



ENABLING EQUITABLE ACCESS TO TERTIARY EDUCATION AND CAREERS



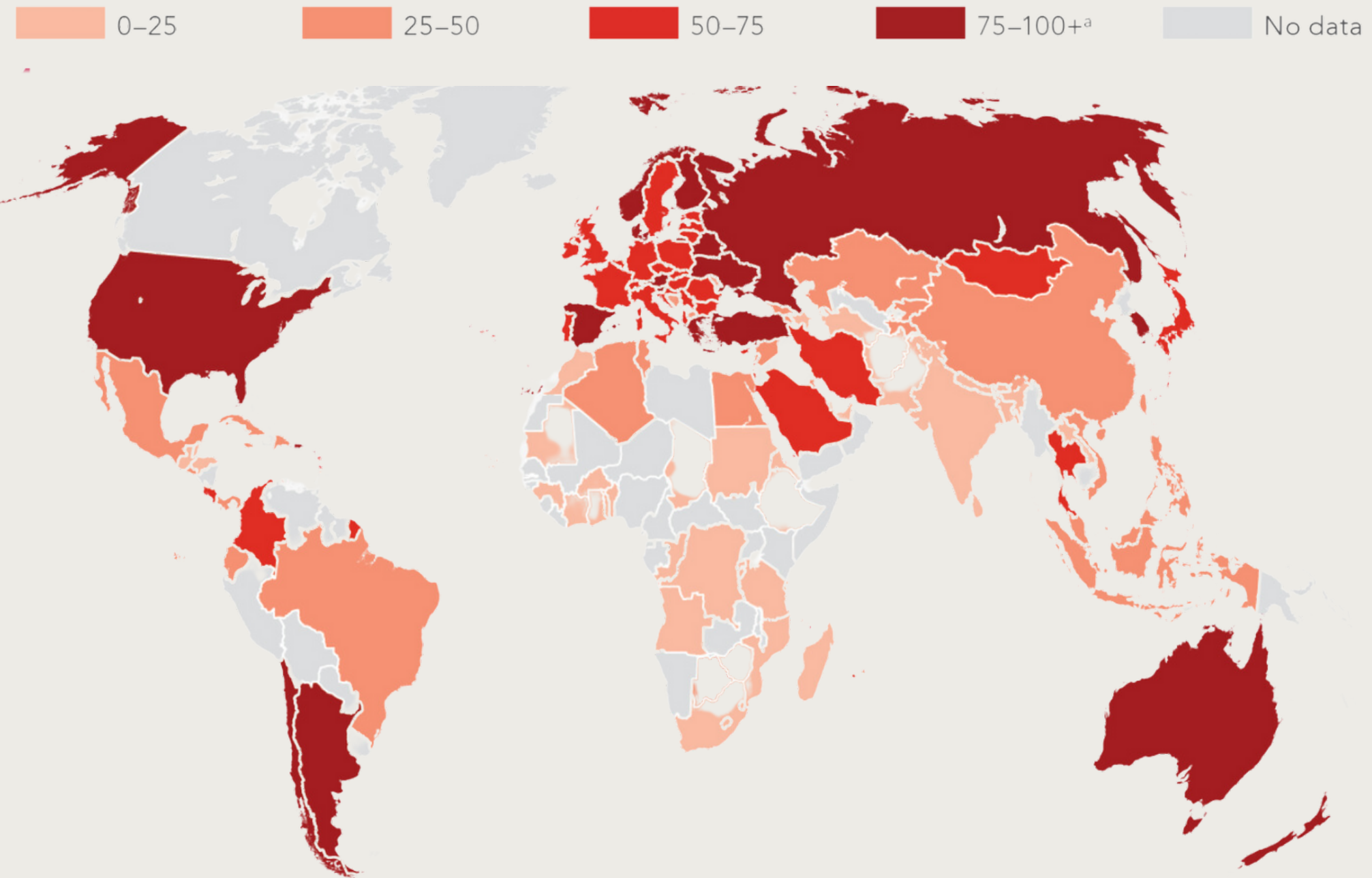
THE CHALLENGE

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights says that every child and young person has the right to a free, basic education. Poverty should not be a barrier to receiving a quality education. There has been a significant global investment to increase access to primary and secondary education, but barriers to tertiary education remain in many developing countries.

