among other trades.

Scholarships: CAI awards primary (ages 6-12), secondary (ages 13-15), and advanced education scholarships to ensure promising students are able to complete their studies.

YOUR SUPPORT

“My heart is always with girls and women who are striving to maintain their lives and do more. I will continue to support CAI as long as I possibly can. The most important work ever!!”

Jane Nelson, Donor
Teachers’ Salaries & Training: CAI organizes teacher trainings and pays teachers’ salaries when support is not provided by the government.

Quick Learning Centers (QLC): These in-home classrooms focus on completing learning in a shorter period of time than formal schools. The duration of a QLC program is two years, during which students complete four grades. These centers are helpful for students who have had their schooling interrupted or who are unable to attend a formal school program.

Tutoring and College Prep Courses: CAI offers free after-school lessons in core subjects, as well as college prep courses.

Public Health: Students can’t go to school and learn if they aren’t healthy. Maternal healthcare, infant wellness, nutrition, and hygiene programs; disaster relief assistance; and clean water systems are all provided by CAI.

SUCCESS

In Diamer, Pakistan 72% of children (ages 3-16) are out of school. The majority are girls. Central Asia Institute Gilgit was determined to change that.

Working with the conservative community, Central Asia Institute Gilgit opened three homeschools in 2016. In just 9 months the enrollment at these schools doubled. There are plans to open three more in 2019 to meet the growing demand.
Many of the villages of Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Tajikistan where we work have been plagued by poverty, illiteracy, and violence for centuries. Because of this, other organizations don’t—or can’t—work here. But Central Asia Institute is at home in these places, often high in the mountains, off the beaten path. Work in these remote areas is made possible through the support of our in-country partners.

Each project involves local people in all phases: initiation, implementation and sustainability.

Shading indicates regions where we work. Not all supported locations may be shown and locations supported may change.
YOUR VISION

To unlock the full potential of girls and women through education. When girls and women thrive, their families, communities, and nations prosper.

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OUR MISSION

To promote education and livelihood skills, especially for girls and women, in the remote regions of Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Tajikistan.