



# The State of Education in North East Nigeria

A needs assessment report on children enrollment and education infrastructure in six states



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## List of Acronyms

CODE	Connected Development
FTM	Follow The Money
NGO	Non-Government Organization
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goal
USD	United States Dollar
WASH	Water Sanitation and Hygiene

# About Connected Development [CODE]

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Founded in 2012, Connected Development [CODE] is a non-government organization [NGO] whose mission is to empower marginalized communities in Africa. Exactly a decade this year, Connected Development [CODE] through its FollowTheMoney (FTM) Initiative has tracked and monitored public spending in rural communities across Nigeria, reaching an estimate of 3 million community members covering 373 communities, across 36 states and the Federal Capital Territory. As such, CODE has worked with hundreds of community governance structures to monitor the implementation of USD 13.5 million worth of socio-economic projects in their communities. Through FollowTheMoney [FTM], CODE has promoted and ensured open government, improved service delivery in the execution of community projects by the government, exposed and mitigated corruption, as well as fought extreme poverty in rural communities. Connected Development has championed a lot of gender-based advocacies and campaigns ranging from the inclusion of women in the local natural resource governance system, action against gender-based violence, girl child education and gender-responsive budget system.

FollowTheMoney's work has been recognized both globally as Africa's leading anti-corruption and social accountability movement. In May 2019, the initiative won the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Mobilizer Award. In November 2019, Follow The Money emerged as the 2019 winner of the Council of Europe's Democracy Innovation Award and the World Summit Award 2022 among other awards and recognitions. An initiative started in Nigeria, FollowTheMoney has spread to several countries including Liberia, Kenya, Cameroon, Zimbabwe, Malawi, The Gambia, Uganda, Cape Verde with interest in Pakistan and Haiti etc., and has a national spread across Nigeria.

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# Introduction

Nigeria currently has 18.5 million out-of-school children, the highest in the world. Most of these children between the ages of 5-14 are found in the northern region, especially the northeastern states of Borno, Yobe and Adamawa where insurgency and counter-insurgency operations have exacerbated other pre-existing economic and socio-cultural factors that hinder children's education. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic when schools were completely shut down (as part of the government's preventive measures), only 61% of 6-11 year-olds regularly attend primary school. During the six-month COVID19 lockdown, 4.2 million most vulnerable students in these states were further negatively impacted by the suspension of learning activities.

Children's education in the North East has remained poor due to poverty, insecurity, inadequate funding, poor parenting and inhibitive socio-cultural practices. Most of the school-age children work in low-paid jobs, often to fend for themselves or support their parents, when not victims of discrimination as in the case of the girl child. As efforts are being made to overcome the barriers and increase children's access to education in the region, one major factor underpinning the decline in school enrollment and retention is poor infrastructure. In most schools, poor facilities such as derelict classrooms (or total lack of it in some cases), leaking roofs, broken furniture, and unhygienic toilets, make students unsafe and outright unmotivated aside from impairing teaching and learning activities. This, essentially, makes children skip classes or drop out altogether, hence the continuity of the out-of-school children epidemic.

To mobilize action and the right policy implementations that will drive positive, sustainable change, Connected Development (CODE) with support from The Malala Fund embarked on a girl-child education campaign in Adamawa State, Nigeria. The project focuses extensively on activating accountability channels for improved education infrastructure and gender-responsive service delivery in government-owned secondary schools. It equally addresses entrenched traditional barriers to girls' education via high-level governmental engagements designed to foster girl-child education, enrolment and retention. In the course of the project, we have conducted a needs assessment in 221 public secondary schools across the six Northeastern states to generate credible data on the current state of infrastructure, children enrolment, re-enrolment and retention; and Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) facilities. An assessment of the impact of COVID-19 on girl-child education was also conducted in 2020.

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<sup>1</sup> According to a new declaration by UNICEF Field Office in Kano on May 11, 2022. This figure, at the time of writing this report, is not yet published on UNICEF's official website, which still puts the number at 10.5million. The news report: <https://www.thisdaylive.com/index.php/2022/05/12/unicef-decries-18-5-million-out-of-school-children-in-nigeria>

<sup>2</sup> United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF)

<sup>3</sup> Relief web international [https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/nigeria\\_education\\_sector\\_covid-19\\_response\\_strategy\\_north\\_east\\_.pdf](https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/nigeria_education_sector_covid-19_response_strategy_north_east_.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> Girls account for 60% of the out-of-school children in Nigeria <https://www.premiumtimesng.com/news/top-news/529067-ten-million-nigerian-girls-are-out-of-school-unicef.html>

This report is an analytic presentation of the needs assessment findings in the surveyed secondary schools. It offers firsthand insights into the state of education in the North East through the interconnected organs of infrastructure, enrollment, and Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH). Under the same project, we conducted a similar study (in Yola South and Fufere local governments, Adamawa State) that gathered/generated girls' perspectives on peculiar challenges affecting the female gender. This dedicated approach allowed us to obtain distinct views directly from the female students on female-specific infrastructure, an important focus to accentuate the unique factors responsible for poor female education in the region. This independent assessment is presented in the second part of the report. The data collected, in both exercises, are usable for studies but most importantly for policy decisions.

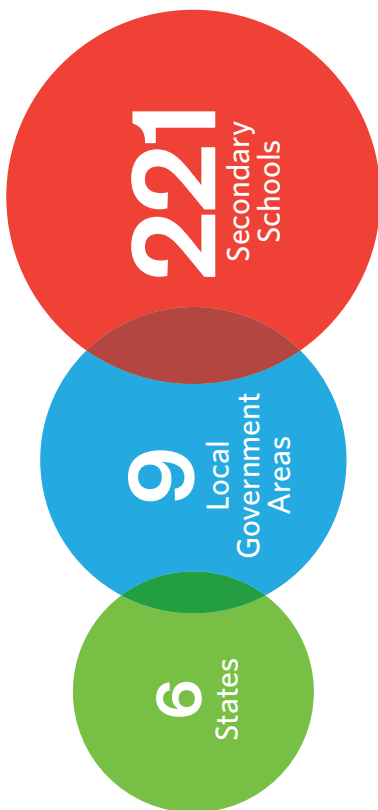
## Key goals of the project

- 1** Spotlight the infrastructural factors responsible for poor learning standards that significantly drive low children's enrolment in schools across the North East.
- 2** Provide insights for multi-stakeholder engagement and active intervention in the North-East education sector.
- 3** Engage governments and decision-makers across the states for instantaneous policy shift - ultimately to change the region's status as the poorest in children's education.
- 4** Invest in the future of the North East by promoting children's education and broader investment in the education sector.



## Methodology

The needs assessment was conducted in six states of the North East (four local governments in Adamawa state, and one local government each in Bauchi, Borno, Gombe, Taraba, and Yobe states) with a focus on three thematic areas: enrollment; school and teaching infrastructure; and Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) facilities. A set of well-structured questionnaires and direct interviews were used for data collection across the selected 221 secondary schools, where the question sheets were administered to heads of the selected schools (principals) to obtain original information through the questionnaires and face-to-face interviews. The interviews were conducted at the respective premises of the schools by twenty-seven enumerators (ten in Adamawa State, five in Gombe State, and three each in Bauchi, Borno, Taraba and Yobe states) selected by CODE across the focus states. Face and content validity of the research instruments were done with the reliability test carried out using the test-retest approach. For this report, descriptive statistics were used in the analysis of data collected from the chosen respondents.



