

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

The 2013 Jigawa state budget is once again reflective of how the state continues to prioritise education in its developmental process. In the previous year a total of N29 million was budgeted to the sector which has increased to N31 million. It currently boasts one of the best budget performances for education among the states of Nigeria with an impressive budget release of 98%. The number of schools participating in the ESSPIN's School Improvement Package process has increased also from 198 to 501 covering all the 27 LGAs in the state.

N70 million has been released recently to cater for the training and establishment of School Based Management Committees in the 27 Local Government Areas. Within this budget, 303 schools are being targeted for the training of their SBMCs. The teacher training processes have also been remarkably expanded to cover every local government in the state.

ESSPIN's contribution

ESSPIN continues to support strategic planning and institutional development processes within Jigawa such as the production of Annual School Census, Annual Education Sector Performance Report and the establishment of Monitoring and Evaluation systems within the MDAs. Significant levels of trainings are being conducted at various stages with an increased institutionalisation of these processes.

Multiple processes are deployed to mobilise support and create awareness for basic education reform in the state. Radio is widely employed while various community engagement strategies are deployed for creating demand and sensitisation. This alongside significant achievements in water and sanitation coupled with pilot prototype construction of classrooms has further endeared ESSPIN to several communities and stakeholders in the state. N67 million has thus been leveraged from various level of stakeholders in the community.

ESSPIN Impact in Schools

State School Improvement Team Support – The role of the School Support Officers is gradually changing in Jigawa. The SSOs are now empowered to carry out professional mentorship of head teachers and class teachers as the state expands the ESSPIN's School Improvement model to all local governments in the state.

Teacher Training – *“The training is really exciting and you can tell it from the enthusiasm of our participants. I am learning the use of low cost-no cost materials, especially the ones that the children can relate to”* –Mukhtar Yahuza Kila, SSO of Gwaram LGEA

Improved Teaching and Learning – *“We get regular support from the School Support Officers posted to support us. I must also confess that the trainings have been quite profitable to us in our day to day activities. This is clear as the children even respond to us better now. Kabiru Ya’u, Head Teacher, Lafiya Primary School*

“I am confident that the School Support Officers will be able to deliver trainings effectively to the head teachers and consequently to the teachers. We have noted some remarkable changes in pupils’ learning outcomes especially when we test them on some topics in the curriculum. This is attributed to the professional development of teachers and in-school support initiatives put in place.” Umma Abdulkadir-SSIT member Jigawa state

“A clear demonstration of our commitment to these laid down techniques by ESSPIN is the dedication of a substantial amount of our states resources to scale up the SIP initiatives. You can see that we have budget a huge sum so that more LGAs, schools and teachers are assessed and trained.”- Alh Lukman Idris Wurno , Secretary SUBEB.

There are a number of profession duties we could not carry out and these have clearly been made simpler through the ESSPIN supported trainings. We are now able to support, training and mentor our teachers in our respective schools. This is completely a positive new innovation. –Yusuf Garba, Head Teacher, Gurduba Primary School.



Roll out in Jigawa State:
SSITs offering training to a group of SSOs during a literacy and numeracy workshop.

ESSPIN Impact in Communities

Community participation – Communities are responding positively to ESSPIN's infrastructure initiative. Parents are very happy that their children can stay in school through the day without coming back home to drink water when they get thirsty during lessons.

A community in Kwanar Makera has indicated that accidents involving pupils have been drastically reduced as the frequency of pupils crossing the road has reduced.

More safe spaces have been created for girls as they confidently show up for school having separate toilets and better infrastructure to cater for them. These girls are confident in using the facilities.

Gender officers are constantly being trained to cater for the psychological and physiological needs of girls under ESSPIN's GE project. Still under the GE project, due to training and capacity building from ESSPIN, selected community members can now support girls at whatever levels.

A girl who was sent to the city from the village to work as a house help was returned through advocacy so that she could return to complete her education. Women leaders in various pilot communities are now better able to conduct strategic advocacy visits and also deliver strategic sensitisation messages that encourage girl child support.

Some women in selected local governments have started to procure uniforms and learning materials to support the retention of girls in school. Examples are Hajiya Indo Ado Roni and Hajiya Sakabu in Gumel who feed indigent pupils, with a particular focus on girls so that they will continue to attend school.

Another community, Sintilmawa has offered boarding facilities to children who attend school from distant locations in order to facilitate attendance. The children then return home to their parents in the weekends. There is an increasing awareness among women especially in the rural areas concerning their roles in encouraging girls to continually enrol in school and stay in school.



SSOs now take charge of training head teachers in Literacy and Numeracy skills in Jigawa.

Community co-operation with ESSPIN brings total transformation in Jigawa

Because of what ESSPIN has done for our school we have a sense of togetherness now. When things need to be fixed, we just go ahead and play our part. Some parts of the roofing sheet were blown off by the wind and I went into the bush to retrieve them. It is my school, our school; it belongs to all of us.' Alhaji Ado, the SBMC treasurer of Lafiya Primary School in Lafiya community said.

Lafiya community itself is perched on an elevated between flood plains. It is one of the hard-to-reach areas of Jigawa has benefited from ESSPIN's intervention. The community school has been provided with classrooms, furniture, water and sanitation facilities.

Before the intervention, the community school had only one classroom with corrugated iron sheets for its walls, proving an unfriendly environment for learning especially in the heat of the afternoons. Cramped into one classroom, the children also lacked access to clean water, having to make frequent trips to quench their thirst with water from home.

With diverse problems facing Lafiya community, the intervention of ESSPIN in the school has been a welcome relief. ESSPIN has schools at the heart of its intervention and provides good learning environments for children. The programme is also unifying the community with the government. To welcome ESSPIN's intervention to build a classroom block, a community member surrendered his property for the purpose.

'This land was donated to the school by the SBMC chairman without asking for money. He sees it as his contribution to the community. A classroom block has now been built on it' said Ado as he fetched himself a drink of water from the borehole. With co-operation between the community and ESSPIN, Lafiya community school now has a new look.

Acknowledging the need to create a brighter future for the children of the community, Ado added, 'We did not seize the opportunity to become educated when it came. We now do not want that same opportunity to pass our children by. We want a decent education for our children and are willing to do all that is possible to make that happen'.



Alhaji Ado the Treasurer of Lafiya Primary School's SBMC fetching water from the borehole provided by ESSPIN.