

GLOBAL ACTION WEEK 2009 ACTIVITIES

Mexico

In Mexico campaigners are making a compilation of testimonies of people whose lives have been affected by not knowing how to read and write. These stories will be integrated into the local Big Read stories and form part of the activities during action week. In addition some songs on literacy have been composed to be sang during action week. The Coalition has sent out invitations to outstanding personalities in various communities to be part of the Big Read.

Phillipines

Campaigners in the Phillipines have laid out month long plans for action week this year starting with out of school youth training and a series of Big Read sessions in schools in partnership with the Department of Education on March 27. These activities will culminate into the national Big Read event to be held in Mainila on the 22nd of April. There will be simultaneous Big Read activities in the provinces of Benguet, Pampanga, Negros Occidental, Davao and Maguindanao, Cotabato, Sultan Kudarat, General Santos City, and Saranggani

Macedonia

Local stories will be narrated by famous public figures from Macedonia in a Public Square.

Cambodia

Three major activities are planned. The first is a nationwide dissemination of the Big Read campaign in as many schools as possible in Cambodia. Two hundred Students will be given half a day's training on the Big Read and they are expected to disseminate it in their schools as well as local communities. This activity will highlight the importance of literacy. Then there will be local community campaigns to be held in all provinces in the run up to action week and lastly there will be a national Big Read event in the national Olympic Stadium.

Spain

The Spanish Coalition has decided to make their edition of the Big Read Story book flexible to allow addition of local stories. To this end they have invited various people including students to write a tale or story to complete the Story Book. Their contributions will be collected over a period of three months starting from January to March. The activity was so designed in order to give a sense of continuity

Uruguay.

The focus in Uruguay will be on how this year's action can be linked to the CONFINTEA process. To this effect, the national coalition will jointly hold a Seminar on April 24th with the Ministry of Education and Culture

Portugal

The national coalition is planning to deliver the Big Read storybook to the Portuguese President, the Prime Minister as well as the President of the national Assembly.

Ethiopia

The Coalition in Ethiopia has asked the Adult and Livelihood Education Thematic Group (Forum) which those working on Adult Education will play the lead role. Specific countrywide activities will be communicated in due course.

Laos

The national coalition has invited the Deputy Prime Minister to be part of the national Event. This will be the first time that Laos will be taking part in action week in a major way.

Vietnam

Vietnam has launched a nationwide essay writing competition to encourage people of all ages to submit stories about adult education and life long learning. Entries for the competitions must be in by 1st April and the winner will be announced at the National Big Event on April 22nd

Lebanon

In Lebanon, children as young as five years old have been submitting stories to national campaigners for the National Big Read event. Some of the stories will be read at the national Big Read Event.

Denmark

The Danish campaign will distribute the Reading Rocket, to 185.000 students. They have encouraged students to write a speech on behalf of the prime minister helping him to ensure education for all children in the world. There will be a big event in the squares in front of the Parliament building on the 22nd of April at which the Prime Minister has been invited. Some of the best speeches written by the students will be read.

UK

The UK has over 3000 schools signed up for the Big Read and still counting! There are atleast 90 schools joining everyday. The Big Read is being downloaded at least 40 times daily off the Send My friend to School website at www.sendmyfriend.org .

Canada

The Canadian Coalition has been very prolific with stories. In fact they also have their own page with inspirational stories written by various Canadian authors. The link to these stories will soon be live at www.campaignforeducationcanada.org/qaw/curriculum/BIGREAD

Guinea.

The coalition will hold Big Read events in 5 centres around the country. So far, they are in the process of identifying the schools that will be involved in the event. Invitations have already been sent to politicians and celebrities to be part of the Big Read.

Greece

The Greek Coalition had prepared a Petition card which they have sent to schools together with the Story from Greece. Over 14 000 signatures are expected for the petition.

Armenia

The Armenian Coalition is translating the Big Read into Armenian and sending it to local schools and libraries. The Coalition has involved various civil society actors as well as inter-governmental organisations.

Sri Lanka

In Sri Lanka, the campaign has invited the Education Minister Susil Premajayantha among other government officials to be part of the Big Read activities in order to draw attention to literacy among the youth and adults. They have lined up a media campaign and a competition based on a min drama script to emphasise lifelong learning.

Israel

Campaigners in Israel will be promoting the issue of improving the status of education in East Jerusalem. The Coalition has initiated meeting with the Israeli Knesset (Parliament) members to garner support for improved education conditions in East Jerusalem. There are further plans to engage the media for a massive media campaign.

Indonesia

The Big Read will be conducted in the Capital Jakarta and various cities in Indonesia among them, Aceh, Medan north sumatra, Padang west sumatra, Jakarta, Bandung west java, Solo middle java, Yogyakarta, Surabaya East Java, West Borneo, Nusa Tenggara Barat). There will be public meetings with Parliamentarians in 10 cities.

Sierra Leone

The Sierra Leone campaign will use the Big Read activities as an opportunity to launch the Education Watch study. The Coalition hopes to get the President of Sierra Leone to be part of the national Big Read event. Approximately 3 000 people are expected to take part in the Big Read. Members of Parliament have been contacted to be part of the Big Read.

Nigeria

The national Coalition CSACEFA is using its coordinators countrywide to conduct a media campaign as well as working with some of their contacts working with Internally Displaced People in five states. The aim is to increase visibility of issues affecting internally displaced people in the area of education.

Switzerland

A "Swiss Book" has been produced and it will be distributed to public and private institutions as well as other civil society partners of the Swiss Education Network. The Book contains testimonies from 13 people who received education through non-formal channels. It also explains the challenges in gaining access to education as well as describes innovative teaching techniques to address these challenges. In Geneva the School of Europe (L'Ecole del l'Europe) will have an activity featuring children presenting poems, plays and songs.

India

The National Coalition in India will reproduce 3, 000 copies of the Big Read to be shared in 13 states. The coalition will also translate the book into Hindi and make it available on land. More than 1 000 organisations will be part of this year's action week.

Ukraine

Universities and schools are being mobilized to take part in the Big Read. Some newspaper articles are also being written and local government officials will be approached to be part of this world event.