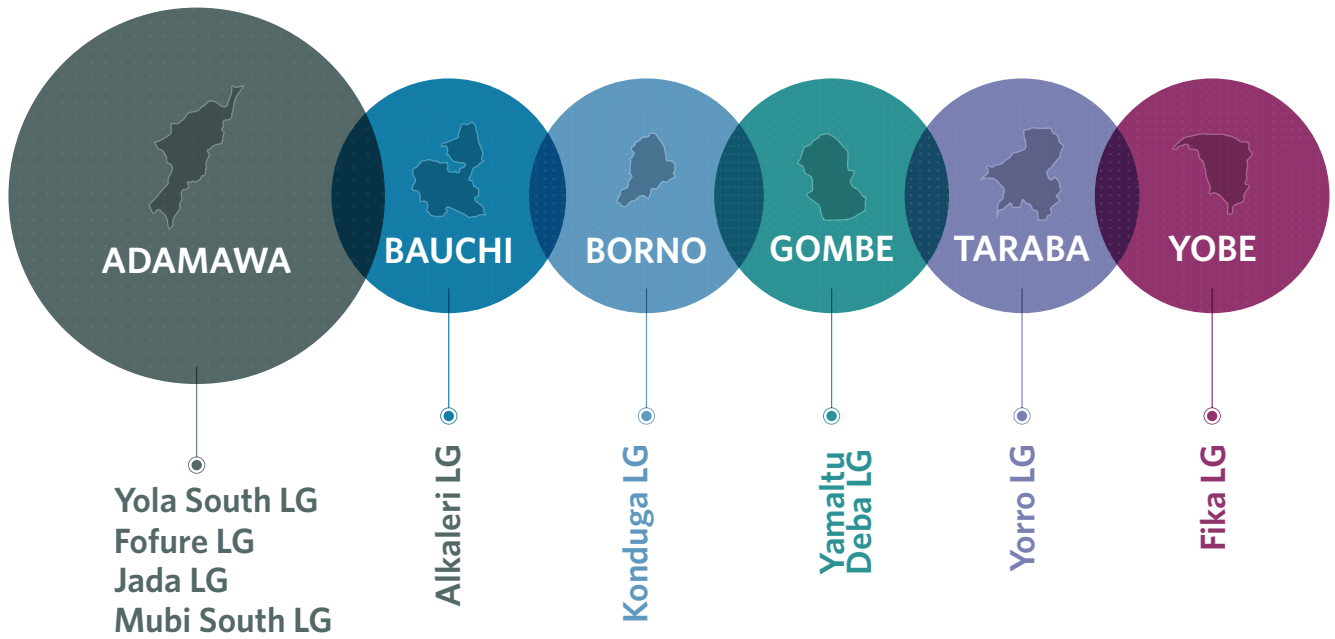
## Data Presentation and Analysis

The needs assessment data are presented in narratives, tables, and graphical representations. The analysis was done with a combination of qualitative and quantitative methods that underscore the relationship between the different-but-related variables. Quantitative methods were used to analyze the close-ended questions while the open-ended questions, where the respondents gave detailed responses, were analyzed using the qualitative method.



### Distribution of schools per state and local government

With four local governments in Adamawa State and one each in Bauchi, Borno, Gombe, Taraba, and Yobe states, the 221 selected schools for the assessment data are distributed across nine local governments in six states.



Adamawa makes up 61% of the surveyed schools followed by Gombe with 38 schools (17.1%). The number of respondents per state is given in figure 3 below.

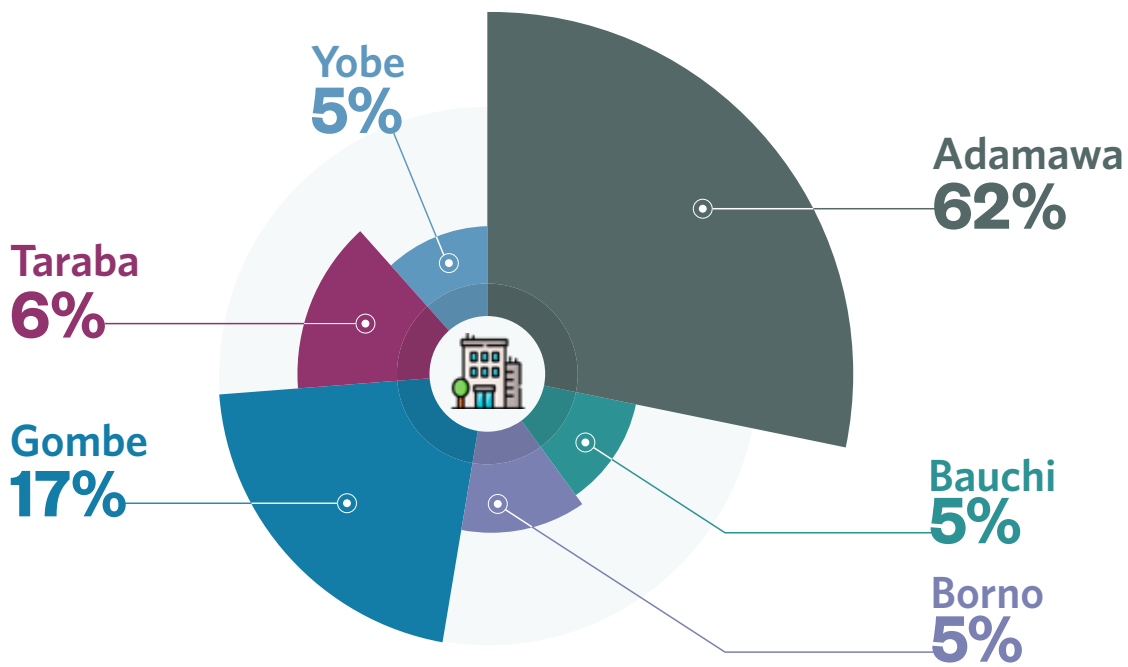


Figure 3: Distribution of respondents per state



## List of Selected Schools

S/N	SCHOOL	STATE	LOCAL GOVT
1	Best Center Yola	Adamawa	Yola South
2	GDSS Hammawa Toungo JSS	Adamawa	Yola South
3	Musdafa Gdss (SS)	Adamawa	Yola South
4	S.A.I.S ,Yola (JSS)	Adamawa	Yola South
5	GDSS Damare Yola South	Adamawa	Yola South
6	GDJSS Malkohi	Adamawa	Yola South
7	GDJSS Njoboliyo	Adamawa	Yola South
8	GDSS (SS) Njoboliyo	Adamawa	Yola South
9	S.A.I.S (SS)	Adamawa	Yola South
10	GDSS Shagari (JSS)	Adamawa	Yola South
11	GDJSS Rugange Yola South	Adamawa	Yola South
12	GDSS Hammawa Toungo (SS)	Adamawa	Yola South
13	GDJSS Njoboli-fulani	Adamawa	Yola South
14	GDSS Shagari Quarters, Yola (SS)	Adamawa	Yola South
15	GDSS Njoboli-fulani (SS)	Adamawa	Yola South
16	GDSS Wuro Hausa, Yola (JSS)	Adamawa	Yola South
17	GDSS (SS) Wuro Jabbe	Adamawa	Yola South
18	Govt Day SS Mbamba	Adamawa	Yola South
19	GDSS Wuro Hausa, Yola (SS)	Adamawa	Yola South
20	GDSS Bole li	Adamawa	Yola South
21	GDSS Rumde - Jabbi, Yola, (JSS)	Adamawa	Yola South
22	GDSS Yola	Adamawa	Yola South
23	Musdafa GDJSS Yola	Adamawa	Yola South
24	Aliyu Musdafa College Yola (JSS)	Adamawa	Yola South
25	GJSS Bako, Yola	Adamawa	Yola South
26	Lamido Sanda Gdss Yola (SSS)	Adamawa	Yola South
27	Lamido Sanda Gdss Yola (JSS)	Adamawa	Yola South
28	GDSS Yola	Adamawa	Yola South
29	GDSS Damare Yola South	Adamawa	Yola South
30	GJSS	Adamawa	Yola South
31	GDSS Namtari (SS)	Adamawa	Yola South
32	GJSS Namtari	Adamawa	Yola South

