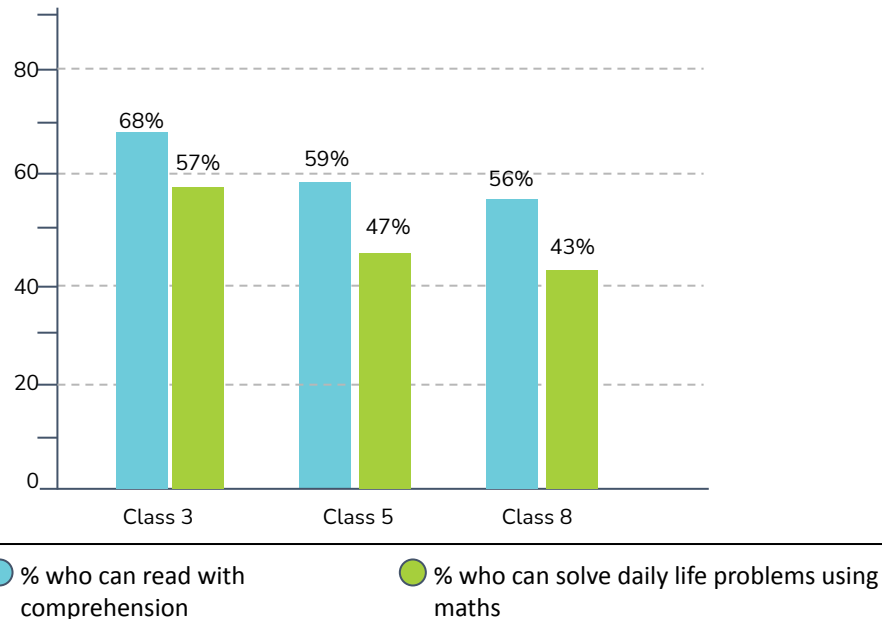CENTRAL SQUARE
FOUNDATION

IDEAS Conference

Evaluation of Foundational Learning Programs in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh & Haryana, India

September 2022

In India, schooling has not translated into learning- only 21% of grade 3 students can read a grade 2 text or do subtraction; children who fall behind rarely catch-up later

The National Achievement Survey highlights poor learning levels in early years

Fig 1.3: Student performance on grade appropriate critical skills in Language and Numeracy

Class 3: 68%, 57%
Class 5: 59%, 47%
Class 8: 56%, 43%

- % who can read with comprehension
- % who can solve daily life problems using maths

Source : NAS 2017

Independent surveys confirm the low levels of foundational learning in India

20.9% of grade 3 students in schools in rural India can read a grade 2 text

20.9% of grade 3 students in schools in rural India can do subtraction

Source: ASER 2018

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India is committed to attaining Foundational Literacy and Numeracy

National Education Policy 2020

Launched a national mission to **implement FLN program in states by setting clear national and state level targets, regular monitoring, providing adequate funding and technical support to states**

The NEP 2020 has recognized Foundational Literacy and Numeracy (FLN) as an urgent and necessary prerequisite to learning. Calls for 'attaining foundational learning' for all children in grade 3 by 2025

Additionally, states have launched their respective missions to achieve Foundational Literacy and Numeracy, as seen in the three focus states - Uttar Pradesh (Mission Prerna), Madhya Pradesh (Mission Ankur) and Haryana

CSF is supporting the national Ministry of Education as well as 12 state governments to design, launch and implement FLN programs

MoE (erstwhile. MHRD)

- Supported **MOE** in planning for NIPUN Bharat - FLN mision
- Supporting **National Achievement Survey 2021**
- **SARTHAQ** guidelines for implementing NEP 2020