Inequality in education is evident throughout the world, but particularly in the regions of South Asia, Latin America, and sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). It is the goal of the Banyan Education Fund to contribute toward achieving more equitable access for anyone who desires it.

TERTIARY ENROLLMENT LEVEL

2013-2015 (%GROSS)



SOURCE: UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION INSTITUTE FOR STATISTICS; WDI (SE.PRE.ENRR, SE.PRM.ENRR, SE.SEC.ENRR, SE.TER.ENRR).

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CURRENT CONTEXT IN AFRICA

42%

Africa is the fastest growing continent, projected to account for 42% of the global youth population by 2030 and nearly half of the world's working population by 2100 (Drummond et al 2014).

2BN

Africa is the fastest growing continent, and by 2050, it is projected to have 2 billion people. This makes it imperative that they take a leading role in developing leaders to address pressing problems such as climate change, justice and human rights, preventing violent extremism, and innovating in the digital age.

48/52

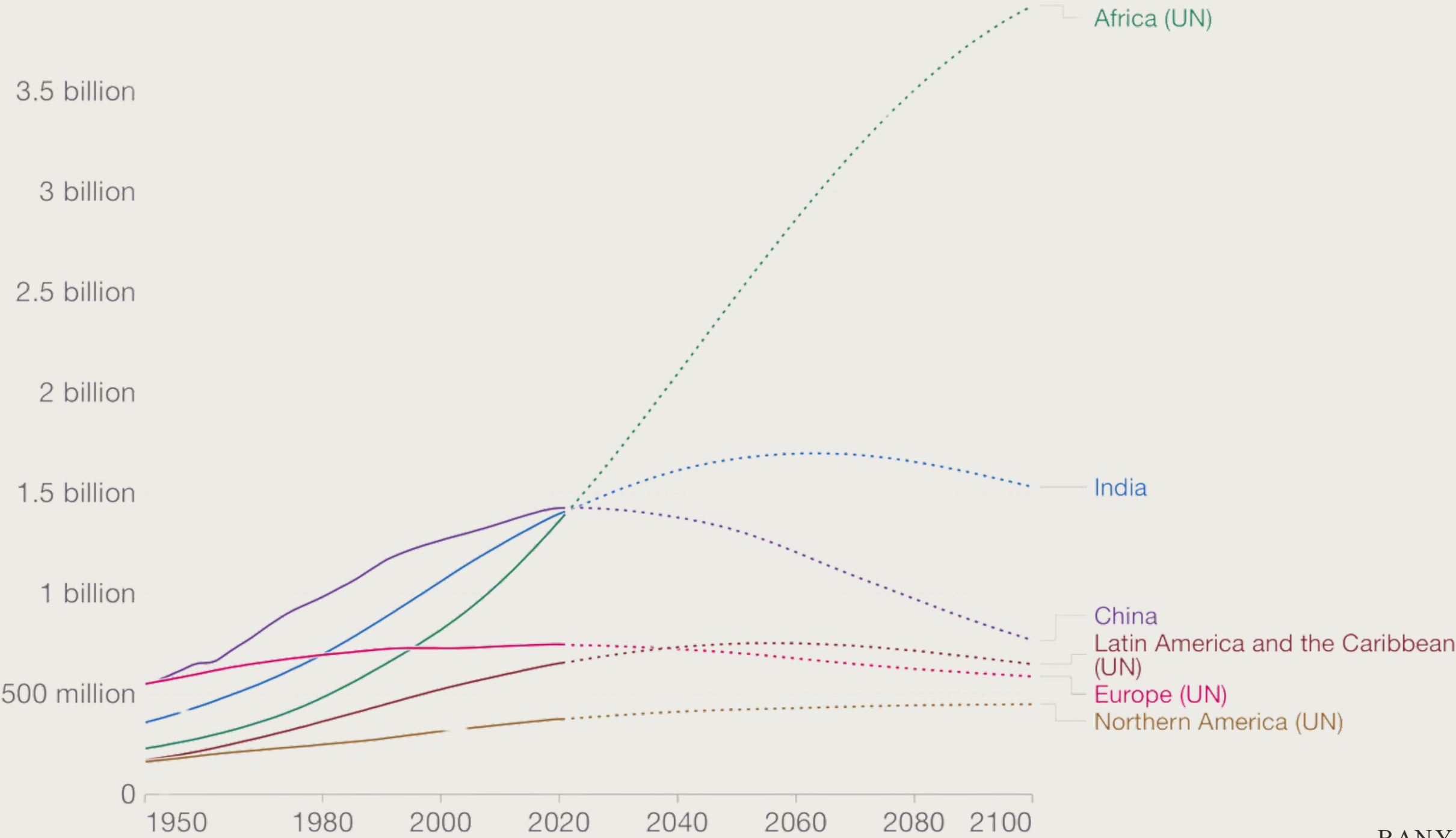
Sub-Saharan Africa represents 48 of the 52 countries in Africa. Approximately half of these countries have been designated as having low-income or low-human development status. This means that over half of the region has a high level of people living in poverty.



