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Mauritania Basic Education Sector Support Project (BESSP) (P126902)

AFRICA | Mauritania | Education Global Practice |
Recipient Executed Activities | Specific Investment Loan | FY 2014 | Seq No: 5 | ARCHIVED on 04-Aug-2016 | ISR24518 |

Implementing Agencies: DPEF

Key Dates

Key Project Dates

Bank Approval Date:06-Feb-2014

Effectiveness Date:19-May-2014

Planned Mid Term Review Date:15-Feb-2016

Actual Mid-Term Review Date:23-May-2016

Original Closing Date:01-May-2017

Revised Closing Date:01-May-2017

Project Development Objectives

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Project Development Objective (from Project Appraisal Document)
The development objective of the proposed operation is to improve quality of pre-service teacher training in primary education and to promote equitable access to lower secondary education.

Has the Project Development Objective been changed since Board Approval of the Project Objective?
No

Components

Name
Improving the quality of teaching in primary education:(Cost $4.00 M)
Promoting equitable access to lower secondary education:(Cost $4.70 M)
Strengthening capacity of the education sector:(Cost $3.70 M)

Overall Ratings

Name	Previous Rating	Current Rating
Progress towards achievement of PDO	Moderately Satisfactory	Moderately Satisfactory
Overall Implementation Progress (IP)	Moderately Unsatisfactory	Moderately Satisfactory
Overall Risk Rating	Moderate	Moderate

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Implementation Status and Key Decisions

A mid-term review of the Project was undertaken from May 23 to June 3, 2016. During the mission, a workshop which was widely attended by various stakeholders was held in Noukchott on May 24, 2016. The mission had the opportunity to meet with various project stakeholders, including government officials and staff from the regional, district and school levels as well as other development partners (including staff from the United Nations Children's Fund, French Cooperation and Agence Francaise de Developpement). The mission determined that important progress has been made under the project, and since the last mission. The project appears to be on track to achieve its development objectives. Therefore the project is rated Moderately Satisfactory (MS) for implementation progress and progress towards achievement of the project development objective (PDO). The following provides an overview of progress by component.

Component 1: Improving the Quality of Teaching in Primary Education. The following has been achieved: (i) desks and office equipment have been provided to 2 Ecoles Normales d'Instituteurs/Teacher Training Institutes (ENIs) (Nouakchott and Aioun) and is in the process of being provided to 2 other ENIs (Akjoujt and Kaedi); (ii) training has been provided to all 101 trainers on the ENI curriculum and the competency-based approach (*approche par competences*) in all 4 ENIs; with all trainers from the ENIs of Nouakchott and Aioun (70) also participating in a two week training on learning assessments and the trainers and other staff from the other 2 ENIs (33) receiving basic language training; (iii) Centre de recherche et d'etudes de langues (CREL) (which was contracted to provide language training to ENI students and trainers under the Project) has provided French training to 28 math and science teachers (whose primary language is Arabic); training to 50 teachers on teaching in a second language; and training/mentoring of 78 teachers to support them in mastering teaching in a second language; and intensive language training beginning in October 2015 for a period of either one or two months for 1,380 ENI students (at all levels). The *Cellule Nationale d'Evaluation* (CNE) has completed three independents assessments of students entering the ENIs – in 2014 (2 ENIs – Nouakchott and Aioun); 2015 and 2016 (in all 4 ENIs); and assessments of second and third year students in 2015 and 2016. The results of these evaluations are expected shortly. Further, under sub-component 1.2, 225,209 pedagogical kits have been distributed to all primary school students in the six targeted wilayas; and to 18,879 kits girls in lower secondary school (colleges) in the targeted wilayas.

Component 2: Promoting Equitable Access to Lower Secondary Education. Under this Component, the following has been achieved: (i) out of the 13 schools to be constructed and equipped in the 6 wilayas targeted by the project, 10 are expected to open for the 2016-2017 school year (with the remaining three expected to open for the 2017-2018 school year) and acquisition of equipment is underway; (ii) an awareness raising campaign was held in each of the 6 wilayas with a total of 290 participants including local administration and the media; (iii) 352 girls in each of the 6 targeted wilayas have received merit-based awards; and (iv) the design and preparation of hygiene kits for girls in lower secondary school (colleges) is underway.

Component 3: Strengthening Management of the Education Sector. The following has been achieved: (i) three annual school censuses in 2014, 2015 and 2016 with the support of the Pole de Dakar, which contributed to the development of the 2015 Education Status Report (RESEN) and a financial simulation model in order to update policy framework document and the triennial action plans; (ii) three learning assessments were undertaken by the CNE for children in grades 3 and 5 in 2014 and for children in grade 3 in 2015; (iii) 917 directors (primary school) and 332 basic education inspectors were trained in teacher, financial and administrative management and pedagogy and training, respectively; (iv) DRENs (regional level education offices) and IDENs (district level education offices) were provided with computers and office equipment; (v) annual sector reviews and audits were undertaken; and (vi) progress has been made towards the establishment of an Education Management Information System (EMIS) for the Ministry of Education (with a data collection and analysis center within its Directorate of Statistics, Planning and Cooperation).