S/N	SCHOOL	STATE	LOCAL GOVT
33	Njoboli-Fulani JSS	Adamawa	Yola South
34	GDSS Bole li SS	Adamawa	Yola South
35	Govt Junior Sec School, Wauru Jabbe	Adamawa	Yola South
36	GDSS Wuro Yanka (JSS)	Adamawa	Yola South
37	GDSS Sangere Bode Numan Road, Yola (SSS)	Adamawa	Yola South
38	GDSS Sangere Bode Numan Road, Yola (JSS)	Adamawa	Yola South
39	GDSS Rumde - Jabbi, Yola (SSS)	Adamawa	Yola South
40	GDSS Kulangu	Adamawa	Yola South
41	GDSS Mbamba Yola, (JSS)	Adamawa	Yola South
42	GDSS Hosere Mbembe (SS)	Adamawa	Yola South
43	GDSS Hosere Mbembe (JSS)	Adamawa	Yola South
44	GDSS Gongoshi (Jss)	Adamawa	Yola South
45	GDSS Namtari (JSS)	Adamawa	Yola South
46	GDSS Yolde Koyi	Adamawa	Fufore
47	GDSS Daware	Adamawa	Fufore
48	GDJSS Malabu	Adamawa	Fufore
49	GDSS Ribadu, Fufore ( JSS)	Adamawa	Fufore
50	GD ASS Malabu	Adamawa	Fufore
51	GDSS Ribadu, Fufore ( SS)	Adamawa	Fufore
52	GDSS Bagale	Adamawa	Fufore
53	GDSS Pariya	Adamawa	Fufore
54	GSS Fufore	Adamawa	Fufore
55	GSS (JSS) Fufore	Adamawa	Fufore
56	GDSS Dasin, Hausa, Fufore (JSS)	Adamawa	Fufore
57	Best Center Fufore	Adamawa	Fufore
58	Tukur Memorial Gjss Fufore	Adamawa	Fufore
59	GDSS Dasin Hausa ( SS)	Adamawa	Fufore
60	GBJSS Fufore	Adamawa	Fufore
61	GD ASS Farang	Adamawa	Fufore
62	GDSS Mayo-ine	Adamawa	Fufore
63	GDSS Mayo-ine (JSS)	Adamawa	Fufore
64	GDJSS Wuro Bokki	Adamawa	Fufore

S/N	SCHOOL	STATE	LOCAL GOVT
65	GDSS Chigari	Adamawa	Fufore
66	GDJSS Jilimasham	Adamawa	Fufore
67	GDSS Wuro Ardo	Adamawa	Fufore
68	GDSS Karlahi	Adamawa	Fufore
69	GDSS Muninga	Adamawa	Fufore
70	GDSS Yadim (JSS)	Adamawa	Fufore
71	GDJSS Karlahi Ngurore	Adamawa	Fufore
72	GDSS Chikito	Adamawa	Fufore
73	GDSS Yadim (SS)	Adamawa	Fufore
74	GDSS Wuro Bokki	Adamawa	Fufore
75	GDSS (SS) Gurin	Adamawa	Fufore
76	GDJSS Gurin	Adamawa	Fufore
77	GBJSS Gurin	Adamawa	Fufore
78	GDSS Bilachi	Adamawa	Fufore
79	GJSS Beti Bappawo	Adamawa	Fufore
80	GSS Gawi	Adamawa	Fufore
81	GJSS Wuro Ishaku	Adamawa	Fufore
82	Ngavahi DJSS	Adamawa	Mubi South
83	Ngavahi DJSS	Adamawa	Mubi South
84	GDJSS Kwaja	Adamawa	Mubi South
85	GJSS	Adamawa	Mubi South
86	GDSS Monduva	Adamawa	Mubi South
87	GDSS Yewa	Adamawa	Mubi South
88	GSS Gella	Adamawa	Mubi South
89	GDSS Dazala	Adamawa	Mubi South
90	GDSS Wuro Bulude	Adamawa	Mubi South
91	GDSS Dirbishi (SS)	Adamawa	Mubi South
92	GJSS Kagi'i	Adamawa	Mubi South
93	GSS Kagi'i	Adamawa	Mubi South
94	GSS Kwaccham	Adamawa	Mubi South
95	GSS Muhd	Adamawa	Mubi South
96	GDJSS Mujara	Adamawa	Mubi South

S/N	SCHOOL	STATE	LOCAL GOVT
97	GDSS Muraja	Adamawa	Mubi South
98	GDJSS Muhda	Adamawa	Mubi South
99	GDSS Muhda	Adamawa	Mubi South
100	Best Center	Adamawa	Mubi South
101	GSS Lamorde	Adamawa	Mubi South
102	GDSS (JSS) Mayo Hako	Adamawa	Jada
103	GSS (JSS) Jada	Adamawa	Jada
104	GDSS (JSS) Bello Petel	Adamawa	Jada
105	GSS (SS) Jada	Adamawa	Jada
106	GDSS (JSS) Danaba	Adamawa	Jada
107	GDSS JSS Mapeo	Adamawa	Jada
108	GDSS SS Mapeo	Adamawa	Jada
109	GDSS JSS Sapeo	Adamawa	Jada
110	GDSS (JSS) Gwangwaso	Adamawa	Jada
111	GDSS (JSS) Jada Central	Adamawa	Jada
112	GDSS Nyibango	Adamawa	Jada
113	GDSS Mbangam Tiren	Adamawa	Jada
114	GDSS M/kombuwal	Adamawa	Jada
115	GDSS Mbangam Essende	Adamawa	Jada
116	GDSS Farang Van	Adamawa	Jada
117	GDSS Nadeu	Adamawa	Jada
118	GDSS Jada 1	Adamawa	Jada
119	GDSS Gonglare	Adamawa	Jada
120	GDSS JSS Kojoli	Adamawa	Jada
121	GDSS Mbulo	Adamawa	Jada
122	GDSS Wuro Abbo	Adamawa	Jada
123	GDSS SS Kojoli	Adamawa	Jada
124	GDSS Dashen	Adamawa	Jada
125	GDSS Pola	Adamawa	Jada
126	GDSS SS So'o	Adamawa	Jada
127	GDSS JSS	Adamawa	Jada
128	Atiku Abubakar Govt School Jada	Adamawa	Jada

S/N	SCHOOL	STATE	LOCAL GOVT
129	GDSS Kashin Yawo	Bauchi	Alkaleri
130	GDJSS Gangsanji	Bauchi	Alkaleri
131	GDJSS Wuro Usman	Bauchi	Alkaleri
132	GDSS Kubi Yero	Bauchi	Alkaleri
133	GDJSS Lengo	Bauchi	Alkaleri
134	GDSS JSS Koma	Bauchi	Alkaleri
135	GDSS SS Koma	Bauchi	Alkaleri
136	GDSS (SS) Jada Central	Bauchi	Alkaleri
137	GDSS Gokaru	Bauchi	Alkaleri
138	Government Day Technical College Gar	Bauchi	Alkaleri
139	Government Day Secondary School Duguri	Bauchi	Alkaleri
140	Govt Day Sec School Alkaleri	Bauchi	Alkaleri
141	Govt Day Sec School GWARAM	Bauchi	Alkaleri
142	Govt Day Secondary School Yalwan Duguri	Bauchi	Alkaleri
143	Mainamaji Government Secondary School	Bauchi	Alkaleri
144	Bajama Government Secondary School	Bauchi	Alkaleri
145	GDSS Kundak	Bauchi	Alkaleri
146	GDSS Futuk	Bauchi	Alkaleri
147	GDSS Pali	Bauchi	Alkaleri
148	Lawan Mustapha Govt Day secondary school	Borno	Konduga
149	Govt Junior Day Sec Sch 1000 housing estate	Borno	Konduga
150	Govt Day Junior Secondary Sch Konduga Central	Borno	Konduga
151	Govt Day Junior Secondary School Mandarari	Borno	Konduga
152	Government Day Junior Secondary School Dalori	Borno	Konduga
153	Government Day Junior Secondary School JAJEL	Borno	Konduga
154	Government Girls Secondary School Konduga	Borno	Konduga
155	Government Day Junior Secondary School Chabbal	Borno	Konduga
156	Govt Day Junior Secondary School Pompomarii	Borno	Konduga
157	Dangote Bilingual Day Junior Secondary School	Borno	Konduga
158	Government Day Junior Secondary School Jakana	Borno	Konduga
159	Auno Central Junior Secondary School	Borno	Konduga
160	Government Junior Secondary School Lubo	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba

