

The Akelius Languages App in Mozambique

In late 2022, the Akelius Foundation entered an exciting new partnership with UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency and Vodafone Foundation. Thanks to funding from the Akelius Foundation, the partnership will see the Akelius languages app rolled out to refugee and host community students in Mozambique through UNHCR and Vodafone Foundation's Instant Network Schools programme.

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About the Instant Network Schools (INS) Programme

UNHCR and Vodafone Foundation's INS programme transforms an existing classroom in a refugee hosting school into an innovative multimedia hub- enabling refugee and host community students and teachers to access digital educational content and the internet. The programme entails five key components: digital box with hardware, solar powered connectivity, teacher training, dedicated INS coaches and educational content. As of the end of September 2023, there will be 126 INS centres in six countries: the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Egypt, Kenya, Mozambique, South Sudan and Tanzania.

The Akelius Languages app in INS Mozambique

In January 2023, **a six-month pilot for the Akelius Language app** was carried out in three INS centres in Mozambique. Over 100 students used the language app twice a week to improve their **English and Portuguese**, the country's official language.

To support the pilot, UNHCR's INS team worked closely with the Akelius team to trouble shoot any issues that arose, including the best way to use the application. In this case, to avoid going over the school's data limit, the team downloaded the app onto the androids and used the offline version.

When the pilot finished, a survey was run to gauge the success:

- 90% of students indicated that they would like to continue learning through the Akelius app.
- Nearly 90% of students said that they like the app and enjoy the engaging content.
- 73% of students expressed the need for support from coaches during language learning.



What's next? In September, the INS team are rolling out the Akelius language app to 11 new INS schools, with the official launch to take place on 4 September. These 11 new schools will target a total over 300 students who have initially expressed an interest in learning another language using the Akelius language app.

About INS in Mozambique

The INS programme has been in Mozambique since 2021. To date, there are 15 INS centres in 12 schools, including in Maratane refugee settlement and in refugee-hosting public schools in Nampula Province. As of June 2023, the INS programme has reached 60,747 students and teachers, 1,162 teachers, 11 coaches and 182,241 family members.

Biston, a Grade 10 student who opted to study English, expressed the positive impact of the app on his language abilities, stating:

"There are so many improvements in my English level — I know and can say so many more things than before."

With a greater understanding of English, Biston will be able to improve and widen his education and job opportunities in the future.



Aristide, an INS Coach from Maratane Secondary School, highlighted the beneficial effects of the language app on the students, stating:

"I've seen a positive impact on the students. They are learning new ideas and spending time studying to master these languages."

