



LEARNING TREE ON THE MOVE

A GROUNDBREAKING
APPROACH TO ENSURING
THAT CHILDREN ON THE MOVE
HAVE THE LIFE-CHANGING
OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN



Save the Children

Learning Tree on the Move is a scalable and cost-efficient platform designed to deliver critical educational resources to children on the move. Providing essential services to mobile populations has long posed a challenge to humanitarian practitioners, meaning that millions of migrant and displaced children have been denied the opportunity to fulfil their potential. *Learning Tree on the Move* is Save the Children's innovative answer to this challenge.

We are calling for financial, technical and co-creation support to develop the Learning Tree on the Move concept into programming reality.

Your support will go beyond helping many thousands of the most vulnerable children access quality education. We believe that this visionary project has the transformative potential to create an approach for service provision that can be adapted across numerous programming areas and reinforce Save the Children's reputation as a global leader in pioneering interventions for children on the move.

The lost opportunities for children on the move

Children who experience loss in learning are less likely to reach their full potential as adults. This is especially true for vulnerable or marginalised children, including girls and those living with disabilities. It is not just lack of learning that holds them back. Missing the psychosocial support that education typically provides can contribute to long-term harm in children's mental wellbeing, as well as their future life prospects.

The challenge: An education crisis for children on the move

We know that children's exclusion from education harms their health, safety and future life prospects. The long-term repercussions of loss in learning are compounded for the estimated 50 million children experiencing intermittent, yet persistent, mobility.¹ Seldom settled in one place for long, these children often lose access to all essential services *en route*, particularly if they need to avoid contact with authorities, armed groups or hostile local populations for reasons of safety and security.

These mobile populations are notoriously difficult to reach. Whether movement is forced or voluntary, children often migrate over an indeterminate period of time and are subject to constantly changing circumstances and challenges. In many cases, migratory groups are diverse in language, culture, and age, and their make-up continually shifts throughout the migration journey. These transient 'communities' frequently struggle to access formal education and lack the personnel and resources needed to cultivate healthy education environments on the move.

These factors, among countless others, lead to significant ruptures in educational continuity that increase with the length of the journey and make providing a single education intervention extremely difficult. Once their link with education has been broken, many children are less able to return to learning, if and when they are given the opportunity, whether that be at the point of relocation, return or final settlement.

¹ <https://www.unhcr.org/5fbd213c4.pdf>

The population of children on the move includes refugees, asylum-seekers, the internally displaced, international and internal migrants and returnees. Many are motivated to move or are forcibly displaced due to conflict, climate change and economic factors.



Jordi Matas / Save the Children

Continuous education is a lifeline for children on the move.

It is imperative that we act with urgency to deliver it.

Our solution: *Learning Tree on the Move*

Developed in partnership between Save the Children's *Migration and Displacement Initiative* and *Safe Back to School*,² *Learning Tree on the Move* blends our global leadership, technical education expertise and extensive global programming to deliver a coherent and powerful response to this education crisis. Our ability to leverage existing capacity and resources at the local community level further ensures *Learning Tree on the Move* can be quickly and cost-effectively implemented, scaled up and adapted to new languages and operational contexts as required.

This pioneering intervention builds upon our *Learning Tree* concept,³ an innovative and highly scalable initiative that utilises a mobile application to deliver learning content to teachers, children and caregivers in hard-to-reach contexts, including situations of prolonged displacement. *Learning Tree on the Move* orients the existing platform, content and programme toward maintaining educational links for children on the move, introducing a groundbreaking approach to providing education in emergencies to mobile populations.

A pioneering approach to getting children on the move back to school

The *Learning Tree on the Move* design phase is in process and our next step is to pilot this pioneering programme approach that combines three key components:

- **Developing and evolving the mobile application:** Adapting the functionalities of the existing *Learning Tree* mobile application in response to the unique needs of children on the move and their digital environments, including incorporating case management capabilities and key messaging of health and child protection information
- **Contextualised curriculum and educational content:** Enhancing existing *Learning Tree* content to ensure that it is appropriate to the constantly changing circumstances and needs of mobile children
- **Innovative delivery model:** Incorporating an innovative implementation methodology that builds on existing approaches and best practices and leverages our technical education expertise, multi-country presence and extensive local partnerships. This approach includes both static and mobile 'intervention points'/'programme hubs' that provide crucial technical contact points/support networks along the migration route

² *Safe Back to School* remains a global priority in Save the Children's 2022/2024 strategy.

³ *Learning Tree* was designed in collaboration between the *Migration and Displacement Initiative* and Save the Children U.S.'s *Return to Learning* team and is currently being piloted in Pakistan and Colombia, reaching children in protracted displacement contexts.

Your impact: Prevent tens of thousands of children on the move from falling behind, and transform our approach to working with mobile populations

We are seeking your support with **funding and technical/innovation expertise** to develop and expand the *Learning Tree on the Move* pilot so that children in the most vulnerable mobile populations can continue their education. Your partnership will help us reach many thousands of children on the move, boosting their abilities to secure more stable futures for themselves and their communities by:

- Mitigating loss of learning for children enduring ongoing, intermittent and/or irregular migration
- Equipping education providers with training and resources that can strengthen their capacity to enhance learning outcomes for children on the move
- Providing thousands of children in insecure environments with a sense of stability, support and normalcy
- Building a groundbreaking template for the provision of all essential services for hard-to-reach, mobile populations
- Contributing towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including SDGs 1, 3, 4, 5, 10, and 16

With *Learning Tree on the Move*, Save the Children will continue to build its **global leadership role** in child-focused migration programming, addressing not only the pressing education emergency of migrant children out of school, but also the wider challenge of supplying essential services to all mobile populations.⁵



Your investment in this project therefore has the potential to revolutionise delivery of all essential services to a historically hard-to-reach population – those on the move. Once proven, *Learning Tree on the Move* can be shared with other humanitarian organisations as a **groundbreaking template**, multiplying our impact.

Join us

Children on the move cannot wait. Climate change and conflict are directly driving migration and displacement around the world, and the repercussions for children are growing increasingly dire. Successful interventions that support children on the move and give them better opportunities for the future are more important than ever, and we cannot do this alone.

We are seeking contributions totalling **\$300,000 USD** for the initial pilot.

Our intention is to start the pilot of *Learning Tree on the Move* across one to two regions in the first two quarters of 2022, with the expectation that the pilot period would span 6–9 months.⁶ The pilot region will be selected based on overall access and ability to maximise institutional and partner resources and capacities at field level to ensure strong progress. In 2023, we would then look to improve, expand and scale this innovative model across a range of migratory contexts.

If you would like to explore how your **financial, technical or innovation** collaboration could help develop this breakthrough programme, please contact:

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Thank you for your consideration.

⁵ These groups could include pastoral, nomadic groups and those fleeing from conflict.

⁶ Pilot regions under consideration include routes through the Balkans, Central America and West Africa but we welcome discussion on potential geographies with interested partners.



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