

NRC's flagship intervention

The Better Learning Programme

Children and youth affected by displacement often witness extreme acts of violence and human suffering. The Better Learning Programme (BLP) creates safe, supporting learning environments that foster healing and nurture hope across 35 countries.

Over 122 million people globally are currently forcibly displaced due to conflict, violence, persecution, and other crises, among them approximately **50 million children and young people**. 38% of displaced children do not attend primary school and a staggering 78% do not attend secondary school.

One in five people living in fragile and conflict-affected settings experiences a mild to severe mental health condition. Children and youth in humanitarian crises face even higher levels of psychosocial distress due to exposure to violence, displacement, loss, and prolonged disruption to their education and daily lives.

Exacerbated by previous trauma, displaced children and youth are particularly vulnerable to experiencing high levels of stress when encountering a new crisis. This can affect their capacities to learn, thrive, and achieve their full potential.

For this reason, **psychosocial support (PSS)** is a core pillar of NRC's Global Education Strategy (2025-2030), delivered primarily through **the Better Learning Programme (BLP)**. BLP is a multi-faceted approach that mobilises educators and caregivers to improve children and youth's wellbeing.

The BLP in practice:

BLP-1

A general, classroom-based psychosocial support approach encompassing all children and youth.

BLP-2

An intervention designed to support learning for students who are academically underachieving due to high level of stress.

BLP-3

A targeted intervention to address nightmares, a common and persistent symptom of traumatic stress.

BLP-T

A self-care approach to support the wellbeing and resilience of teachers' and frontliners in crisis settings.

BLP Reach in 2025:

Since 2012, NRC has expanded BLP from a single-country pilot to implementation in

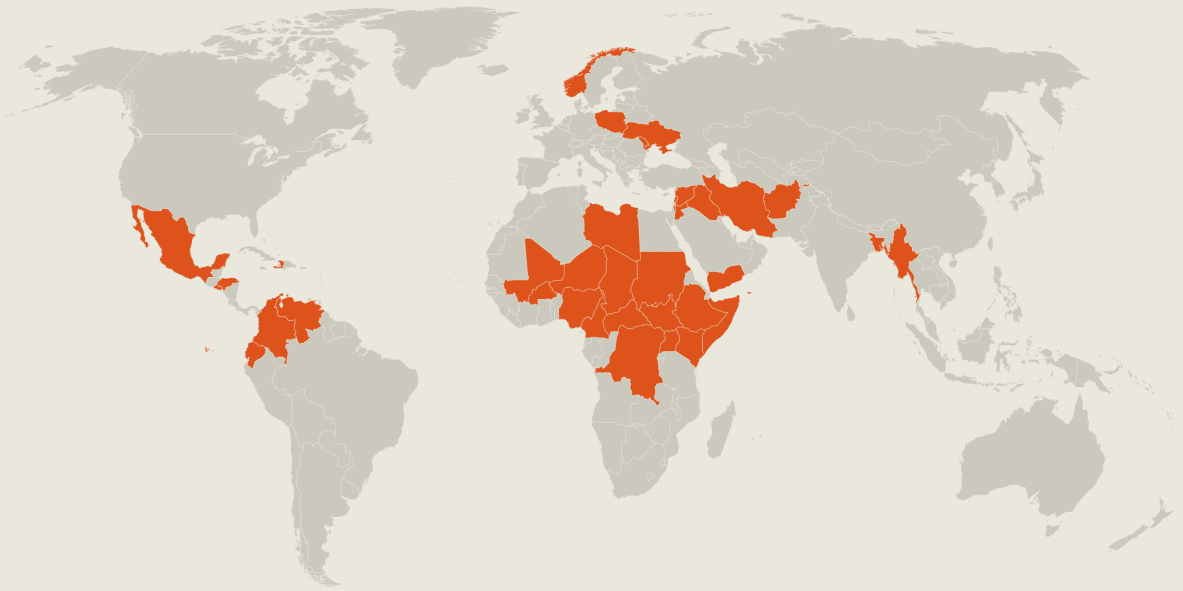
35

Countries

and over

1M

Children & Youth



Evidence of Impact and Scale

Over the past 4 years, through [the Right to Wellbeing](#) initiative, NRC has strengthened the quality, effectiveness, and reach of the Better Learning Programme (BLP) across its global education programmes. Since 2022, over **1 million children and youth have participated in the BLP**, with an average of **69% reporting improvement in psychosocial wellbeing**.

Why BLP Matters for Systems Strengthening

BLP is now well integrated across NRC's education programming, demonstrating that non-specialised psychosocial support can be embedded within humanitarian education responses, from first-line emergency education to formal and non-formal schooling and youth programmes. BLP provides a strong example of how an evidence-based practice, when successfully scaled, can contribute to long-term systems strengthening and institutionalisation.

Key Highlights from Countries in the Right to Wellbeing External Evaluation (2022–2025)



84%

strengthened capacity to integrate BLP into education programmes



100%

reported good or excellent understanding of BLP-1



92%

clearly articulated BLP's purpose and targeting criteria



73%

effectively advocated for PSS's importance with external partners and donors



HundrED Global Collection 2026:

The BLP Scale-Up via White Label Approach was selected for [the HundrED Global Collection 2026](#). The Global Collection highlights 100 of the brightest education innovations from around the world annually. Our innovation was chosen out of 789 innovations submitted and was reviewed by an expert academy board.

[Learn More: What is BLP video](#) | [Reclaiming the Night \(award-winning short documentary\)](#)