



unesco

International Literacy Day

Promoting literacy for a world in transition:
Building the foundation for sustainable
and peaceful societies

Celebrations around the world



8 September 2023

Education
2030 

Celebrations around the world

Every year on 8 September, International Literacy Day is celebrated around the world to advocate and bring awareness to the importance of promoting literacy and closing the literacy gap. The UNESCO International Literacy Day will feature a selection of events and celebrations that will be taking place around the world on 8 September and beyond for the occasion of the Day.

If you are preparing an event and wish to appear on this list, please fill out the form and send back to UNESCO to ildcelebrations@unesco.org.

Afghanistan

- **Organized by:** UNESCO Kabul Office
- **Title of event:** Advocacy on the importance of literacy through TV ads, radio ads and billboards across the country
- **Date:** 5 – 15 September 2023
- **Language:** Dari and Pashto
- **Place and time:** The event will take place exclusively through media channels
- **Short description:** Peak timing broadcasting of UNESCO Kabul Office customized messaging about the importance of literacy on 8 TV channels and 57 local radio channels, together with billboards to be installed in 29 provinces.

Bangladesh

- **Organized by:** Bureau of Non-Formal Education (BNFE) of Ministry of Primary and Mass Education (MoPME) with technical support from UNESCO Dhaka Office
- **Title of event:** Celebration of International Literacy Day, 8 September 2023
- **Date:** 8 September
- **Language:** Bengali and English
- **Place and time:** Inaugural Ceremony at 10:00am (Bangladesh Time) in Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- **Short description:**
 - Press Conference on 7 September 2023 by the Minister of State, MoPME and Secretary, MoPME on the occasion of the ILD 2023
 - Publication of posters with contextualized theme of the ILD 2023
 - Publication of video documentary on ILD 2023
 - Publication of special articles in Daily Newspapers with special message from H.E. the President of Bangladesh, H.E. Prime Minister of Bangladesh, Minister of State-MoPME, H.E. Susan Vize, the Officer-In-Charge (OIC) of UNESCO Dhaka Office, Chairperson of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Education and Director General of Bureau of Non-Formal Education
 - Organize rallies and consultation meetings at districts (64 district) and Sub-districts (495 sub-districts) in collaboration with Civil Society Organizations on the theme of ILD 2023
 - Decoration of street corners with the posters, festoons, and banners on ILD 2023

Chile

- **Organized by:** Ministry of Education of Chile
- **Title of event:** Conversatorio “20 años del Plan de Alfabetización Contigo Aprendo: Experiencias educativas que cambian”
- **Date:** September 8, 2023
- **Language:** Spanish
- **Place and time:** 10:00 AM (Chile time) at Anfiteatro del Palacio Pereira, located on Huérfanos N° 1515, Santiago, Chile
- **Short description:** The event will be an opportunity to reflect on lessons learned in 20 years of implementation of the Literacy Plan “Learning with You”
- **Link to a website for more information:** No website is available, however, confirmation for participation should be sent to division.deg@mineduc.cl

Egypt

- **Organized by:** UNESCO Cairo, Ministry of Education and Technical Education, Adult Education Authority, UNESCO Regional Centre for Adult Education
- **Title of event:** National Celebration – International Literacy Day 2023
- **Date:** 5 September 2023
- **Language:** Arabic and English
- **Place and time:** UNESCO Cairo Office, 10:00 to 12:30 (GMT +3)

Gambia

- **Organized by:** The Gambia national commission for UNESCO
- **Title of event:** International Literacy Day 2023 celebration
- **Date:** 8 September 2023
- **Language:** English and national languages
- **Place and time:** morning
- **Short description:** The celebration of ILD will be kicked off by a popular event such as a procession, parade, or a match supported by the National Scouts Orchestra of Gambia. Following this will be the official ceremony with speeches highlighting the importance of literacy in Gambian society, aligned with the chosen national theme ("Language, Multilingualism, and Literacy"). Finally, a session of reciting poems and/or singing in national languages by traditional communicators to convey key messages about literacy for community awareness and advocacy will conclude the celebration, accompanied by an exhibition of products (materials) made by learners from literacy centers.