NITI Aayog

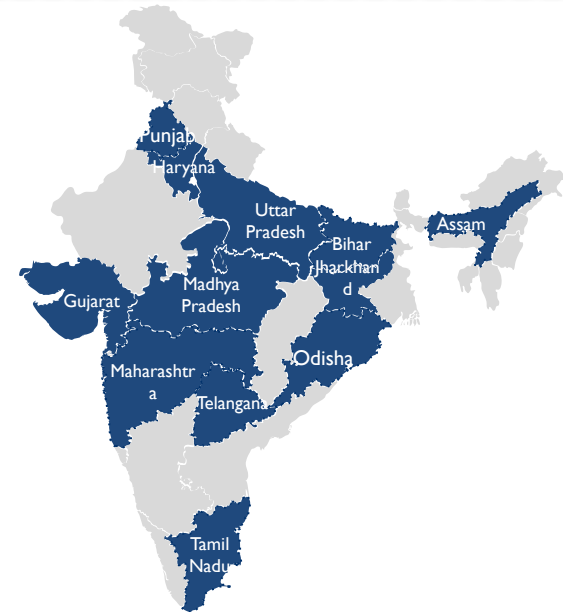- Supported design of **School Education Quality Index (SEQI)**

CBSE

- **CBSE Reading Mission** to create a culture of joyful reading in classrooms (Grades 1-3)
- Creation of **Teacher Energised Resource Manual (TERM)**
- **FLN courses** designed for teacher training

70% of all school-going children in Primary grades across the country are in States being supported by CSF for NIPUN design & implementation

Punjab
Haryana
Uttar Pradesh
Bihar
Jharkhand
Assam
Gujarat
Madhya Pradesh
Maharashtra
Telangana
Odisha
Tamil Nadu

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4

We advocate a four-pillar approach to advancing FLN Outcomes

FLN Goal-Setting & Communication through the System

Structured Pedagogy-based Teaching & Learning Reform

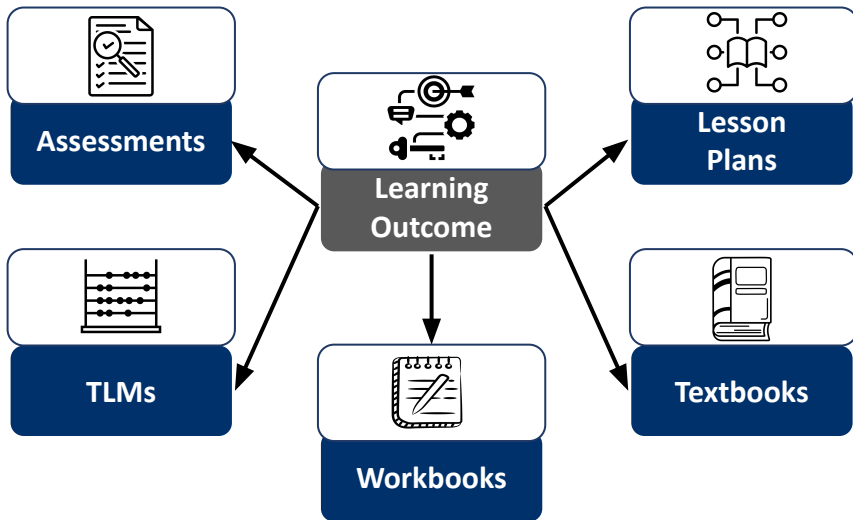**Governance Enablers with Focus on Capacity Building and Coaching**

FLN Monitoring and Data-based Reform

Aligned with NIPUN Bharat Guidelines

Structured pedagogy ensures all the resources are stitched together closely to the Learning Outcomes Framework

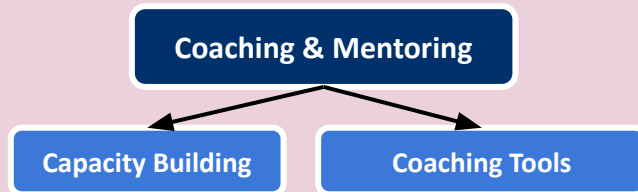**A tightly knit comprehensive suite of resources for teacher:**

Classroom Resources

- Assessments
- TLMs
- Learning Outcome
- Workbooks
- Lesson Plans
- Textbooks

Teacher Professional Development

- **Teacher Training**
  - Capacity Building
  - Material Orientation

Academic Support

- **Coaching & Mentoring**
  - Capacity Building
  - Coaching Tools

Through a Integrated Teacher Guide, a teacher knows exactly what to teach and how to teach and how to assess whether students have mastered the concept.

