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eCom Learning Solutions®

# Mobile learning for inclusive teacher development



learning technologies Awards 2023

Best Use of Mobile Learning

Bronze Award

## Introducing

Building Learning Foundations (BLF), Rwanda and Strengthening Teachers' English Proficiency (STEP), Nigeria

The British Council and eCom Learning Solutions were awarded Bronze in the Best Use of Mobile Learning category at the UK Learning Technologies Awards for delivering inclusive teacher development in low-resource contexts.

This recognition reflects a scalable, mobile-enabled model designed to address barriers to professional development and expand equitable access to high-quality English teacher training.

### Addressing barriers to access

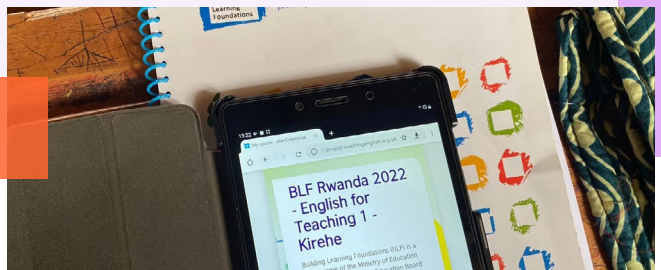
In many education systems, teachers face significant constraints: limited connectivity, high student-to-teacher ratios, cost pressures and restricted access to continuous professional development.

Our solutions were designed to remove these barriers and ensure that teachers could engage in meaningful professional learning at scale.

We implemented mobile-enabled professional development through two national programmes:

- **Building Learning Foundations (BLF), Rwanda**
- **Strengthening Teachers' English Proficiency (STEP), Nigeria**

Both programmes demonstrate how mobile delivery can strengthen teacher capability, improve system efficiency and increase impact in the classroom.



# Rwanda

## Building Learning Foundations (BLF)

BLF was a national programme delivered in partnership with:

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Republic of Rwanda
Ministry of Education

REB
Rwanda Education Board
REPUBLIC OF RWANDA
Rwanda Education Board

Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office

### How it worked

Through mobile-enabled delivery, primary teachers accessed 25-week online courses in English for Teaching and Gender in Language Education. Tablets and SIM cards were supplied to ensure digital inclusion, supported by face-to-face onboarding and live online sessions.

### Key outcomes

**5,384**
primary teachers trained

Delivered across all
**30 districts**

**20% increase**
in CEFR B1 attainment

**94%** pass rate

**69%** reported
improved digital literacy

**77%** reported
increased confidence

The programme received an **A+ rating from the UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO)**, recognising its quality and value for money, with unit costs reduced to GBP 52 per annum through effective use of communication tools.

> "The main strength of this course is its flexibility... Having access to resources you can learn from anywhere, anytime."
>
> **– Programme participant**

# Nigeria

## Strengthening Teachers' English Proficiency (STEP)

STEP is a 60-hour professional development course delivered in hybrid and fully digital formats.

### How it worked

The programme combines in-person training with mobile-responsive learning, SD cards, an offline Android app and WhatsApp-supported communities of practice. This model enabled teachers to study flexibly while maintaining classroom responsibilities.

### Key outcomes

**6,500** participants reached

**6000** teachers in hybrid delivery

**500** teacher educators via LMS or app

**99%** reported increased confidence in classroom English

**99%** reported stronger professional belonging

Approved for national scale-up by Universal Basic Education Commission

Classroom observations confirmed a positive correlation between the extent of STEP participation and improved teaching practices.

### Sustainable impact

Both programmes demonstrate how mobile learning can support systemic reform. By combining inclusive design, offline functionality and strong institutional partnerships, the model delivers:

- ✓ Scalable teacher professional development
- ✓ Improved language proficiency
- ✓ Strengthened digital confidence
- ✓ Sustainable government adoption

Mobile learning in these contexts is not simply a technology choice. It is a strategic response to ensure quality teaching and improved learning outcomes for all.