

LIBROS Study Overview

Learning to Improve Book Resource Operational Systems

February 2024

ABOUT LIBROS

Books are one of the most cost-effective enablers of children's school achievement. The goal of the LIBROS study is to assist the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in identifying policy and practice pathways to **strengthen primary education level book supply chains** in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs).

Via case studies in **Cambodia, Honduras, and Rwanda**, the LIBROS team is engaging key book supply chain actors, including policymakers, book authors, publishers, managers, and users. The team is also documenting policy and practice strategies and the impact of these strategies on primary-level book supply chains. Additionally, **SHARE is exploring the underlying conditions that enable the success of improvement strategies to identify transferable lessons for improve book supply chains in other contexts.**

QUICK STATS

FUNDER: USAID

YEARS ACTIVE: 2022-2024

PROJECT LEAD:
University of Notre Dame

PARTNERS:

- Resilient Africa Network (RAN)
- Cambodia Development Resource Institute (CDRI)
- Francisco Morazan National Pedagogical University (UPNFM)
- University of Rwanda (UR)

RESEARCH QUESTIONS



- 1** What are the **characteristics and perceived impacts of a specific strategy** designed to improve the book supply chain?
- 2** How and **under what conditions was the improvement strategy developed** and implemented?
- 3** **What challenges were observed** and addressed during the process? **What additional supports are required** for the fuller success of the book chain improvement strategy?

PARTNERSHIP LOCATIONS



METHODS & ANALYSIS

The study assembles case studies from each study country. **Data is being collected through stakeholder workshops, in-person and virtual interviews, review of policy documents, and email discussions.** The resulting data is then analyzed to generate rich descriptions of the characteristics of the selected improvement strategies and their perceived impacts on their respective book supply chain system. Data is also being analyzed to identify **critical success factors** and **contextual conditions** that contribute to strategic development and implementation of the system, as well as **persisting barriers** and those that have been successfully addressed.

RESEARCH GOALS

- **Country-level goal:** **Identify the characteristics and critical success factors** of policy and practice strategies that have resulted in improvements to the primary education level book supply chain within Cambodia, Honduras, and Rwanda.
- **Cross-country goal:** Identify characteristics and critical success factors of successful book supply chain **improvement strategies that can be transferable to other LMIC contexts** that seek effective policy and practice strategies for the provision of quality book resources for young children.

STUDY TIMELINE

Systems Mapping & Diagnostic

March 2022 - Aug. 2022

Increase understanding of the system to identify key improvements to the primary school level book supply chain and determine scope of each country-specific case.

Contextualization of Research Design

Sept. 2022 - Nov. 2022

Based on the results of the systems mapping & diagnostic, the research design will be contextualized to each country context, zeroing in on key improvements.

Data Collection & Analysis

Dec. 2022 - June 2023

Conduct interviews and review relevant documents to identify critical success factors (CSFs) and identify any remaining challenges & barriers.

Case Study & Recommendations

July 2023 - Dec. 2023

Case Study reports will be generated for each country of study including recommendations for continued improvement.

Dissemination & Research Translation

Jan. 2024 - June 2024

Continued engagement with the book supply chain ecosystem to disseminate and embed the learnings, share learning through workshops and meetings.

Contact SHARE Project Manager **Andrea McMerty Brummer** at amechen1@nd.edu to learn more about LIBROS.

ABOUT SHARE

The University of Notre Dame's Pulte Institute for Global Development is implementing the SHARE activity in partnership with local higher education and research institutions between 2020 and 2025. Through SHARE and its partners, UND will advance USAID's Learning Priorities as a global good to improve education and learning outcomes as part of cooperative agreement No. 7200AA20CA00025. The contents of this document are the sole responsibility of the Pulte Institute and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States Government.