By including the training and coaching in the ecosystem, once can ensure that the teachers are well prepared

FLN programs in the 3 focus states comprise state-wide missions along with more intensive support in demo sites

Uttar Pradesh	Madhya Pradesh	Haryana
State FLN Mission *NIPUN UP*	State FLN Mission *Mission Ankur*	*NIPUN Haryana*
Low-Touch Demo District *Varanasi* High-Touch Demo Block *Sewapuri*	Demonstration Districts *Sehore, Shajapur*	Demonstration Districts *TBD*

Research questions centre on determining impact, implementation fidelity and wider learnings from the FLN programs

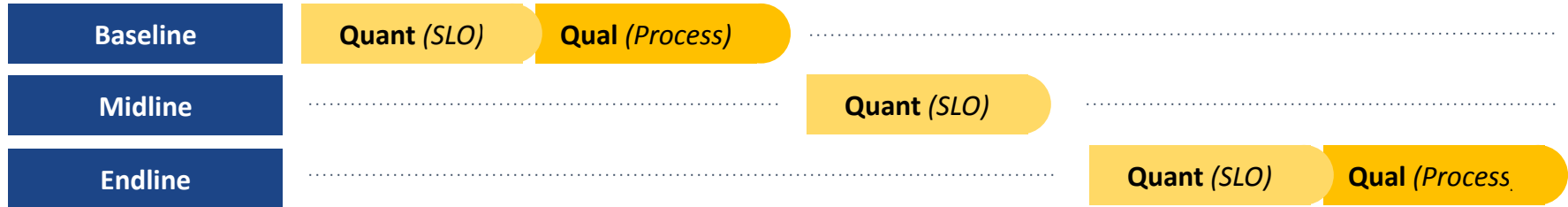| IMPACT	IMPLEMENTATION FIDELITY	CROSS-STATE LEARNINGS
What is the impact of implementation of the FLN programs in the demonstration sites vis-a-vis the rest of the state on **Student Learning Outcomes?**	Is the programme implemented as designed, and shifting **classroom practices?** What **factors aided or hindered implementation?**	Identifying design and implementation successes **across different states/demonstration** sites to indicate **transferability for scale-up** within and across states

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Mixed-methods evaluation to measure impact and understand the 'why'

Broad Research Design

Baseline	**Quant** *(SLO)*	**Qual** *(Process)*		
Midline		**Quant** *(SLO)*		
Endline			**Quant** *(SLO)*	**Qual** *(Process*

Quantitative Research

Track **changes in student learning outcomes** across time periods for Treatment (*Demo*) and Control (*non-Demo*) areas

Quasi-experimental evaluation design

Counterfactual identification through **Coarsened Exact Matching**

Difference-in-Differences analysis

Exploring use of **Item Response Theory**

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Mixed-methods evaluation to measure impact and understand the 'why'

Qualitative Research

No Compliance, High Performance

Low fidelity to classroom practices
High learning outcomes

Exemplar Schools

High fidelity to classroom practices
High learning outcomes

Schools Requiring Upliftment

Low fidelity to classroom practices
Low learning outcomes

Compliant, but Not Exhibiting Outcomes

High fidelity to classroom practices
Lower learning outcomes

Map shifts in **teaching-learning practices**

Experiences of the education delivery system in assimilating and executing reforms

What changed and why

Purposive sampling of schools and **teachers** to capture maximum variability

Classroom observations & teacher interviews

In-depth interviews with academic support cadres

In-depth interviews with govt officials

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Our learning agenda is to understand effectiveness and capacity to scale in the context of FLN in India

Rigorous and actionable evidence

What happens inside and outside classrooms to foster adoption

Evidence gap on what works and scales in the Indian context

Synergies with the implementation of NIPUN Bharat Mission