

## THE LEARNING BRIDGE

TRANSFORMING EDUCATION IN THE PHILIPPINES

A severe **learning crisis in the Philippines** is holding back a whole generation of children. In the Caraga region and Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM), poverty, past conflict, frequent extreme weather events and the lasting impacts of COVID-19 have left children with limited access to schools, teachers and quality education.





The **MSC Foundation and UNICEF** are working together to bridge this gap and improve the quality of education. **The Learning Bridge programme** tackles the educational challenges in Caraga and BARMM head on. Around **400,000 children** will benefit from **improved access to quality education** to realise their full potential.



### CHALLENGES

- ✓ Children in the Philippines are stuck in a learning crisis rooted in poverty, conflict, COVID and climate change.
- ✓ 93% of schools in the Philippines were disrupted by natural disasters in 2024.
- ✓ Caraga and Bangsamoro have the country's lowest school enrolment and literacy rates.
- ✓ Children face frequent flooding, school closures and a lack of qualified teachers.
- ✓ A whole generation of children risks missing out on a basic education.

### STRATEGY

-  Deliver integrated, scalable solutions to strengthen early childhood and primary education.
-  Equip schools and teachers with modern, play-based and socio-emotional learning methods, a new curriculum, and innovative classroom management and teaching strategies.
-  Provide climate-resilient facilities so learning continues despite extreme weather.
-  Engage parents, communities and local authorities to sustain impact beyond the programme.

# ABOUT THE LEARNING BRIDGE PROGRAMME

**FOCUS AREA:**  Education

**TIMEFRAME:** 2025–2028

**LOCATION:** Mindanao Island  
(Caraga & Bangsamoro regions)

**PARTNER:** UNICEF



The Philippines

■ Caraga  
■ Bangsamoro

## RESULTS

- ✓ Reach around **400,000 children** with quality education across Mindanao.
- ✓ Train and mentor **more than 7,000 teachers and caregivers** in innovative teaching approaches.
- ✓ Deliver **lasting, scalable models** of climate-resilient and community-based education.

## OUR AIM

- Recruit and train new teachers in play-based and socio-emotional methods.
- Develop new teaching materials and review curricula for greater effectiveness.
- Mobilise parents and communities to boost school enrolment, retention and pride in education.





### In the Caraga Region:

- Build a floating, climate-resilient school to ensure uninterrupted education in flood-prone communities.
- Support local government and indigenous communities to train teachers and equip them with learning recovery tools.

### In the Bangsamoro Region:

- Establish hundreds of Supervised Neighbourhood Play Centres to expand early childhood education.
- Train and mentor thousands of teachers, child development workers and supervisors.
- Provide tutoring and after-school support to improve foundational literacy and numeracy.

## EVERY DONATION COUNTS

-  Just **\$2** brings a child the textbooks and stationery they need for a year.
-  Giving **\$70** equips a whole early learning centre with toys, books and more.
-  With **\$73**, you could give a teacher high-quality training to improve pupils' learning.
-  Donating **\$134** would help a struggling learner with personal tutoring for a year.



## TOGETHER FOR THE CHILDREN SINCE 2009

The MSC Group and MSC Foundation have had a close partnership with UNICEF since 2009. Our support has helped UNICEF achieve positive results in the fight against malaria in Africa, provided an education for children in vulnerable communities in Brazil, and combated child malnutrition in Ethiopia, South Sudan, Somalia, Malawi, Côte d'Ivoire and China, saving 100,000 young lives.

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