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INCLUSIVE EDUCATION FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

EDUCATION FOR ALL MALIANS

According to the World Health Organization, 15 percent of the global population has a disability. Based on this figure, approximately 2 million people are living with a disability in Mali. People with Disabilities (PWDs) face various social, cultural, and economic discriminations making them more susceptible to violence and exploitation. Poverty and negative attitudes deny them access to basic services, including education. In the conflict-affected north of Mali, children with disabilities (CWDs) are particularly vulnerable and often have no or limited access to education and protection programs. The Inclusive Education for Persons with Disabilities project reflects USAID’s commitment to equitable access to quality education for all, including the most disadvantaged, especially those with disabilities.

QUALITY FROM ALL STAKEHOLDERS

Inclusive Education for Persons with Disabilities project aims to increase equitable access to quality primary education for CWDs in two urban districts of the conflict-affected region of Timbuktu. The project supports the Ministry of Education’s plan to mainstream disability issues into the development of the education sector, to ensure that not one Malian child is left behind. Working together with communities, families, and children, along with the Ministry of Education, the project will put in place mechanisms for identification, enrollment, and continued academic, social, and family support for CWDs to ensure that these children enroll and stay in school. It will also work with education authorities to make the target schools safe and accessible by providing psychosocial support, assistive devices and safe, child-friendly spaces. Additionally, it will strengthen the capacities of education and other professionals to work directly with CWDs, and support local disabled people organizations, school management committees, parents’ associations, and mothers’ associations to raise awareness among policy education providers, families of CWDs and community members for the protection of CWDs and the right to education.

INCLUSIVE EDUCATION FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES’ ACTIVITY GOALS

BUDGET: \$300,000

TARGET AREAS: Timbuktu Region

PROJECT CYCLE: 2016 – 2018

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER: Handicap International

- Reach 5,520 children with awareness sessions in the urban district of Timbuktu
- Educate 1,440 children on peace and togetherness in the 6 primary schools including 40 percent of girls;
- Create support groups for parents of CWDs in each intervention area;
- Establish 6 children’s clubs for peace in the target schools;
- Identify and enroll 100 CWD, including 40 percent of girls; and
- 700 children benefitting from a pilot positive education approach, which will allow them to develop their life skills.