Risks

Systematic Operations Risk-rating Tool

Risk Category	Rating at Approval	Previous Rating	Current Rating
Political and Governance	--	Moderate	Moderate
Macroeconomic	--	Low	Low
Sector Strategies and Policies	--	Moderate	Moderate

Technical Design of Project or Program	--	Moderate	Moderate
Institutional Capacity for Implementation and Sustainability	--	Substantial	Substantial
Fiduciary	--	Substantial	Substantial
Environment and Social	--	Moderate	Moderate
Stakeholders	--	Moderate	Moderate
Other	--	--	--
Overall	--	Moderate	Moderate

Results

Project Development Objective Indicators

▸ Direct project beneficiaries (Number, Core)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	3735.00	246064.00	76500.00
Date	28-Feb-2014	15-Dec-2015	15-Jul-2016	28-Feb-2017

◢ Female beneficiaries (Percentage, Core Supplement)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	10.00	5.00	53.00	12.00

▸ Proportion of graduates of ENIs who master the minimum required competencies (Percentage, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	--	32.00	15.00
Date	28-Feb-2014	--	15-Jul-2016	28-Feb-2017

▸ Transition rate from primary to lower secondary education for girls in targeted wilayas (Percentage, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	45.00	42.00	45.00	50.00
Date	28-Feb-2014	15-Dec-2015	15-Jul-2016	28-Feb-2017

▸ Number of females enrolled in lower secondary education in targeted wilayas (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	7800.00	17578.00	19077.00	8736.00
Date	28-Feb-2014	15-Dec-2015	15-Jul-2016	28-Feb-2017

Overall Comments
During the course of the MTR, it was agreed that project would be restructured under which a number of indicators and targets will be clarified and/or revised (including to reflect year on year cumulative values). Additionally, updated data now available will require some changes to baseline and target values.

Intermediate Results Indicators

▸ Number of ENI administrative staff trained (Component 1) (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	104.00	33.00	70.00
Date	28-Feb-2014	15-Dec-2015	15-Jul-2016	28-Feb-2017

▸ Number of ENI faculty trained (Component 1) (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	101.00	101.00	120.00
Date	28-Feb-2014	15-Dec-2015	15-Jul-2016	28-Feb-2017

▸ Educational resources available at ENIs (Component 1) (Yes/No, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	N	--	Y	Y
Date	28-Feb-2014	15-Dec-2015	15-Jul-2016	28-Feb-2017

▸ Number of additional bilingual teachers certified by CREL supported by the project (Component 1) (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	30.00	--	436.00	500.00
Date	28-Feb-2014	15-Dec-2015	15-Jul-2016	28-Feb-2017

▸ Proportion of students who received pedagogical kits in the targeted regions each year (Component 1) (Percentage, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	--	91.00	25.00
Date	28-Feb-2014	15-Dec-2015	15-Jul-2016	28-Feb-2017

▸ Number of classrooms constructed in targeted wilayas with support from the project (Component 2) (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	--	12.00	52.00
Date	28-Feb-2014	15-Dec-2015	15-Jul-2016	28-Feb-2017

▸ Number of girls receiving an award (Component 2) (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	352.00	352.00	480.00
Date	28-Feb-2014	15-Dec-2015	15-Jul-2016	28-Feb-2017

▸ Number of awareness campaigns carried out to promote girls' education with NGOs (Component 2) (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	6.00	6.00	9.00
Date	28-Feb-2014	15-Dec-2015	15-Jul-2016	28-Feb-2017

Comments
An awareness campaign was undertaken in each of the 6 wilayas targeted by the project; this indicator will be clarified under the restructuring.

▸ Number of teachers, inspectors and school directors in rural schools who attended awareness-raising training sessions (Component 2) (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	--	290.00	690.00
Date	28-Feb-2014	15-Dec-2015	15-Jul-2016	28-Feb-2017

▸ Number of girls provided with pedagogical kits in targeted wilayas (Component 2) (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	--	131484.00	72407.00
Date	28-Feb-2014	15-Dec-2015	15-Jul-2016	28-Feb-2017

▸ System of learning assessment established and functional (Component 3) (Yes/No, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	N	N	Y	Y
Date	28-Feb-2014	15-Dec-2015	15-Jul-2016	28-Feb-2017

▸ Integrated EMIS (network system) is operational within the State Ministry of Education (MEE) and the regional offices (Component 3) (Yes/No, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	N	N	N	Y
Date	28-Feb-2014	15-Dec-2015	15-Jul-2016	28-Feb-2017