Global Population Trends 1950-2100

Population, including UN projections, 1950 to 2100

Future projections are based on the UN's medium-fertility scenario.



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Source: United Nations, World Population Prospects (2022)

OurWorldInData.org/world-population-growth • CC BY

THE EFFECTS OF POVERTY ON EDUCATION

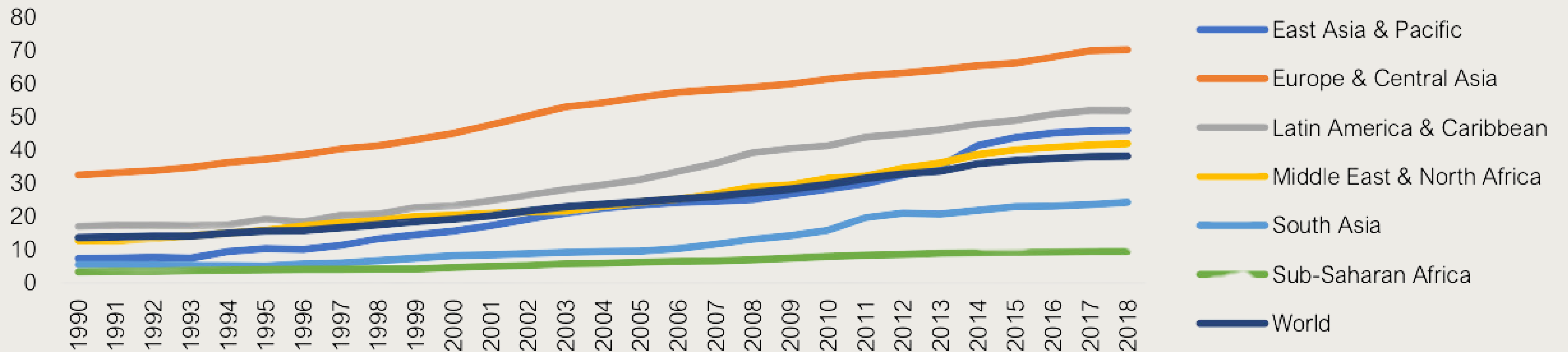


INSUFFICIENT PUBLIC FUNDING, A LACK OF INFRASTRUCTURE, AND PERSONAL INCOME DISPARITIES PREVENT QUALITY EDUCATION FOR ALL OF AFRICA'S YOUTH.

- While a significant number of primary and secondary school students do not complete their education, tertiary education has the lowest figures. Rates for tertiary education in Sub Saharan Africa have remained stagnant at 910% since 2012, compared to the global average of 40% (Gangwar et al, 2020).
- This disparity is even greater for female students in sub-Saharan Africa, where only 80 females are enrolled in higher education programs for every 100 males (Yeboua & Cilliers, 2024).

