"Since I started elementary school, I have been closely followed by my mother. We do reading sessions every night after classes," says 10-year-old Mariama from Niger.
In Republic of Congo, 15 students were selected to share what they learnt about learning poverty, following a weeklong series of activities and mentoring sessions.
In DRC, the country office marked End Poverty Day in partnership with Liziba High School and the Tam-Tam Company of Congolese professional storytellers. The events of the day showed that ending learning poverty will take exploring alternative teaching approaches to allow children to learn, have fun and be creative.
Merci
In Kenya, students aged 10 and below from the informal settlements of Kibera and Kangemi visited the WBG offices, where they met and drew inspiration from staff. They also recited poems on why and how Kenya can end learning poverty.
In Zambia, primary school students from three schools shared poems and songs on the importance of education. The office also organized a roundtable with key NGO, CSO, government and school stakeholders. Zambia hosted the regional videoconference on Learning Poverty, linking up 30 country offices across the continent.
In Togo, the country office marked End Poverty Day by visiting two education projects—one that made it possible to construct a new school building and another that provided hot meals to students. Students were also featured in a radio show organized by a local CSO group.
In Malawi, the World Bank office collaborated with the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology to organize a reading fair between two primary schools—one urban and the other rural.
In Ghana, over 200 people from schools, CSOs, government and partners gathered to share their recommendations on the path forward for Ghana—one of which was to establish a National Day of Reading.
In Benin, the country office worked with local NGOs to organize a visit to a primary school near Cotonou, speaking with the community on access, equity and quality of learning challenges in basic education.
In Rwanda, the country office hosted a dialogue between government officials, partners, local NGOs and CSOs, teachers, trainees, students and the media. They made recommendations for the way forward in getting young Rwandans to read.
In Tanzania, the country office organized a dialogue on learning poverty, followed by statements from a CEO and teacher, weighing in on improving learning outcomes at individual and institutional levels.
In Côte d'Ivoire, staff visited a school where 120 pupils have class under mango and banana trees. They also organized a reading competition in one of the schools and offered books to the winners as a way to encourage reading.