

DELITES Study Overview

Deaf Education Language of Instruction Transition in Education Systems

February 2024

About DELITES

Research on multilingual deaf education is limited in low- and middle-income countries. DELITES seeks to address this gap by examining the factors at the school and classroom levels that contribute to improved signed language and second-language literacy skills in deaf learners, among other outcomes.

Conducted in **Malawi**, the **Philippines**, and the **Rwanda**, DELITES aims to offer valuable insights about multilingual deaf education in low-resource settings.

FUNDER: USAID/Inclusive Development Hub

YEARS ACTIVE: 2022 - 2025

IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS:

MALAWI: Malawi National Association of the Deaf (MANAD)

PHILIPPINES: Benilde-Center for Education Advancement of the Deaf (Benilde-CEAD)

RWANDA: Rwanda National Union of the Deaf (RNUD)

STUDY APPROACHES

ECOSYSTEM DIAGNOSTIC PROCESS

This process analyzes the current policy and political landscape of deaf education and the system-level factors that impact deaf students' learning outcomes. Data sources include a robust literature review, interviews, and stakeholder convenings.

BRIGHT SPOT STUDY

This portion of the study examines what programmatic, pedagogical, and cultural-linguistic features and behaviors explain relatively higher and lower student outcomes in schools educating deaf students. Data sources include classroom observations, interviews and focus group discussions.

A deaf-centric partner model: DELITES centers deaf leaders at every level of the project. Leading scholars in multilingual deaf education are serving as co-PIs along with a team from the University of Notre Dame. Deaf organizations and deaf researchers serve as local partners in each country. A local Ecosystem Advisory Group will be comprised of at least 50% key local deaf community members and local deaf education experts.

For **more information about DELITES**, please reach out to DELITES Program Manager, **Aimee Lyons** at alyons6@nd.edu

For **USAID Mission interest in DELITES**, please reach out to DELITES USAID Task Manager, **Rebecca Pagel** at rpagel@usaid.gov

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.