

Ministry of Education Science & Technology (MEST)

Coordinators' Office

News Letter

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The Presidential Recovery Priorities Supporting Smooth Transition in Education



Ensuring Quality Education

The review of the education Sector Plan ESP (2014-2018): Learning to succeed comes with one-year remaining in the life span of the plan. This plan was developed as a guiding document for the activities of the ministry of education science and technology and their various partners as they endeavored to improve learning for all students in Sierra Leone. The financing for the implementation of the ESP was to come from several sources including the government of Sierra Leone, the Global Partnership for Education, and Key Donor partners such as DFID, EU, and UNICEF. The review is based on analysis of available education and finance data, discussions with key education stake holders and focus group discussions at the district and school levels. It was conducted by a team from MEST, Ministry of Finance and Economic Development, Donor Agencies and Universities. The review focused on the Access Equity and Completion, Quality and Relevance and System Strengthening which were the set goals in the ESP comparing intended targets and outcomes with progress achieved so far.



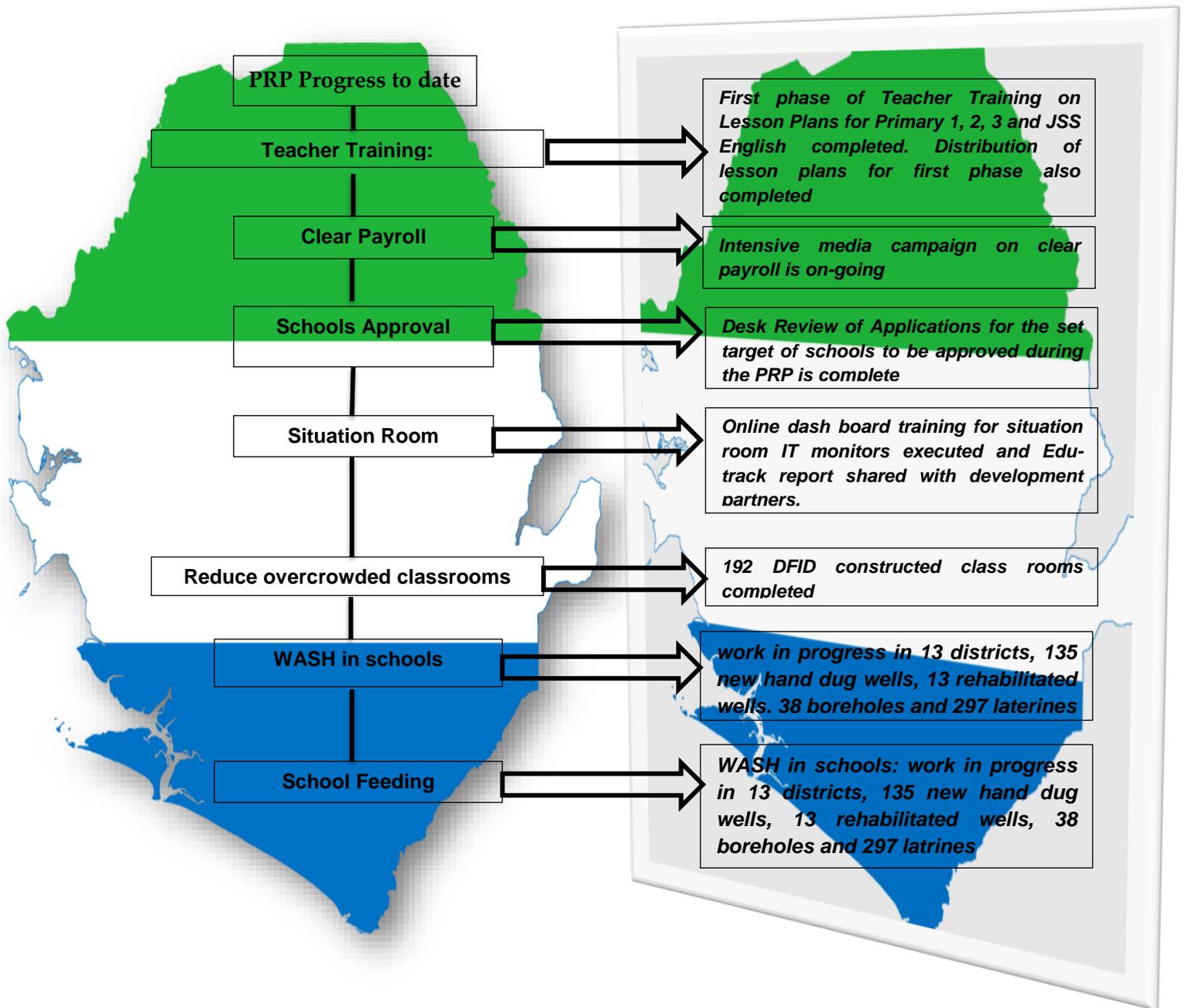
Working Group Session on First Phase PRP Teacher Training on Lesson Plans in Koinadugu District