S/N	SCHOOL	STATE	LOCAL GOVT
161	Government Day Senior Secondary School Kurba	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba
162	Government Day Junior Secondary School Kurba	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba
163	Govt Comprehensive Junior Secondary School	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba
164	Govt Comprehensive Senior Secondary School	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba
165	Govt Comprehensive Day Junior Secondary School	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba
166	Govt Comprehensive Day Senior Secondary School	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba
167	GDSS Kuri	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba
168	Government DSS Wade	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba
169	Government Day Secondary School Gwani East	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba
170	GJSS Wudil Sarkin Rafi Nono	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba
171	Government Day Junior Secondary School Difa	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba
172	Govt Senior Science Secondary School, Hinna	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba
173	GDSS New Liji	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba
174	GDJSS Hinna	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba
175	Government Junior Secondary School Dangar	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba
176	Government Junior Secondary School Kunuwal	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba
177	Government Senoir Secondary School Kunuwal	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba
178	Government Junior Secondary School Gwani West	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba
179	Government Junior Secondary School Maikaho	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba
180	Government Junior Secondary School Pata	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba
181	Government Junior Secondary School Kurjale	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba
182	Government Senior Secondary School Kurjale	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba
183	Government Junior Secondary School Dangar	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba
184	Government Junior Secondary School Maikaho	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba
185	GJSS Garin Baraya	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba
186	Government Junior Secondary School Kwadon	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba
187	Government Junior Secondary School Liji	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba
188	Government Junior Secondary School Zamfarawa	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba
189	Government Model Junior Secondary School	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba
190	Government Science and Technical College	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba
191	Govt Secondary School Comprehensive Deba	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba
192	Government Day Secondary School Lano	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba



S/N	SCHOOL	STATE	LOCAL GOVT
193	Government Girls Secondary School Kuri	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba
194	GDSS Shinga	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba
195	GDSSS Zambuk	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba
196	Govt Day Junior Secondary School, Zambuk	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba
197	GDSS Kunzang	Taraba	Yorro
198	GDSS Gongon Maliki	Taraba	Yorro
199	Community Secondary School Dankum	Taraba	Yorro
200	GDSS Nyaja	Taraba	Yorro
201	GDSS Lanko	Taraba	Yorro
202	GDSS Kassa	Taraba	Yorro
203	GDSS Pantisawa	Taraba	Yorro
204	GDSS Pupule	Taraba	Yorro
205	GDSS Mabang	Taraba	Yorro
206	GDSS Mabang/Lakware	Taraba	Yorro
207	GDSS Nsoreng Gadda/Lasheke	Taraba	Yorro
208	GDSS Jika	Taraba	Yorro
209	GDSS Mika Tsohon Gari	Taraba	Yorro
210	GDSS Dimba	Taraba	Yorro
211	GDJSS Fika	Yobe	Fika
212	GDJSS Chana	Yobe	Fika
213	GDJSS Gashaka	Yobe	Fika
214	GDJSS Daya	Yobe	Fika
215	GDJSS Gadaka	Yobe	Fika
216	GDJSS Goge	Yobe	Fika
217	GGSS Gadaka	Yobe	Fika
218	GDJSS Janga Dole	Yobe	Fika
219	GDJSS Ngalda	Yobe	Fika
220	GDJSS Maluri	Yobe	Fika
221	GDJSS Godowoli	Yobe	Fika









# Key Findings

## Enrollment

At the time of this study, the 221 surveyed schools had a total of 44,024 enrolled students (both 12-14 and 15-20 years). This comprises 21,685 girls and 22,339 boys between the age of 12 to 20.

Although a general comparison shows that the boys are 654 more than the girls, a sizeable margin alluding to the prevalence of boys over girls in the annals of formal education in the North East, the number of girls under 12-14 years is a significant indicator that more female children are now being enrolled into secondary school. Girls' enrollment (12-14 years) at the junior level is 346 higher than the number of boys, in contrast to the senior level where male students (15-20 years) are 1,000 more than the females. However, the little progress at the junior level is being thwarted by the exponential rate of female dropouts as can be seen clearly from the declining rate of retention.<sup>6</sup>



**44,024**

Total Enrollment



**22,339**

Boys enrolled



**21,685**

Girls enrolled



**12,025**

Number of re-enrolled girls







## Re-enrollment (girls)

Given the number of girls who were back in school for the second year, it is clear there is progress in the enrollment of female children at the junior secondary level. Data from the assessment survey reveals that an aggregate of 12,025 girls (out of 21,585 total female students) are re-enrolled students across the 221 secondary schools. This budding development, as a matter of fact, can be interpreted as a positive result of persistent advocacies and some right policy decisions.

## Retention (girls)

Notwithstanding the incremental progress in girls' enrollment and re-enrollment at the junior level, the assessment result points out a major problem with the retention of female students. From the overall female students (21,685 girls), a total of 19,078 girls were retained over a period of one year. This means 2,607 girls (12%) dropped out of school within a year. Why did so many girls drop out? The almost nonexistent safe drinking water and hygienic sanitation facilities, aside from dismal teaching and learning facilities, play the most part in this regard. Although negative customs, insecurity and poor economic conditions have huge impacts on female enrollment, poor infrastructure has the biggest impact on their retention - as we shall see later on.

*Notwithstanding the incremental progress in girls' enrollment and re-enrollment at the junior level, the assessment result points out a major problem with the retention of female students.*



**10,000**

Total number of retained girls (12-14 y/o)



**9,078**

Total number of retained girls (15-20 y/o)



## School and teaching infrastructure

The out-of-school children syndrome is attributed to a number of factors but the nosediving retention rate can be traced directly to appalling infrastructure, as several studies have shown that lack of basic infrastructure can be a direct barrier to school attendance. Across all the nine local governments in six states, there is a similar pattern of gross infrastructural decadence due to lack of funding (and very few cases of terrorist attacks), the sole reason why students sit on the bare floors or learn in classes with leaky roofs in other instances. The number of those who lack the fortitude to learn under unfriendly circumstances can be seen in the increasing dropout rates.

### ▪ Classrooms

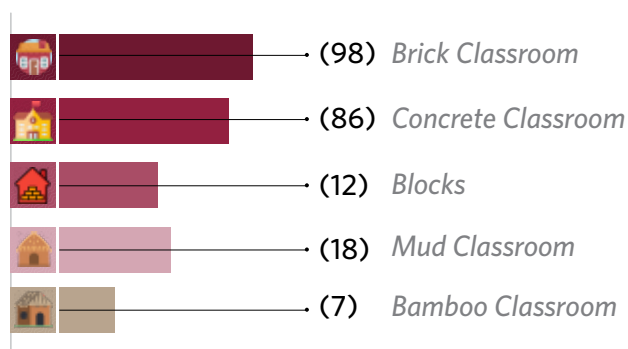
There is an alarming “classroom crisis” nearly all over. Out of the 221 surveyed schools where over 40 thousand students resume daily, only six have more than 15 classrooms respectively. A paltry other five can boast of more than 10 classrooms when a total of 202 schools grapple with less than 10. Indeed, nothing else might be needed as striking evidence of poor learning conditions and chronically overcrowded classrooms.

