

ESSPIN is supporting schools to become effective centres of learning at the heart of the community. We are working to improve the way education is managed at all levels of government and to get more and better resources in schools. ESSPIN is helping Nigeria's children to grow.

Background

With a 28% increase in budgetary allocation to the Education Sector (2012) and impressive budget release and performance of 98% over recent years, Jigawa is committed to scaling up ESSPIN's integrated approach to school improvement across the 27 Local Government Areas (LGAs) in the State.

Equally impressive is the lead taken by Jigawa in its determination to access available federal funds. Now, with sustained support from ESSPIN, Jigawa is set to spend N128 million of the state's resources on teacher training with an additional N22 million for development of school based management committees (SBMCs).

"We have in the last few years worked with partners, particularly the Education Sector Support Programme in Nigeria, to improve the quality of teaching in our schools." - Sule Lamido, Governor of Jigawa State.

ESSPIN's contribution

ESSPIN will offer more technical assistance to Jigawa state as it rolls out the School Improvement model, targeting 25% of public primary and junior secondary schools across 27 LGAs. A total of 501 schools, 198 in the initial phase and an additional 303 schools, have been selected. About 2,000 classroom teachers, 501 Head Teachers, 128 School Support Officers (SSOs) and 25 State School Improvement Team members will benefit from the programme.

To support and consolidate the scale up, ESSPIN has established a Training Centre in the State Universal Basic Education Board (SUBEB) to be managed by the Advisory Support Unit in the training and capacity building programmes. This will help ensure a systemic change in teacher training and a sustainable cost effective replication of the School Improvement Programme (SIP). Success stories of community involvement are spread across the ESSPIN LGAs – more inside.

ESSPIN Impact in Schools

State School Improvement Team Support - ESSPIN and the state Ministry of Education and SUBEB are working to scale up the SIP model with corresponding M&E processes.

Teacher Training - Following the pilot project work, the state has included the roll-out of the school improvement programme in the 2012-14 Medium Term Sector Strategy (MTSS) and 2012 annual budget. The SSIT is now domiciled at SUBEB in the Department of School Services, Advisory Services Unit (ASU). The replication will cover all the 27 LGAs. 303 have been selected to come on board the programme this year as the state is targeting training 501 HTs, 128 SSOs and 2004 Teachers in 2012. The state has also planned to continue to reach 501 extra schools each year to train all the teachers in the state by 2015

Improved Teaching and Learning – *“The institutionalization of the Advisory Services Unit in SUBEB will surely improve the effectiveness of the school improvement process in the state. This will be through the effective utilization of the SSIT. This has been possible so far because of ESSPIN’s technical support as we all know”*- Sani Shehu Gagarawa, coordinator SSIT Jigawa SUBEB.

Challenge Fund – Hardo Rura Nomadic School has pooled resources together and distributed school uniforms to girls. 19 pupils have been newly enrolled in to the school. School Support Committees have led community participation in the construction of shelters to create more spaces for learning in Shatari, Hardo Rura, Darussa, Mosege and Alkalawa nomadic primary schools, More demands are being made by the communities to the local authorities for resources.

The School Support Committee of Darussa Nomadic Primary School have requested Maigatari Local Education Authority for roofing sheets to build a more conducive learning environment for their pupils.

Islamiyya, Qur’anic, Tsangaya Education (IQTE) – the second phase of the ESSPIN IQTE programme to introduce elements of a modern curriculum to traditional Islamic schools is set to begin with expansion into 50 cohort or segmented schools. An estimated 7,500 children are targeted by the year 2013. This will further boost the roll out of IQTE by government using its own funds. The IQTE model schools have already been subjected to a structured assessment with remarkable results which underscore the quality of numeracy and literacy skills being achieved by the pupils.



The new SSIT Training and Administrative centre in SUBEB, constructed and equipped by ESSPIN

ESSPIN Impact in Communities

Community participation – there has been an increase in the level of community participation in the state because of ESSPIN engagement with the SBMCs.

Community members of JSS Nasoro in Gumel LGA have volunteered to give career talks to pupils of the schools in order to strengthen their desire to complete basic education. Volunteers that spoke with the pupils include NDLEA officers, the Police, Customs and medical doctors.

The District Head of Dabi now monitors the activities of the schools in his district such as Kijawal primary school and Gasakole.

Members of Lafiya school community have provided urgently needed temporary accommodation for teachers. The same SBMC also provided instructional materials to pupils as well as utensils, mats and hoes to improve the appearance of the school.

In Madabe Community School, SBMC members have paid for the cost of sewing uniforms for 40 pupils. They have also repaired 23 chairs and provided rakes, hoes, and bundles of brooms to the school to improve sanitation in order to provide a better learning environment for the pupils.

Hajia Hadiza Baiye Gambo, a women leader in Miga, has purchased uniforms for 300 pupils in Mudibbawa nomadic school and constructed makeshift classrooms for them as well. *“I go round schools to see what is happening there and it is my dream to see the children become doctors, teachers and leaders from our community and with ESSPIN’s support we could achieve more”* say Hadiza.



Hajia Hadiza Gambo, the women leader of Miga LGA who has personally contributed to improvements at Mudibbawa nomadic school

Case Study – ESSPIN and the nomadic communities

“Communities have increased their request for the establishment of more nomadic schools in Jigawa now because of ESSPIN’s intervention to support our efforts in reaching these communities” says Babawuro Fate, the Director for Monitoring and Evaluation at the state Agency for Nomadic Education. Babawuro has been a key partner in ESSPIN’s collaborative engagement with nomadic education in Jigawa and has seen dramatic changes in recent times. There are more community demands at his office for more nomadic schools to be established. Even the way he and his colleagues work has changed with more remote schools being identified and supported by the state. Such schools include Mai Wando, a nomadic school located at the wetlands, and others in hard-to-reach areas of the state. *“We are now inundated by demands from several nomadic communities because of what ESSPIN is doing in conjunction with the Agency for Nomadic Education. There has been a 25% increase in communities now wanting their own school”* says Alh Ali Manu, the Executive Secretary, Jigawa State Agency for Nomadic Education

ESSPIN seeks to reduce inequality and give all children access to quality education. One of the strategies employed is to expend the ESSPIN Challenge Fund to concentrate effort or investment on any part of the basic education system that would spur state governments to engage with the process. ESSPIN Jigawa therefore launched its support to nomadic education with the provision of school uniforms and learning materials to nomadic children. This initiative currently targets 3,000 children from 40 schools as beneficiaries across the state. It is anticipated that 6,000 nomadic children will be reached by 2014.

Since initiation of the ESSPIN Challenge Fund the results have been remarkable as more nomadic communities are now engaging with the Agency for Nomadic Education and making legitimate demands for more support. The state has responded to ESSPIN’s initiative by providing 7.1 million naira to this sector.

“It is evident that ESSPIN’s work with the Agency for Nomadic Education has touched deep into the heart of the nomadic communities of Jigawa. I know it sounds too demanding but we want more” says Babawuro in a deep unassuming tone.



A nomadic girl, Suwaibu Shehu, receiving a uniform from the SUBEB Chairman at the Challenge Fund Launch,