Quote of the Month Quality Education

Education has the power to transform societies in a single generation.

Audrey Hepburn

With resilience, the working groups implementing the Presidential Recovery Priorities in the education sector have been able to make significant achievements to date of which the most recent include:



Partner Support Profile



This edition highlights the contribution of the European Union to the Education Sector of Sierra Leone

EU Programme to Support the Education Sector in Sierra Leone-

Education is one of the focal sectors of the EU



H. E. The President Dr. Ernest Bai Koroma Launching the 11th EDF EU Education Project

cooperation with the Government of Sierra Leone (GoSL) under the 11th EDF – European Development Fund, which provides an overall envelop of EUR 376 million for Sierra Leone in the areas of governance, education, agriculture and food security, and infrastructure. With an official ceremony held at the State House on the 7th of March 2017, the Government of Sierra Leone and the European Union launched a EUR 29 million programme to Support the Education Sector in Sierra Leone, which is to be implemented over the coming 3 years. The overall goal of the EU programme is to provide children with equitable access to high quality learning in Sierra Leone. The Delegation of

the European Union to Sierra Leone will work in partnership with the Government to achieve the following specific objectives (or components): Strengthen education system management in order to improve equity and quality Improve primary school teaching and learning Improve management and delivery of technical and vocational education Improve equitable access to secondary education. The EU programme will provide the Ministry of Education Science and Technology (MEST), the Teaching Service Commission, decentralised authorities and Teacher Training Colleges in selected Districts with assistance to strengthen management capacity and provision of education services, in line with national education policies and targets. The EU support will help the MEST deliver on several important strategic objectives detailed in the Education Sector Plan (ESP) – Learning to Succeed and the education section of the Agenda for Prosperity. Additionally, the EU support comes at just the right time, as the sector is transitioning from the post-Ebola ‘recovery’ back to ‘development’. The action has a

broad nation-wide scope, and also includes some specific activities in a restricted group of 4 pre-selected districts in a pilot-type scheme. A team of experts has already started working with the national authorities in charge of the education sector in Sierra Leone in order to: Transfer technical competencies to counterparts in the Ministry (including the District Education Offices), the Teaching Service Commission, and Teacher Training Colleges; Improve Human Resources management in MEST and TSC; Expand EMIS to include TVET, non-formal education and higher education, as well as learning outcomes; Improve organization, content and budgeting of supervisory visits and in-service teacher training by District Education Offices, through planning and training support; Support MEST in the preparation and execution of a part of the EU programme that will be managed directly by the Ministry, with activities in the areas of system management, primary school teaching and learning, and equitable access to secondary education, including and rehabilitation/renovation and upgrading of targeted junior

secondary schools in rural areas and provision of WASH facilities. Additionally, the specific component on Technical and Vocational Education and Training will be implemented by GIZ – the German Agency for international cooperation through a Delegation Agreement with the EU. Across the implementation of the action, the EU is committed to cooperating with other donor partners and GoSL in a coordinated manner under the auspices of MEST. The EU action will also complement and build on the achievements of the programmes implemented by GoSL and other partners in the post-Ebola recovery. Finally, it has to be noted that the support to education in Sierra Leone under the 11th EDF is complementary and comes in addition to other EU initiatives in the area of education, financed through centralised programmes of the European Commission, such as action grants for non-State actors, the Erasmus+ programme and the Intra-Africa Academic Mobility Scheme of the EU-Africa Partnership

Commendation



Our commendation for the month of March 2017 goes to the WASH working group for progress made in establishing water sanitation and hygiene facilities in selected schools.

Our Next publication will feature World Visions' Support to education in Sierra Leone

*Our dedicated phone lines for partners support:
076490260| 076635604*

Thanks.