Across the African continent, approximately 9 million students are enrolled in the tertiary education sector, which is 3% of all student enrollments in the region and 4% of total tertiary education students enrolled globally.

Figure 1. Tertiary education enrollment, by region (% gross)

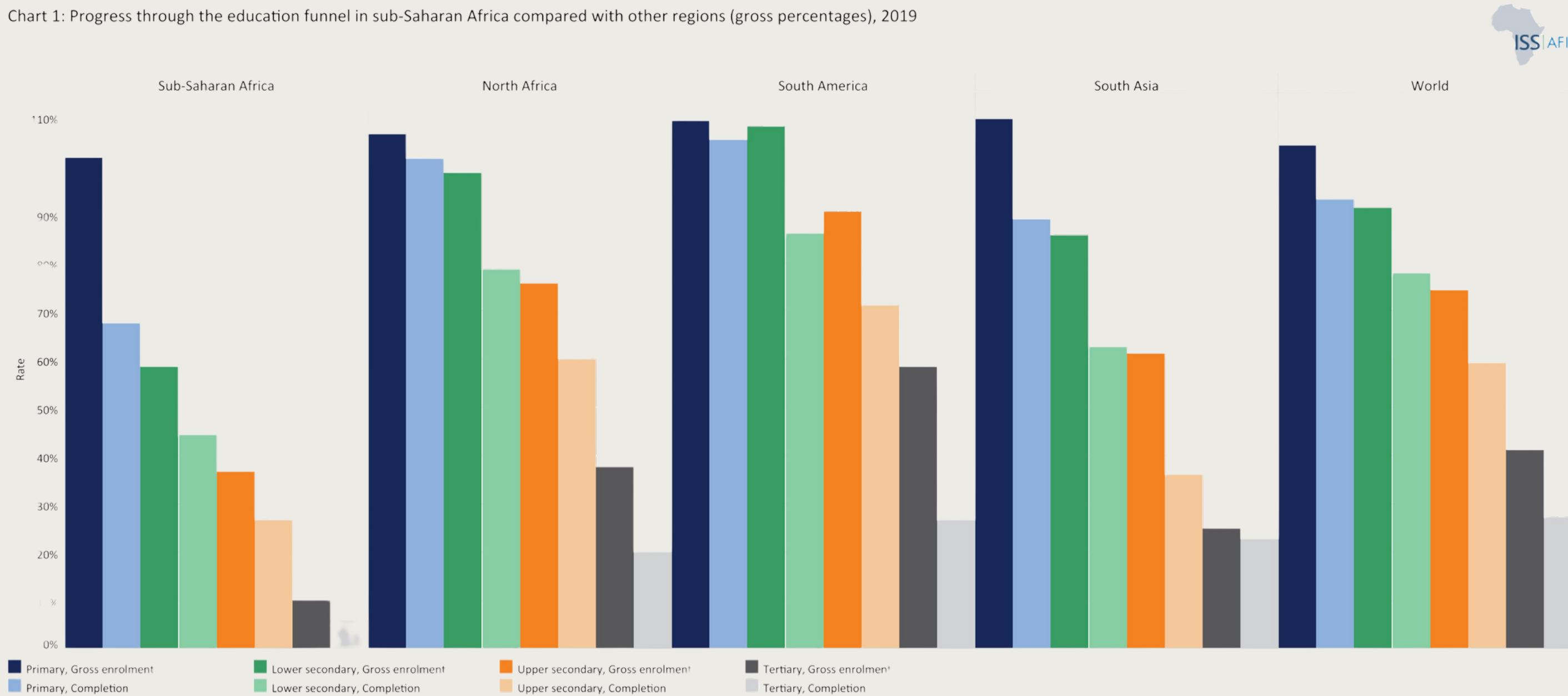


Source: UNESCO Institute of Statistics data.

The completion rate for tertiary education students in Sub-Saharan Africa is significantly lower than enrollment rates.