*Schools with more than 15 classrooms*

S/N	School	State	Local Govt	Classroom
1	GDSS Yola	Adamawa	Yola South	19
2	GJSS	Adamawa	Yola South	19
3	Aliyu Musdafa College Yola (JSS)	Adamawa	Yola South	18
4	Govt Girls Secondary School Kuri	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba	17
5	GGSS Gadaka	Yobe	Fika	17
6	GDSS Futuk	Bauchi	Alkaleri	16



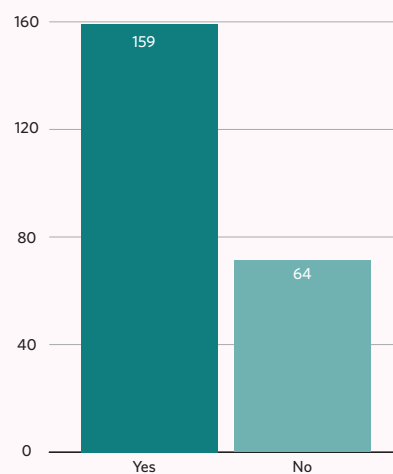
In terms of type, less than 50% of the classrooms across 221 schools are made of concrete blocks; 44% are of brick (clay). About 18 schools use mud classrooms while 7 use classes made with bamboo sticks and thatch roofs.



### ▪ School fence

A whopping 72% of the 221 surveyed schools (159 schools) have no fence, a critical contributing factor to the lack of security and controlled movement of students. The porosity does not only expose students to danger, it exposes school facilities to theft and random vandalism as has been witnessed in many cases.

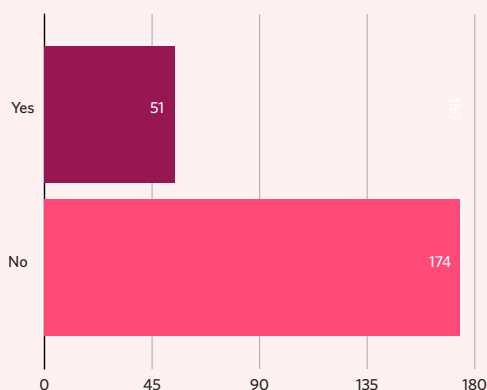
Even though poverty and insecurity play pivotal roles in the overall education crisis, the foregoing stats reaffirm the absence of basic facilities as the root cause of children’s lack of motivation and the intractable dropout trend. In a region with the highest birthrate in the country, 8 increasing dropout seems to be the least of the challenges that could emanate from penurious school infrastructure.



### ▪ Computer provision

The level of extant infrastructural challenges would seem to suggest that the highest percentage of the schools certainly do not have computers for teaching and learning, yes, that is the case.

In all, only 23% have computers. The rest majority fail to implement the national computer education curriculum at both secondary and senior levels. This demonstration of a wide void between policy and practice puts students at a great disadvantage by not teaching them timely computer literacy.



## Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) facilities

Even as the amenities that make school exciting to children vary from one place to another and from one social class to the other, access to safe drinking water is a universal factor critical to children's well-being everywhere. In schools, Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) provides safe drinking water, improves access to and maintenance of clean, gender-friendly and inclusive sanitation facilities and promotes hygienic behaviours and lifelong good health.

Clean water creates a healthy school environment for children to learn and stay. Conversely, the lack of it can precipitate disease outbreaks like cholera and diarrhoea, thereby practically forcing children out of school. An example is an outbreak of cerebrospinal meningitis (CSM) among dozens of students at the Government Girls Secondary School (GGSS), Sokoto, in March 2021. A total of 30 students were treated for the disease caused by bacterial infection while a death case was reported following hospitalisation. Indeed, it is self-emphasising that clean water matters even beyond immediate education considerations and concerns.

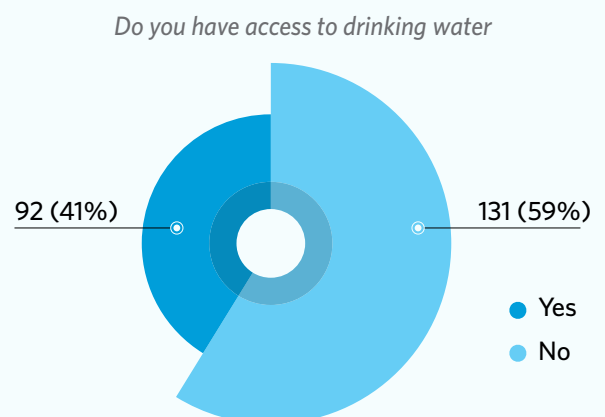
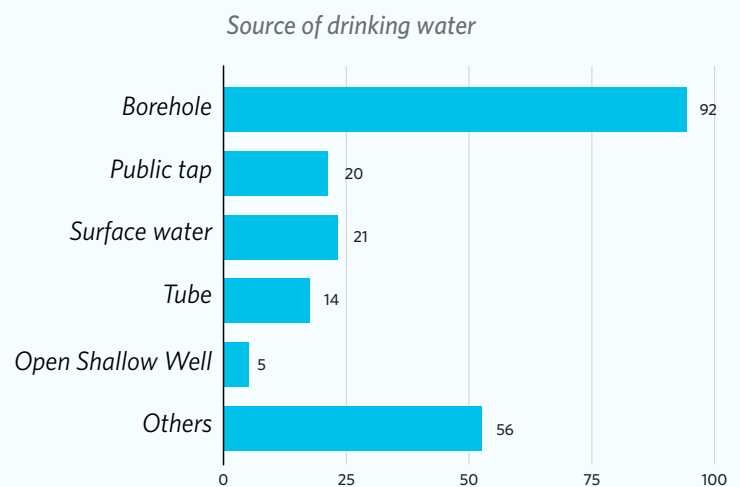
**56** schools have no source of water at all

Furthermore, 131 school principals confirmed that students have no access to drinking water in these schools. This means that not in all schools with a borehole are students allowed access to the 'luxury' facility.

## Water

From a reality standpoint, water challenges pose a tremendous threat to students in nearly half of the schools.

Only 20 schools (9%) enjoy public tap. In the absence of government-provided piped water, 92 schools (42%) rely on boreholes as an alternative source of drinking water. Meanwhile, students resort to surface water sources (river, stream, pond, puddles, unprotected spring, etc.) in 21 schools; tube wells in 14 schools; and open shallow wells in 5 schools. Alas, 56 schools have no source of water at all, neither for drinking nor washing hands.



<sup>9</sup> United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF)

<sup>10</sup> Outbreak Observatory <https://www.outbreakobservatory.org/outbreakthursday-1/4/1/2021/suspected-meningitis-outbreak-in-nigerian-school>

▪ Toilet

The assessment result also reveals another crisis - the toilet crisis. This plight has a more adverse effect on female students than on their male counterparts.

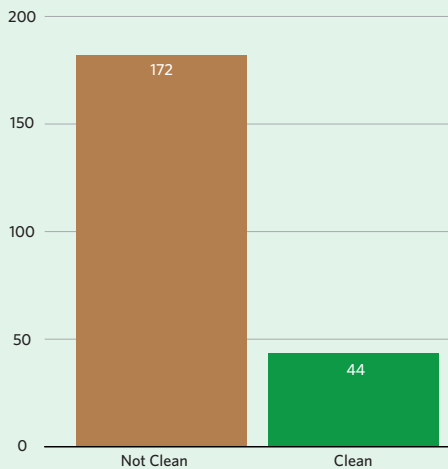
**Availability And Cleanliness**

Even though 152 school principals said they have latrines for student use, 172 declared that the latrines are completely not in good hygienic condition. This simply shows that many of those who acknowledged having latrines only put up with poor ones. In another word, 'availability' does not mean 'clean' i.e. safe and usable.

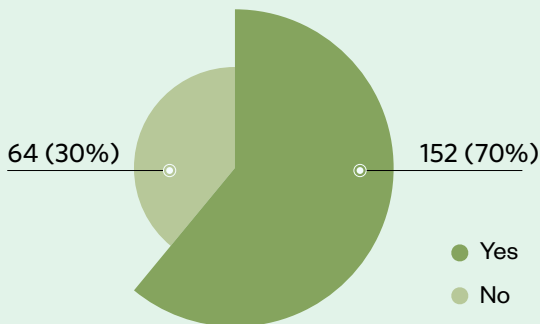
**Separate Latrine and Privacy for Girls**

Over 60% of the schools have no separate latrines for girls. With that practically subjecting them to share toilets with boys, 147 schools with shared latrines offer no privacy for females, a clear confirmation that the girls must proceed home most times the toilet is needed. Whether they return to school after such daily need or not was not looked into, but the probability of them not returning is naturally high.

