

# Uwezo participating countries - Uwezo Learning Assessment

**Twaweza East Africa - Non-profit organization**

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# Overview

## Identification

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### Summary

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#### ABSTRACT

Uwezo means "capability" in Kiswahili. Uwezo is a household-based initiative that aims to improve competencies in literacy and numeracy among children aged 6/7/6 years old in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda. The Uwezo Annual Learning Assessment surveys began in Kenya in 2009, followed by mainland Tanzania and Uganda in 2010 (Uwezo 1). The surveys were conducted again in all three countries in 2011 (Uwezo 2) and the third and fourth survey rounds were completed in 2012, and 2013 respectively. As of October 2015, the fifth survey round (Uwezo 5) is ongoing in Kenya and Tanzania, and complete in Uganda. Over this period, the tests and surveys have been carried out among a nationally representative random sample of children aged 6 to 16 in Kenya and Uganda and 7 to 16 in Tanzania.

The idea of Uwezo started with the very basic question "Are our children learning?". This followed the deterioration of quality that followed the universalization of primary education in the three countries. Since 2009, Uwezo has sought to contribute to the focus on learning outcomes rather than inputs, as the measure of progress in education.

Uwezo uses an innovative approach to social change that is citizen driven and accountable to the public. The country teams rely on hundreds of local partners and thousands of volunteers who play a crucial role in the success of the initiative. Volunteers are the true foot soldiers of Uwezo, ensuring that the over 150 000 sampled households are all visited and children assessed. Volunteers are normally paired meaning there are 60 volunteers per district.

The instrument is administered orally only. Six different samples of tests have been developed. The numeracy and literacy tests are based on grade 2 level curriculum for each country.

Uwezo's main purposes are:

- To get reliable, comprehensive estimates of the actual competencies of children in the three countries
- To measure change in the competencies of children generalized at district, national and regional levels
- To create awareness among citizens on learning outcomes at national and sub-national levels
- To promote evidence-based policy

#### KIND OF DATA

Random sample

#### UNITS OF ANALYSIS

Data is disaggregated by sex, age groups, geographic location (urban and rural; districts), and socio-economic status of the household.

Results are disseminated through three national reports and one regional report. Uwezo builds relationship with the media for findings dissemination. Uwezo is also present in education sector policy meetings and actively participates in the conversation on education and learning in each country.

## Scope

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#### NOTES

Uwezo comprises a Literacy and a Numeracy test. In Kenya and Tanzania, there are 2 literacy tests, one in English and the other in Kiswahili. In Uganda, the literacy tests are in English and 7 local languages (Ateso, Lebacholi, Leblango, Luganda, Lusoga, Runyankore-Rukiga and Runyoro-Rutooro).

The tests are structured such that administration starts at the lowest (easiest) level. The order of literacy tests is letter (lowest competency), word, paragraph, story and comprehension (highest competency). In numeracy, the order of progression is counting (lowest level), number identification and operations of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division (highest level). However, in Tanzania, the highest level for numeracy is multiplication and not division.

Description of stimuli: Test stimuli consist of letters, words, sentences, paragraphs and numbers.

Reporting metrics: Results are reported using the percentage of children who can correctly answer all the test questions or “pass” the test. Results are reported separately for literacy and numeracy, and may also be combined for both constructs.

## Coverage

### GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

National

### UNIVERSE

Children aged 6 to 16 years in Kenya and Uganda. Children aged 7 to 16 years in Tanzania.

## Producers and Sponsors

### PRIMARY INVESTIGATOR(S)

Name	Affiliation
Twaweza East Africa	Non-profit organization

### OTHER PRODUCER(S)

Name	Affiliation	Role
Twaweza		Test administration; data analysis and reporting; data dissemination
Uwezo country teams		Test administration; data analysis and reporting; data dissemination
Department for International Development - UK (DFID)		Funding
The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation		Funding
Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA)		Funding
Wellspring Advisors		Funding
Ministry of Education		Test development
Institutes of Curriculum Development		Test development
National Examinations Councils		Test development
Schools		Test development
National Bureaus of Statistics		Sampling
Consultants		Data analysis and reporting
Civil society		Test administration; data dissemination

## Metadata Production

### METADATA PRODUCED BY

Name	Abbreviation	Affiliation	Role
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<b>Name</b>	<b>Abbreviation</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Role</b>
Twaweza East Africa			Data collection
UNESCO Institute for Statistics	UIS	United Nations	Questionnaire design, metadata collection, review and publication

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# Sampling

## **Sampling Procedure**

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The sample is drawn using a two-stage sampling method. In every census district, 30 enumeration areas (EA) are sampled using the probability proportional to size sampling method. All households within the selected enumeration area are listed and 20 households are selected from each list, using simple random sampling. Starting from 2015, a table of random numbers will be used to select 20 households in Tanzania.

# Questionnaires

## Overview

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Uwezo comprises a survey booklet to record information about:

- The village: this section captures information about the various infrastructural items. It is filled by observation and by interviewing the village chief or chairperson.
- The school: this section captures information about the school. It is filled by observation of the school compound and interviewing of the head teacher and grade two teachers.
- The household: this section captures information about the children, such as their schooling status, and other aspects such as health or nutrition. These additional aspects are country specific and may change from year to year.

## Data Collection

### Data Collection Dates

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<b>Start</b>	<b>End</b>	<b>Cycle</b>
2015-09	2015-10	Annual

### Data Collection Mode

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Face-to-face [f2f]

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## Data Access

### Contact(s)

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### Access Conditions

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To access the data, please send a request to Twaweza East Africa, Uwezo Regional Office, 22 School Lane, Westlands, P.O Box 13784, 00800 Nairobi, Kenya.

Telephone number: +254 715 563720/ +254 786 563722.

Email : [info@uwezo.net](mailto:info@uwezo.net).