

Transcript for Video

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The Pearson Affordable Learning Fund: Combining social need with business know-how

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In September, world leaders from government, private sector, and the voluntary sector came together in New York to make their commitment to the global goals for sustainable development, setting out the roadmap for the next 15 years on how the world will become hopefully a more prosperous and peaceful earth.

All 17 goals are incredibly important, but perhaps the fourth goal, delivery of quality education for all, is one of the most pressing.

Today nearly 59 million children don't have access to primary school education, and the number is probably double in terms of access for secondary education. Hundreds of millions of adults around the world don't have basic literacy skills.

Pearson, as an education company with social purpose at the very heart of what we do, has a significant role to play in delivery of the goals and particularly the fourth goal, delivery of quality education, and the Pearson Affordable Learning Fund is one of the areas where we can make a particular contribution.

The fund invests in entrepreneurs, helping them to deliver affordable quality education to some of the poorest communities in the world.

Take just one example: in Hyderabad in India, we're supporting women to open a preschool network of profit-sharing schools, that will enable those women to reach students who otherwise would never have had access to education, and in doing so giving the opportunity to train those women to become teachers and lead fulfilling careers, helping to crack the poverty cycle.

It's inspiring work and it's really important that we try to ensure that everybody, regardless of your ZIP code, has the opportunity to lead a prosperous and healthy life and realize your potential.

Pearson and PALF have an important contribution to make.