Ensuring that all children worldwide have the opportunity to complete a high quality primary school education has been recognized by the international community as a key Millennium Development Goal (MDG). To advance this goal, greater efficiency and accountability in the use of educational resources is required.

Experience to date shows that Public Expenditure Tracking Surveys in Education (PETS) can help countries significantly reduce resource leakages from corruption and administrative inefficiencies. It can also help assess incentives and performance at the school level. Hence, PETS is an important part of a country's tool kit for reaching MDG.

Following the success of the first course on PETS, held in Phnom Penh (Cambodia), June 2004, the IIEP and the World Bank will organize a second subregional course on the same theme in Pretoria (South Africa) from 14 to 23 March 2005.

Course objectives

The main aim of this course is to enable its participants to participate meaningfully in all the steps involved in a PETS. In order to do so, the course will adopt the following objectives:

- Develop awareness of the magnitude and harmful consequences of corruption in education:
- Train participants in the design and implementation of PETS and Quantitative Service Delivery Surveys (QSDS);
- Call participants' attention to the benefits of organizing such surveys and disseminating their results to fight corruption and improve performance on the frontline;
- Help country teams develop a preliminary PETS proposal for their own country.

Learning approach

This course, which will be held in English, will cover the technical, management, and policy implications of PETS in education. For a period of 8 days, it will be divided into the following four sections:

- Preparing a PETS;
- Designing a PETS;
- Implementing a PETS;
- Analyzing & following-up on a PETS.

Each day will be organized around the activities listed below:

- Show & tell, to enable participants to contribute with experience from their own country;
- Lectures, to provide a substantive introduction to the topics to be covered;
- Exercises, based on a case study of a fictitious country, 'Ruritania';
- Country team meeting, to allow participants to interpret what was learnt during the day in the context of their own country.

Target audience

Ideally, country teams should reflect the composition of that which will manage and use the PETS in each country. In most cases, this will include:

- Senior technical personnel from the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Education (and, possibly, other ministries);
- Members of national statistics institutions;
- Experts from NGOs, think tanks, and universities with diverse technical backgrounds such as budget & policy analysis, survey design and management.

Participating countries

The following countries in Southern Africa will be given priority in attending the course: Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Faculty

The faculty will consist of officials from the IIEP and the World Bank, as well as a selected number of international consultants, including:

- Jacques Hallak and Muriel Poisson IIEP;
- Ritva Reinikka, Carolyn Winter and Mmantsetsa Marope – World Bank.

Course pack

Participants will receive the following documents:

- Book on Public Expenditure Tracking Surveys in Education by Ritva Reinikka and Nathaniel Smith, IIEP/UNESCO, 2004;
- Power point presentations of the various lectures given during the course;
- Terms of reference for the exercises:
- Other relevant materials from earlier PETS experiences in different countries.

Certificate

At the end of the course each participant will receive a certificate from the IIEP and the Word Bank.

Financing

Participants will cover their travel and board costs and contribute a fee of US\$ 300.

Location

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Program overview

2 Days: INTRODUCTION

Resource leakage & incentives to perform in education

An overview of Public Expenditure Tracking Surveys (PETS) Introduction to Quantitative Service Delivery Surveys (QSDS)

1 Day: PETS PREPARATION

Objectives & issues
Sources & uses of funds in the education sector

2 Days: PETS DESIGN

Data quality & availability Sampling methods Government & school questionnaires

2 Days: DATA COLLECTION

Organizing & managing the work Implementing school & government surveys Data processing, entry & cleaning

1 Day: ANALYSIS, REPORTING & DISSEMINATION

Analysis of PETS: focus on leakage and incentives Information dissemination

PETS: a reliable tool to remedy leakage & corruption?

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Sub-regional course on:

Public Expenditure Tracking Surveys in Education (PETS)

Training course organized by the International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP) and the World Bank