Ghana

- **Organized by:** Literacy Ambassadors Ghana
- **Title of event:** Literacy Workshop for Caregivers, Parents, Teachers and International Literacy Day Celebration.
- **Date:** 7 and 8 September 2023

- **Language:** English
- **Place and time:** Wesley Methodist Cathedral, Somanya
- **Short description:** The literacy workshop for the stakeholders mentioned is aimed at equipping them on new trends in literacy promotion. The International Literacy Day affords the platform to talk on literacy as a basic human right.
- **Link to a website for more information**
 - <https://www.facebook.com/LiteracyAmbGh?mibextid=ZbWKwL>
 - <https://twitter.com/TulasiMathias?t=EUvMrGsHFWd9v24scNV4-Q&s=09>

Mozambique

- **Organized by:** The Ministry of Education and Human Development (MINEDH) and Cabinet of 1st Lady
 - **Title of event (1):** Launch on Literacy Week
 - **Date:** September 1st
 - **Language:** Portuguese
 - **Place and time:** Women Center. Boane District, Maputo Province
 - **Link to a website for more information:** N/A
 - **Short description:** The event aims to launch the International Literacy Day. The First Lady of Mozambique and President of MASMA (Movement of Advocacy, Sensitization and Resource Mobilization for Literacy) will lead the event, with the participation of the 1st Lady of Ghana, along with other dignitaries, government members, and partners from various organizations.
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- **Organized by:** The Ministry of Education and Human Development (MINEDH).
 - **Title of event (2):** Reflection on Adult Literacy and sustainable development
 - **Date:** September 4th
 - **Language:** Portuguese
 - **Place and time:** Samora Machel Secondary School, Maputo City, 8 :00 - 12 :00
 - **Link to a website for more information:** N/A
 - **Short description:** The event aim to promote debate on the relevance of literacy for sustainable development and peacebuilding under the theme "Promoting Literacy for a World in Transition: Building Foundations for Peaceful and Sustainable Societies"
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- **Organized by:** Eduardo Mondlane University (UEM), UNESCO and MINEDH.
 - **Title of event (3):** Reflection Meeting for Promotion of literacy on Sustainability Development
 - **Date:** September 6th
 - **Language:** Portuguese
 - **Place and time:** Maputo City, UEM, 9:00 - 12:00
 - **Link to a website for more information:** N/A
 - **Short description:** A reflection meeting for the promotion of literacy on sustainable development, various speakers will address critical areas related to literacy and sustainability. These interventions will provide valuable insights and perspectives on how literacy contributes to sustainable development.

- **Organized by:** MINEDH
- **Title of event (4):** Celebration of International Literacy Day
- **Date:** September 8th
- **Language:** Portuguese
- **Place and time:** Gaza (Limpopo district) Posto Administrativo 3 de Fevereiro, 8:00 - 12:30
- **Link to a website for more information:**
- **Short description:** Under the theme "Promoting Literacy for a World in Transition: Building Foundations for Peaceful and Sustainable Societies", this event brings together various stakeholders, including technicians, guests, partners, literacy teachers, educators, learners, community leaders, and religious figures. The occasion will begin with the arrival and reception of Her Excellency Dr. Isaura Ferrão Nyusi, the First Lady of Mozambique, followed by a visit to an exhibition and tree planting. The program features cultural performances, speeches from district administrators, literacy learners, and educators. It also includes a speech by Her Excellency Dr. Isaura Ferrão Nyusi on International Literacy Day including delivery of UNESCO DG Message by UNESCO Representative.

