

# WHAT COUNTRIES ARE DOING IN CHILD-FRIENDLY SCHOOLS

## CAMBODIA

### Child-friendly schools give Cambodian children a boost

At the crack of dawn in Cambodia's Kampong Speu Province, the day swings into motion in Trapaing Chhouk School as students arrive early for a morning meal – the result of a partnership between UNICEF and the World Food Programme. The school feeding programme is also a key component of Cambodia's Child Friendly School Initiative, which aims to get all children into class by the age of six and to improve the quality of education nationwide.

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## INDIA

### A model 'school of joy' in Bilpudi Village, Gujarat

This thatched-roof school, called Anandshala (School of Joy), is a success story of the educational model conceptualized and promoted by UNICEF. Anandshala focuses on extra-curricular activities and aims to promote the mental and physical growth of its students by instilling among them a love of learning.

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## KOSOVO

### Moving towards inclusion

The introduction of the child-friendly school approach throughout Kosovo began in 2000 through the initiative of non-governmental organizations partnering with UNICEF. Schools were provided with such equipment as computers, science laboratories, photocopy machines, television/video sets, sports apparatus, and upgraded water and sanitation facilities. And the principles of inclusive education – addressing special needs, encouraging minority children to attend, school-based management and planning, and ensuring community participation – were introduced through training for school directors, teachers, children and families.

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## MONGOLIA

### Awareness among education specialists

In Mongolia, UNICEF is working to ensure that education specialists are aware of all the aspects needed for a friendly school environment. Along with buildings, manuals and notebooks, this means addressing the quality of teachers, education content, teaching methodologies, interpersonal communication between teachers and students, community involvement, and assessment and appraisal systems.

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## PHILIPPINES

### Placing children at the centre

The Child-Friendly School System, implemented by the Philippine Government with UNICEF support, puts children at the centre of education and encourages strong community participation.

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## MOZAMBIQUE

### Quality education moves forward

Schools each day are becoming more friendly for children in Maganja da Costa, a district in northern Mozambique's Zambézia Province. This country's child-friendly schools project is part of the Schools for Africa campaign launched in 2004 by Nelson Mandela. The aim is to achieve good-quality basic education, with a focus on the poorest and most vulnerable children, especially girls and children orphaned due to AIDS.

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