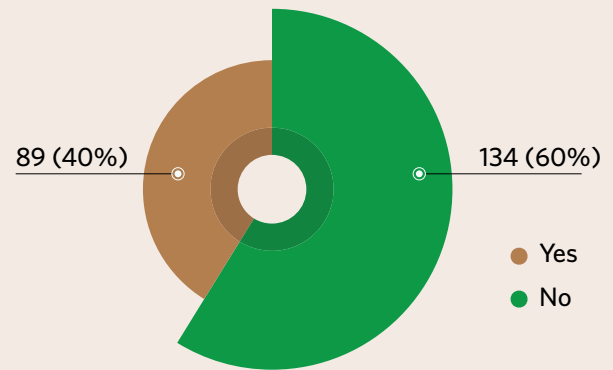
Clean versus unclean latrine



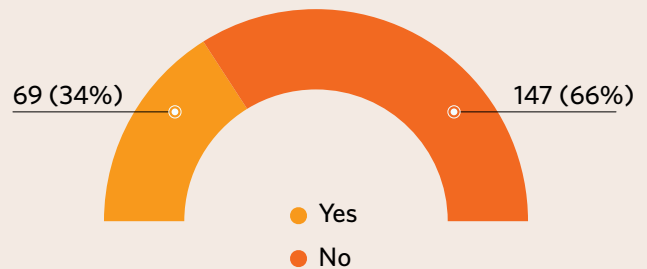
Availability of latrine



Clean versus unclean latrine

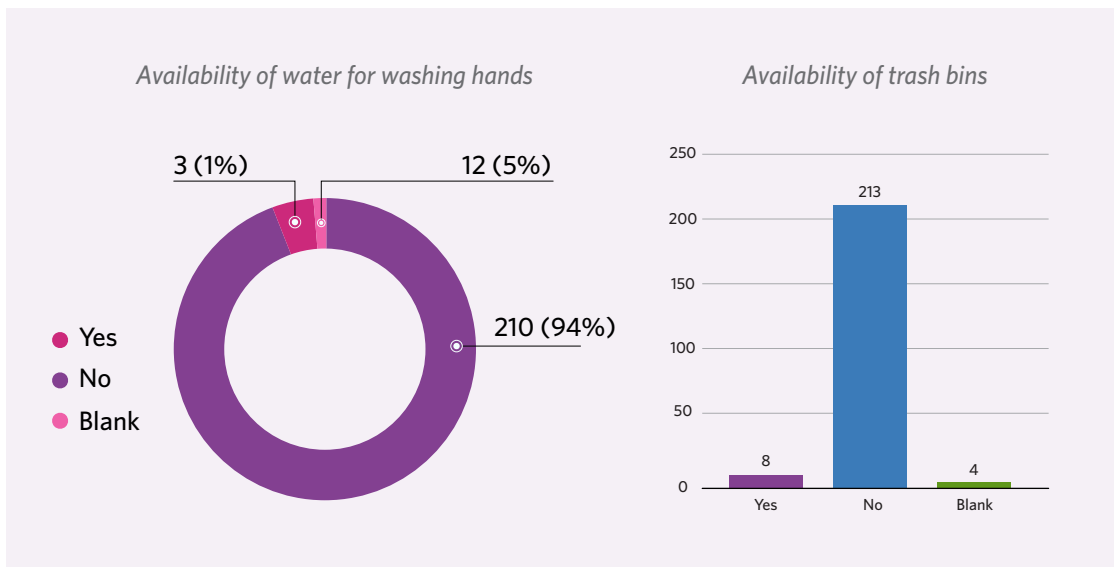


Latrine privacy for female students



## ▪ Sanitary

The above postulation seems well nigh correct. Only 7% of the schools have water close to the latrines for washing hands while only 3.6% have trash bins in the latrine for the disposal of used sanitary pads.



*The data above corroborate a slew of other research findings that menstrual hygiene remains taboo in many communities – especially in rural areas – with poor knowledge and poor facilities. It also affirms the discriminatory nature of many school environments in which girls find it extremely difficult to manage their monthly menstrual cycle with adequate safety, privacy and dignity.*

*These are compelling reasons for the upward female dropout rate – particularly at the secondary level. The schools are incapable of providing inclusive learning, whereas they should offer not only the facilities but also education about menstrual hygiene and pubertal changes thereby attracting girls to school even during menstruation.*





# Needs Assessment



---

*Only 6 out of 221 schools have more than 15 classrooms. A paltry other 5 enjoy more than 10 classrooms. About 60 schools cram all their students into 3 classrooms only. What is more, less than 50% of the classrooms across 221 schools are made of concrete blocks, 44% are of brick. About 18 schools use mud classrooms while 7 use classes made with bamboo sticks and thatch roof."*

***This assessment reveals two major infrastructure deficits – classroom and WASH facilities – that are central to children's enrollment and retention problems in northeast Nigeria.***

All the principals were asked what intervention their schools crave the most. How many classroom blocks need renovation?

An overwhelming 89% cried out for government intervention with 199 schools needing renovation. Only 11% were complacent.

The overall total number of classrooms that require renovation stands at 544. In fact, 7 schools categorically said all their classrooms need to be renovated.

Far beyond the expressed need for classroom renovation, however, the findings of this report (based on CODE's on-site inspection) adequately reveal the extent of the infrastructure deficit across the board. There is hence a massive need for comprehensive infrastructure investment in all the schools.

From the construction/renovation of classrooms and toilets to the provision of clean water, sanitary and safe spaces for females, as well as a decisive commitment to computer literacy across the schools, the realisation of improved children's education in the North East hinges on a quality school environment.



## Classroom Renovation Need Per School

S/N	School	State	Local Govt	No of classrooms due for renovation
1	Best Center Yola	Adamawa	Yola South	7
2	GDSS Hammawa Toungo JSS	Adamawa	Yola South	0
3	S.A.I.S ,Yola (JSS)	Adamawa	Yola South	11
4	Musdafa GDSS (SS)	Adamawa	Yola South	-
5	GDSS Yola	Adamawa	Yola South	All
6	Musdafa GDJSS Yola	Adamawa	Yola South	3
7	GDSS Damare Yola South	Adamawa	Yola South	All
8	GDJSS Malkohi	Adamawa	Yola South	0
9	GDJSS Njoboliyo	Adamawa	Yola South	2
10	GDSS (SS) Njoboliyo	Adamawa	Yola South	2
11	S .A.I.S (SS)	Adamawa	Yola South	3
12	Gdss Shagari (JSS)	Adamawa	Yola South	1
13	GDJSS Rugange Yola South	Adamawa	Yola South	4
14	GDSS Hammawa Toungo (SS)	Adamawa	Yola South	2
15	GDJSS Njoboli-fulani	Adamawa	Yola South	1
16	GDSS Shagari Quarters, Yola. (SS)	Adamawa	Yola South	8
17	GDSS Njoboli-fulani (SS)	Adamawa	Yola South	1
18	GDSS Wuro Hausa, Yola (JSS)	Adamawa	Yola South	0
19	GDSS (SS) Wuro Jabbe	Adamawa	Yola South	3
20	Govt Day SS School Mbamba	Adamawa	Yola South	6
21	GDSS Wuro Hausa, Yola (SS)	Adamawa	Yola South	3
22	GDSS Bole II	Adamawa	Yola South	All
23	GDSS Rumde - Jabbi, Yola, (JSS)	Adamawa	Yola South	4
24	Aliyu Musdafa College Yola (JSS)	Adamawa	Yola South	12
25	GDSS Rumde - Jabbi, Yola (SSS)	Adamawa	Yola South	4
26	GDSS Kulangu	Adamawa	Yola South	1
27	GDSS Mbamba Yola, (JSS)	Adamawa	Yola South	4
28	GDSS Hosere Mbembe (SS)	Adamawa	Yola South	1
29	GDSS Hosere Mbembe (JSS)	Adamawa	Yola South	11
30	GDSS Wuro Yanka (JSS)	Adamawa	Yola South	2
31	GDSS Gongoshi (JSS)	Adamawa	Yola South	1
32	GDSS Namtari (JSS)	Adamawa	Yola South	2