Senegal

- **Organized by:** The Ministry of National Education through the Directorate of Literacy and National Languages
- **Title of event (1):** Launch of the activities of the National Literacy Week
- **Date:** 8 September 2023
- **Language:** French and national languages
- **Place and time:** From 9:00 am
- **Short description:** Official ceremony marking the celebration of International Literacy Day. It will be presided over by the Secretary-General of the Ministry of National Education in the absence of the Minister. For your information, Senegal dedicates an entire week to this commemoration to celebrate diversity and give a national character to International Literacy Day. Each decentralized structure of the Ministry of National Education (academy inspection) organizes ceremonies that take into account their linguistic and cultural specificities while remaining in line with the general theme. At the national level, television programs and interviews are organized, in addition to a traditional closing ceremony.
- **Organized by:** National Association for Adult Literacy and Education Senegalese (ANAFSA) section of the Pan African Association for Literacy and Adult Education (PAALAE) with support from the Multisectoral Office of UNESCO for West Africa in Dakar
- **Title of event (2):** International Literacy Day Commemoration - Cées Janqeen Conference on Adult Literacy
- **Date:** 8, 9, and 10 September 2023
- **Language:** French and national languages
- **Place and time:** Dakar and Thiès, in a hybrid format
- **Short description:** Building on the activities of the 2022 International Literacy Day celebration, which included the sharing of the Marrakech Action Framework, this event provides an opportunity to first build and develop a strong advocacy platform by leveraging

the General Assembly of the association and the PAALAE network. Second, it aims to advocate for a strategy for a 'great leap forward' in literacy and finally propose operational, innovative, and motivating literacy practices. Panels and debates will be organized and facilitated by linguists, academics, and professionals in the sub-sector with rich field experience. An exhibition on youth and adult literacy and education will be held during the celebration days, which is intended to be a significant cultural moment celebrating national languages (the centenary of Sembene Ousmane and the concept of a citizen library with a wealth of materials in national languages).

Thailand

- **Organized by:** Department of Learning Encouragement (DOLE), Ministry of Education, Thailand
- **Title of event:** Inauguration Ceremony of the International Literacy Day 2023
- **Date:** 8 September 2023
- **Language:** Thai (and English for some sessions)
- **Place and time:** Grand Diamond Ballroom, IMPACT Muang Thong Thani, Nonthaburi, Thailand, at 10.00 – 12.00 hrs
- **Short description:**
 - Appreciation Awards to the Learning Coin Project
 - Appreciation Awards Presentation Ceremony of 2023 to the outstanding persons and network parties
- **Link to a website for more information:** www.nfe.go.th (Thai language)
- **Remarks:** Live broadcast on ETV channel and [Facebook](#) Live from 10.00 – 12.00 hrs.

Uganda

- **Organized by:** Save the Children Uganda
- **Title of event (1):** Dialogue Meeting
- **Date:** 6th September 2023
- **Language:** English
- **Place and time:** Fairway Hotel, 8:00AM – 1:00PM
- **Short description:** Literacy Dialogue Meeting on Promoting Literacy for A World in Transition to highlight key policy intervention around literacy.
- **Link to a website for more information:** <https://uganda.savethechildren.net/>

- **Organized by:** Ministry of Gender Labour and Social Development
- **Title of event (2):** International Literacy Day Pre-event Celebration
- **Date:** 7th September 2023
- **Language:** English
- **Place and time:** Kampala City Council Authority Hall, Grounds, 8:00AM – 1:00PM
- **Short description:** The pre-event activities scheduled for 7th September 2023 is intended to bring together the literacy champions / learners to engage in a series of activities include; literacy walk, youth-led panel discussions, puppet reading shows, Read, Comprehend and Tell activities among others

- **Link to a website for more information:** <https://mglsd.go.ug/>
- **Organized by:** Ministry of Gender Labour and Social Development
- **Title of event (3):** International Literacy Day Symposium
- **Date:** 8th September 2023
- **Language:** English
- **Place and time:** Hotel Africana, 8:00AM – 1:00PM
- **Short description:** The main celebrations to commemorate the International Literacy Day is planned for 8th September 2023 and this event will bring together key national literacy players. Series of activities earmarked for this day include; presentations on the current status of ALCE in Uganda, keynote address on Promoting Literacy for a world in transition: Building the Foundation for Sustainable and Peaceful Societies
- **Link to a website for more information:** <https://mglsd.go.ug/>

Zimbabwe

- **Organized by:** UNESCO Regional Office for Southern Africa
- **Title of event:** International Literacy Day Webinar
- **Date:** 8 September 2023
- **Language:** English
- **Place and time:** Online – 1030-1230 CAT
- **Short description:** The webinar celebrates international literacy day and shares insights on how we can advance as we seek to achieve a more literate society.
- **Link to website for more information:** Zoom - <https://shorturl.at/biJT5>