▸ Number of DRENs personnel trained in data collection and analysis (Component 3) (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	70.00	70.00	120.00
Date	28-Feb-2014	15-Dec-2015	15-Jul-2016	28-Feb-2017

▸ Number of staff trained on EMIS (Component 3) (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	285.00
Date	28-Feb-2014	15-Dec-2015	15-Jul-2016	28-Feb-2017

▸ Completion of early grade reading assessment (EGRA) (Component 3) (Yes/No, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	N	N	N	Y
Date	28-Feb-2014	15-Dec-2015	15-Jul-2016	28-Feb-2017

▸ Number of annual meetings of the education sector group (Component 3) (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	2.00	3.00	9.00
Date	28-Feb-2014	15-Dec-2015	15-Jul-2016	28-Feb-2017

Overall Comments
During the course of the MTR, it was agreed that project would be restructured under which a number of indicators and targets will be clarified and/or revised (including to reflect year on year cumulative values). Additionally, updated data now available will require some changes to baseline and target values.

Data on Financial Performance

Disbursements (by loan)

Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Currency	Original	Revised	Cancelled	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Disbursed
P126902	TF-16390	Effective	USD	12.40	12.40	0.00	6.93	5.47	56%

Key Dates (by loan)

Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Approval Date	Signing Date	Effectiveness Date	Orig. Closing Date	Rev. Closing Date
P126902	TF-16390	Effective	18-Feb-2014	18-Feb-2014	19-May-2014	01-May-2017	01-May-2017

Cumulative Disbursements

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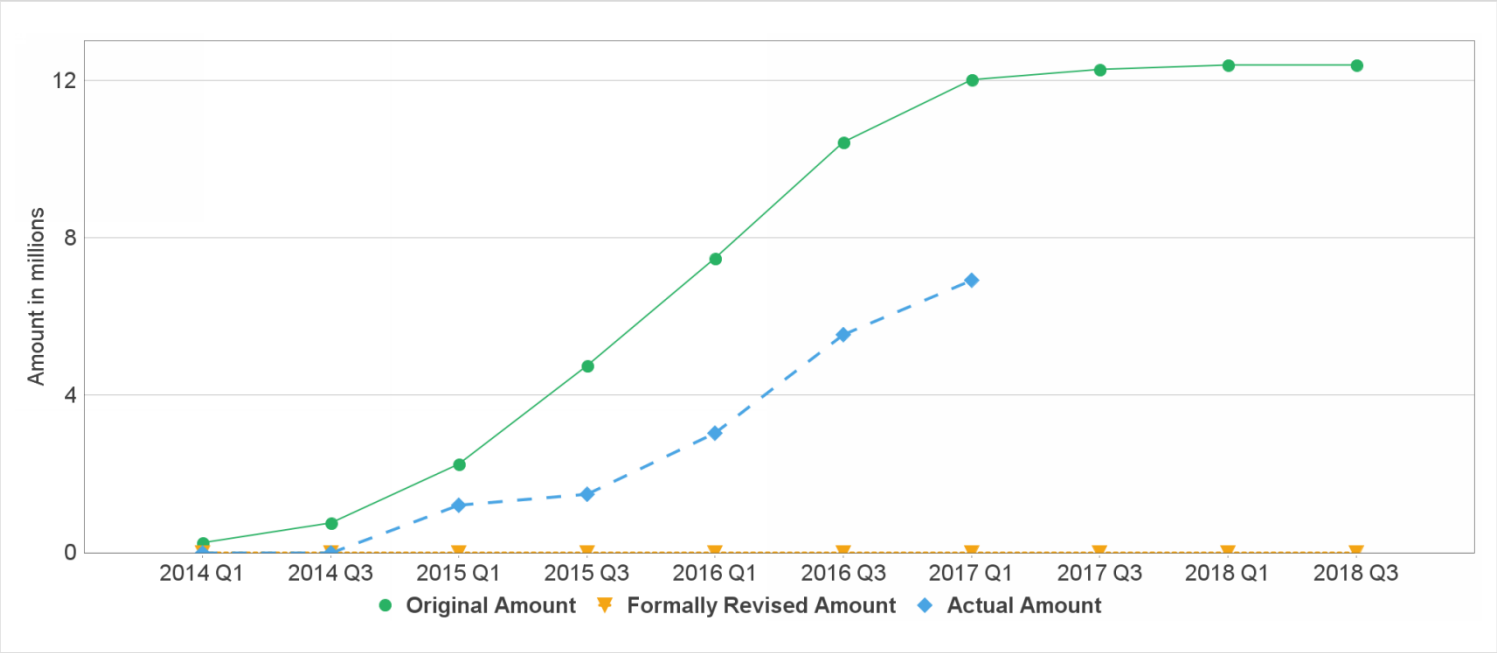

Restructuring History

There has been no restructuring to date.

Related Project(s)

There are no related projects.

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