Chart 1: Progress through the education funnel in sub-Saharan Africa compared with other regions (gross percentages), 2019



Source: IFs 7.84 initialised from UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS) data

BARRIERS TO ACCESS

WHILE AFRICAN UNIVERSITIES HAVE MADE SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS IN DEVELOPING THEIR PROGRAMS, INDIVIDUAL STUDENTS STILL FACE BARRIERS TO ACCESSING THE EDUCATION THEY PROVIDE.

While African universities have made significant progress in developing their programs, individual students still face barriers to accessing the education they provide.

- The cost of tertiary education is a significant barrier to access for the majority of students in sub-Saharan Africa.
 - Currently, students try to mitigate costs through:
 - Scholarships: Competitive, limited to specific organizations or programs, and in short supply
 - Loans: Limited access and significant drawbacks, including potential debt, a poor credit rating, and possible prison sentences if the student defaults.
 - Students also face the cost of supporting themselves while they study and living without the financial benefits of working while they study.



ECONOMIC IMPACT OF AN UNSKILLED WORK FORCE

COGNITIVE SKILLS & GDP:

SUB-SAHARAN Africa ranks last in average cognitive skills and GDP growth (Hanushek and Woessmann, 2012). This study indicates that closing the skills gap in sub-Saharan Africa is essential for achieving economic growth, especially when you consider the skills needed for jobs in the future.



230M
Jobs in Africa
Will Require
Digital Skills by
2030

POSITIVE IMPACTS OF A SKILLED WORK FORCE

ECONOMIC BENEFITS:

Higher education levels correlate with increased labor productivity and a positive long-run effect on economic growth. This benefit increases as the level of education increases.



GDP GROWTH:

Raising education to OECD standards boosts GDP.

A 2% annual GDP increase could lead to a 50% higher GDP in 20 years.

Each additional year of schooling increases GDP growth by 0.06%

AN EDUCATED WORKFORCE EXPANDS INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES



GLOBAL INVESTMENT :

An educated population attracts global investment and the adoption of tangible assets such as computers and other cutting-edge technology and machinery.



SKILLED WORKFORCE AND TEACHERS:

A skilled workforce improves educational quality because, after gaining skills and real-world experience, some can become university instructors and pass on their knowledge to future generations. This improves the quality of academic programs and elevates the institution's reputation.



SUSTAINABLE MENTORSHIP

When a generation of laborers has developed skills and real world experience, they can pass on their knowledge to younger generations as university instructors. This will also benefit the quality of the programs and the prestige of the institution.

INDIVIDUAL BENEFITS FROM EDUCATION

ASIDE FROM PERSONAL FULFILLMENT AND THE OPPORTUNITY TO PURSUE A REWARDING CAREER, STUDENTS WHO PURSUE TERTIARY EDUCATION REAP TANGIBLE FINANCIAL BENEFITS.

- Wage Increase: Tertiary education graduates earn a 21.9% wage increase for students in sub-Saharan Africa (Montenegro et al, 2014).
- Even one extra year of tertiary education raises lifetime wages in sub-Saharan Africa by 11.5% (Peet et al, 2015)

Table 3b. Average returns to schooling by levels

Region	Total			Male			Female		
	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary
High Income	4.9	6.6	11.1	3.3	7.5	10.7	7.2	5.2	12.3
East Asia	13.6	5.3	14.8	12.6	5.8	15.0	9.5	6.4	15.8
Europe/Central Asia	13.9	4.7	10.3	12.1	4.2	9.8	11.9	6.4	12.2
Latin America	7.8	5.4	15.9	7.9	5.3	15.7	8.7	6.5	17.4
Middle East/N. Africa	16.0	4.5	10.5	12.7	4.3	10.2	21.4	7.4	13.5
South Asia	6.0	5.0	17.3	4.7	3.9	16.6	4.8	6.2	23.3
Sub-Saharan Africa	14.4	10.6	21.0	12.5	10.1	21.0	17.5	12.7	21.3
All economies	11.5	6.8	14.6	10.1	6.7	14.4	13.2	8.2	16.1

SOURCE: MONTENEGRO ET AL, 2014)

SOCIAL BENEFITS FROM EDUCATION



A university education benefits everyone, but it is usually reserved for the elite, especially in developing countries. Increased access to university education will boost the social mobility of disadvantaged youth and benefit a broader segment of society.