S/N	School	State	Local Govt	No of classrooms due for renovation
33	GDSS YOLDE KOYI	Adamawa	Yola South	0
34	GDSS Sangere Bode Numan Rd (SSS)	Adamawa	Yola South	3
35	GDSS Sangere Bode Numan Rd (JSS)	Adamawa	Yola South	3
36	GJSS BAKO, YOLA	Adamawa	Yola South	2
37	LAMIDO SANDA GDSS YOLA (SSS)	Adamawa	Yola South	6
38	Lamido sanda GDSS Yola (JSS)	Adamawa	Yola South	3
39	Gd ss yola	Adamawa	Yola South	All
40	Gdss Damare Yola South	Adamawa	Yola South	All
41	GJSS	Adamawa	Yola South	All
42	GDSS Namtari (SS)	Adamawa	Yola South	1
43	GJSS Namtari	Adamawa	Yola South	1
44	Njoboli-fulani JSS	Adamawa	Yola South	1
45	GDSS Bole II SS	Adamawa	Yola South	3
46	Govt Junior Sec School, Wauru Jabbe	Adamawa	Yola South	2
47	GDSS Daware	Adamawa	Fufore	1
48	GDJSS Malabu	Adamawa	Fufore	All
49	GDSS Ribadu, Fufore ( JSS)	Adamawa	Fufore	4
50	GD ASS Malabu	Adamawa	Fufore	4
51	GDSS Ribadu, Fufore ( SS)	Adamawa	Fufore	3
52	GDSS Bagale	Adamawa	Fufore	1
53	GDSS Pariya	Adamawa	Fufore	2
54	GSS Fufore	Adamawa	Fufore	7
55	GSS (JSS) Fufore	Adamawa	Fufore	3
56	GDSS Dasin, Hausa, Fufore (JSS)	Adamawa	Fufore	3
57	Best Center Fufore	Adamawa	Fufore	3
58	Tukur Memorial Gjss Fufore	Adamawa	Fufore	6
59	GDSS Dasin Hausa ( SS)	Adamawa	Fufore	3
60	GBJSS Fufore	Adamawa	Fufore	3
61	GD ASS Farang	Adamawa	Fufore	All
62	GDSS Mayo-ine	Adamawa	Fufore	3
63	GDSS Mayo-ine (JSS)	Adamawa	Fufore	1
64	GDJSS Jilimasham	Adamawa	Fufore	0

S/N	School	State	Local Govt	No of classrooms due for renovation
65	GDSS WURO ARDO	Adamawa	Fufore	4
66	GDSS KARLAHI	Adamawa	Fufore	3
67	GDSS MUNINGA	Adamawa	Fufore	2
68	GDJSS YADIM	Adamawa	Fufore	2
69	GDJSS KARLAHI NGURORE	Adamawa	Fufore	3
70	GDSS CHIKITO	Adamawa	Fufore	2
71	GDSS YADIM	Adamawa	Fufore	8
72	GDSS WURO BOKKI	Adamawa	Fufore	2
73	GDSS (SS) GURIN	Adamawa	Fufore	3
74	GDJSS GURIN	Adamawa	Fufore	2
75	GBJSS GURIN	Adamawa	Fufore	2
76	GDSS BILACHI	Adamawa	Fufore	0
77	GJSS BETI BAPPAWO	Adamawa	Fufore	1
78	GSS GAWI	Adamawa	Fufore	2
79	GJSS WURO ISHAKU	Adamawa	Fufore	1
80	GDSS CHIGARI	Adamawa	Fufore	3
81	GDJSS WURO BOKKI	Adamawa	Fufore	2
82	Ngavahi DJSS	Adamawa	Mubi South	0
83	Ngavahi DJSS	Adamawa	Mubi South	All
84	GDJSS Kwaja	Adamawa	Mubi South	2
85	GJSS	Adamawa	Mubi South	1
86	GDSS Monduva	Adamawa	Mubi South	3
87	GDSS Yewa	Adamawa	Mubi South	2
88	GSS Gella	Adamawa	Mubi South	1
89	GDSS Dazala	Adamawa	Mubi South	3
90	GDSS Wuro Bulude	Adamawa	Mubi South	1
91	GDSS Dirbishi (SS)	Adamawa	Mubi South	4
92	GJSS Kagi'i	Adamawa	Mubi South	2
93	GSS Kagi'i	Adamawa	Mubi South	2
94	GSS Kwaccham	Adamawa	Mubi South	0
95	GSS Muhd	Adamawa	Mubi South	2
96	GDJSS Mujara	Adamawa	Mubi South	2

S/N	School	State	Local Govt	No of classrooms due for renovation
97	GDSS Muraja	Adamawa	Mubi South	2
98	GDJSS Muhda	Adamawa	Mubi South	4
99	GDSS Muhda	Adamawa	Mubi South	2
100	Best Center	Adamawa	Mubi South	3
101	GSS Lamorde	Adamawa	Mubi South	3
102	GDSS (JSS) Mayo Hako	Adamawa	Jada	2
103	GSS (JSS) Jada	Adamawa	Jada	1
104	GDSS (JSS) Bello Petel	Adamawa	Jada	10
105	GSS (SS) Jada	Adamawa	Jada	2
106	GDSS (JSS) Danaba	Adamawa	Jada	2
107	GDSS JSS Mapeo	Adamawa	Jada	2
108	GDSS SS Mapeo	Adamawa	Jada	2
109	GDSS JSS Sapeo	Adamawa	Jada	5
110	GDSS (JSS) Gwangwaso	Adamawa	Jada	4
111	GDSS (JSS) Jada Central	Adamawa	Jada	7
112	GDSS Nyibango	Adamawa	Jada	4
113	GDSS Mbangam Tiren	Adamawa	Jada	5
114	GDSS M/Kombuwal	Adamawa	Jada	4
115	GDSS Mbangam Essende	Adamawa	Jada	3
116	GDSS Farang Van	Adamawa	Jada	4
117	GDSS Nadeu	Adamawa	Jada	11
118	GDSS Jada 1	Adamawa	Jada	6
119	GDSS Gonglare	Adamawa	Jada	15
120	GDSS JSS Kojoli	Adamawa	Jada	Jada
121	GDSS Mbulo	Adamawa	Jada	All. 4 class rooms need ceiling.
122	GDSS Wuro Abbo	Adamawa	Jada	4
123	GDSS SS Kojoli	Adamawa	Jada	12
124	GDSS Dashen	Adamawa	Jada	8
125	GDSS Pola	Adamawa	Jada	4
126	GDSS SS So'o	Adamawa	Jada	7
127	GDSS JSS	Adamawa	Jada	7
128	Atiku Abubakar Govt School Jada	Adamawa	Jada	0