The widespread availability of university education will reduce inequality by raising wages and promoting upward mobility.



As more financing options become available, families will see postsecondary education as a viable option. As a result, more parents will choose to continue their child's education through primary and secondary school, despite the challenges.



Greater upward mobility means less social unrest and lower rates of certain types of crime.

INCREASING ACCESS TO TERTIARY EDUCATION

MAJOR DONOR ORGANIZATIONS AND PHILANTHROPIC ORGANIZATIONS, LIKE THE WORLD BANK, ARE BECOMING MORE INTERESTED IN POST -SECONDARY EDUCATION INITIATIVES IN AFRICA AS A RESULT OF THE GROWING REALIZATION THAT HIGHER EDUCATION YIELDS HIGH RATES OF RETURN.

Likewise, the Banyan Education Fund seeks to provide students with greater access to quality tertiary education through sustainable giving and support.

The two primary goals Banyan Learning for Life model are:

- Quality tertiary education is accessible and affordable to a wider range of candidates.
- Sustainable employment is nurtured through early connections with industry within the country of origin.



The two anticipated outcomes of the Banyan Learning for Life model are:

- Educated and empowered graduates are employed in careers that help them carry forward the vision they have for their lives.
- A pool of qualified and engaged talent will support locally led sustainable development into the future.



WE USE SIX KEY VALUES TO DISTINGUISH OUR LEARNING FOR LIFE MODEL.



LOW BARRIERS
TO ACCESS:

Emphasis on equitable access for low income and otherwise disadvantaged students.



PARTNERSHIP
WITH UNIVERSITIES:

Collaboration with universities will motivate them to support students and produce quality graduates so that they can realize a return on their investment.



PARTNERSHIPS
WITH INDUSTRY:

Provide work experience with dedicated industry partners to give student's experience and possible employment upon graduation.



FOCUSED DEGREE
SELECTION:

Funding will be provided for specific degree programs that have been shown to lead to sustainable employment.



INCOME SHARE
AGREEMENTS (ISAS):

Loans will be repaid upon graduation, once the student's income reaches a specified amount.



ACCESS TO
SUPPORT:

Encourage and facilitate connections with student support groups, alumni, and industry leaders to improve student well-being and decrease attrition rates.



WHY WE DO THIS



Education is an investment that yields clear economic benefits for individuals, countries, and regions. It is evident that increasing education is one of the most effective ways to lift people out of poverty, stimulate national economic growth, improve health outcomes, and empower citizens to take more active roles in social progress.

Africa's impending population boom means that it will be well-positioned to play an active role in the global economy. But this will only be possible if they have a skilled workforce to meet the upcoming challenges. It is vital to expand education funding for the region to ensure better individual well being as well as a productive labor force that will be needed in a rapidly aging world. Also critical is the opportunity to connect the region's abundant human resources with more advanced economies and emerging markets.



A MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL INVESTMENT



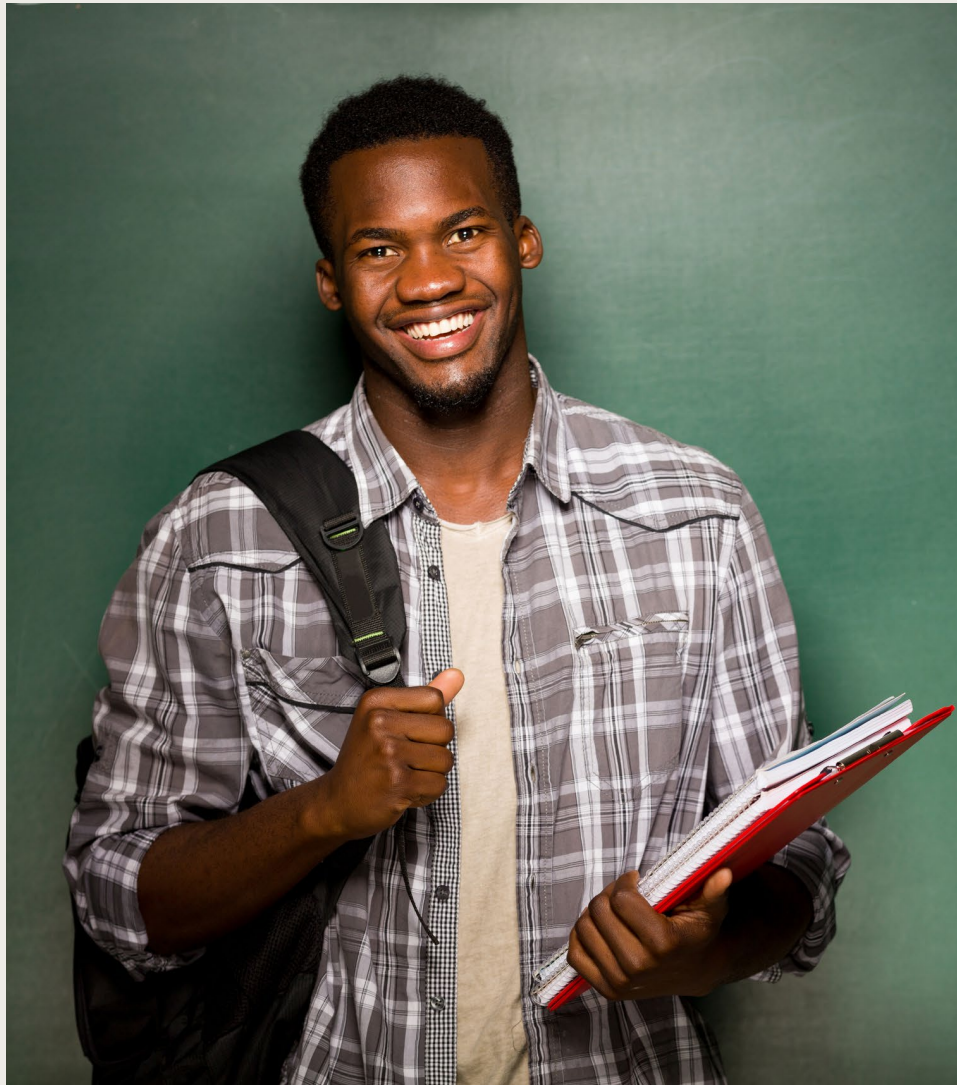
The Banyan Education Fund aims to increase access to education through ethical funding that benefits students while remaining sustainable through a market-based strategy.

Ethically structured income share agreements are an equity-based repayment model that protects students from financial risk while also supporting them in their education so that they can complete their degree and find gainful employment. Only once this has occurred will repayments begin. The success of the students means that investors will benefit not only financially but also significantly improve the lives of individuals, communities, and regions.



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CASE STUDY: SANDE WEIHE



Sande Weihe aspired to attend university and worked hard to complete his secondary education, despite significant challenges. He applied for and received funding to begin his postsecondary degree, but it was insufficient to complete his second year. While contemplating dropping out of his program to support his unemployed mother and three siblings, he met a generous donor who offered to fund the remainder of his program and associated expenses. After finishing his degree, he was able to find work as a loan officer.

Sande's experience with tertiary education exemplifies the difficulties that students face when pursuing their degrees due to the high cost of tuition and the real-world trade-offs that they must make to achieve this goal. This forces them into difficult situations where, more often than not, the student's choices are “determined by short-term financial constraints... and not by long-term academic objectives and potential returns.” (Global Education Monitoring Report, 2021-2022, p. 169).

INVEST IN EDUCATION, REAP GLOBAL REWARDS

BY SUPPORTING THE BANYAN EDUCATION FUND, YOU'RE NOT JUST PROVIDING AN EDUCATION; YOU'RE EMPOWERING AFRICA'S YOUTH TO BECOME LEADERS, INNOVATORS, AND CHANGEMAKERS. YOUR INVESTMENT TODAY FUELS THE DREAMS OF TOMORROW'S PROBLEM -SOLVERS, DRIVING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND GLOBAL PROGRESS.



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