S/N	School	State	Local Govt	No of classrooms due for renovation
129	GDSS Kashin Yawo	Bauchi	Alkaleri	4
130	GDJSS Gangsanji	Bauchi	Alkaleri	2
131	GDJSS Wuro Usman	Bauchi	Alkaleri	2
132	GDSS Kubi Yero	Bauchi	Alkaleri	3
133	GDJSS Lengo	Bauchi	Alkaleri	2
134	GDSS JSS Koma	Bauchi	Alkaleri	2
135	GDSS SS Koma	Bauchi	Alkaleri	2
136	GDSS (SS) Jada Central	Bauchi	Alkaleri	3
137	GDSS Gokaru	Bauchi	Alkaleri	9
138	Government Day Technical College Gar	Bauchi	Alkaleri	2
139	GDSS Duguri	Bauchi	Alkaleri	2
140	GDSS Alkaleri	Bauchi	Alkaleri	7
141	GDSS GWARAM	Bauchi	Alkaleri	4
142	GDSS Yalwan Duguri	Bauchi	Alkaleri	1
143	Mainamaji Government SS	Bauchi	Alkaleri	2
144	Bajama Government SS	Bauchi	Alkaleri	3
145	GDSS Kundak	Bauchi	Alkaleri	2
146	GDSS Futuk	Bauchi	Alkaleri	4
147	GDSS Pali	Bauchi	Alkaleri	5
148	Lawan Mustapha GDSS	Borno	Konduga	3
149	GJDSS 1000 housing estate	Borno	Konduga	2
150	GJDSS Konduga Central	Borno	Konduga	2
151	GJDSS School Mandarari	Borno	Konduga	2
152	GJDSS School Dalori	Borno	Konduga	0
153	GJDSS School JAJEL	Borno	Konduga	3
154	Govt Girls SS Konduga	Borno	Konduga	3
155	GJDSS Chabbal	Borno	Konduga	2
156	GJDSS Pompomarii	Borno	Konduga	2
157	Dangote Bilingual Day JSS	Borno	Konduga	0
158	GDSS Jakana	Borno	Konduga	2
159	Auno Central JSS	Borno	Konduga	3
160	GJSS Lubo	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba	-



S/N	School	State	Local Govt	No of classrooms due for renovation
161	GDSS Kurba	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba	2
162	GDJSS Kurba	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba	2
163	GDJSS School	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba	2
164	Govt Comprehensive SSS	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba	0
165	Govt Comprehensive Day JSS	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba	4
166	Govt Comprehensive Day SSS	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba	5
167	GDSS Kuri	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba	3
168	GDSS Wade	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba	2
169	GDSS Gwani East	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba	4
170	GJSS Wudil Sarkin Rafi Nono	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba	2
171	GDJSS Difa	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba	1
172	GDSS , Hinna	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba	9
173	GDSS New Liji	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba	0
174	GDJSS Hinna	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba	2
175	GDJSS Dangar	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba	2
176	GDJSS Kunuwal	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba	0
177	GDSS Kunuwal	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba	0
178	GDJSS Gwani West	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba	1
179	GDJSS Maikaho	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba	2
180	GDJSS Pata	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba	1
181	GDJSS Kurjale	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba	6
182	GDSS Kurjale	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba	3
183	GDJSS Dangar	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba	4
184	GDJSS Maikaho	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba	3
185	GJSS Garin Baraya	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba	0
186	GDJSS Kwadon	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba	3
187	GDJSS Liji	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba	9
188	GDJSS Zamfarawa	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba	0
189	Government Model JSS	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba	2
190	Govt Science and Technical College	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba	2
191	GSS Comprehensive Deba	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba	1
192	GDSS Lano	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba	2

S/N	School	State	Local Govt	No of classrooms due for renovation
193	Government Girls SS Kuri	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba	0
194	GDSS Shinga	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba	2
195	GDSSS Zambuk	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba	6
196	GDJSS Zambuk	Gombe	Yamaltu Deba	2
197	GDSS Kunzang	Taraba	Yorro	2
198	GDSS Gongon Maliki	Taraba	Yorro	2
199	Community SS Dankum	Taraba	Yorro	1
200	GDSS Nyaja	Taraba	Yorro	2
201	GDSS Lanko	Taraba	Yorro	2
202	GDSS Kassa	Taraba	Yorro	3
203	GDSS Pantisawa	Taraba	Yorro	4
204	GDSS Pupule	Taraba	Yorro	4
205	GDSS Mabang	Taraba	Yorro	2
206	GDSS Mabang/Lakware	Taraba	Yorro	3
207	GDSS Nsoreng Gadda/Lasheke	Taraba	Yorro	1
208	GDSS Jika	Taraba	Yorro	2
209	GDSS Mika Tsohon Gari	Taraba	Yorro	2
210	GDSS Dimba	Taraba	Yorro	2
211	GDJSS Fika	Yobe	Fika	1
212	GDJSS Chana	Yobe	Fika	1
213	GDJSS Gashaka	Yobe	Fika	2
214	GDJSS Daya	Yobe	Fika	2
215	GDJSS Gadaka	Yobe	Fika	3
216	GDJSS Goge	Yobe	Fika	2
217	GGSS Gadaka	Yobe	Fika	7
218	GDJSS Janga Dole	Yobe	Fika	1
219	GDJSS Ngalda	Yobe	Fika	1
220	GDJSS Maluri	Yobe	Fika	1
221	GDJSS Godowoli	Yobe	Fika	1



## Conclusion

Findings of this needs assessment point to two crucial areas of focus for governments and their partners to brush up children's education in northeast Nigeria thereby delisting the region as the largest producer of out-of-school children in the country. They are school infrastructure and WASH facilities, most notably for girls.

Unravelling the causative factors of the rising decline in student retention (after enrollment breakthrough) and the eventual exodus from the walls of the classroom, this report has become a vital document for continued stakeholders engagement and policy decisions towards the improvement of children's education and all connected thereto.

Beyond this research, which advances our policy engagement efforts, CODE's unyielding focus on transparency and accountability demands are anchored to our conviction that public accountability remains an imperative for better service delivery, which is central to the realisation of improved children's education in the North East.





## Recommendations

### Align education budgets with the UNESCO standard

01

Increased funding is required to improve all forms of school and education infrastructure. Hence, the state governments must commit a significant percentage of their annual budget to education. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) recommends that the government should commit 15% to 20% of the budget to education. This is needed to enable massive rehabilitation and construction of classrooms as well as the provision of fundamental learning equipment and WASH facilities.

### Amendment of free education to 12 years free and compulsory

02

Although the Universal Basic Education Act 2004 guarantees uninterrupted access to 9-year free and compulsory education for every Nigerian child of school age, it does not make basic education a fundamental right. This law needs to be reviewed to provide free education for up to 12 years. Furthermore, free and compulsory education must be made one of the fundamental constitutional rights due to every Nigerian child, and whoever is denied this right by any government-owned school can sue the defaulting school.

### **Guarantee community participation in budget design and implementation**

03

For education budgets to reflect and capture real challenges facing schools and communities, state education authorities should adjust or abandon top-down approaches for bottom-up approaches. For instance, during the problem identification and project nomination stages, the inputs and preferences of communities should be sought and captured so that projects can reflect local peculiarities. Another rationality for community participation is to engender community ownership when school projects are completed against vandalism. As an accountability organisation, we also believe that transparency and accountability remain key policy goals. As such, State Governments should include communities in budgeting processes, and project designs for local inputs and ownership in pursuit of sustainability.

### **Urgent infrastructural upgrade in affected schools**

04

As noted in the report, most schools are in bad shape and require immediate upgrades to facilitate better learning outcomes. Pupils learning under leaking roofs or open “classrooms” cannot be said to be receiving adequate care or attention they need to concentrate and receive lessons. As a matter of urgency, the need to construct new classroom blocks and renovated existing ones cannot be overemphasised.

### **Commitment to gender-sensitive infrastructure needs**

05

Governments and education administrators should adjust and realign both policy and project designs to capture female-specific needs needed to improve female education in the North East. This includes the provision of clean and separate toilets as well as proper sanitation and WASH facilities to improve schools’ and students’ personal hygiene. This is critically important for improved school attendance for girls at all times.

## Acknowledgements

This research is a result of an education campaign project in Adamawa State, Nigeria, which later spilled into other states in the North East, to stimulate the right policy implementations and service delivery in the education sector as a means of improving children's education in the region.

We are very grateful to the school principals, who shared real insights into the infrastructure status of each school. Our gratitude also goes to The Malala Fund for funding this important project.



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**MALALA** ::  
FUND

**CODE**  
connecteddevelopment.org