



Abstracts

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Education

Paradigm Lost?: Implementation of Basic Education Reforms in Sub-Saharan Africa— Case Studies of Benin, Uganda, Malawi, Guinea, and Ethiopia

Moulton, Jeanne; Karen Mundy; et al. Academy for Educational Development, USAID/AFR/SD, USAID/G/HCD/BELS, Washington, DC. SD Publication Series: Technical Paper No. 109. 1999. 41 p. \$5.33 paper, \$2.00 disk
PN-ACJ-283

This report summarizes case studies of basic education reform programs in five African countries—Benin, Uganda, Malawi, Guinea, and Ethiopia—that used a top-down paradigm developed by experts, implemented by ministries of education, and supported by funding agencies. Analysis of the five programs indicates that many policies and programs have been successfully implemented, but in a piecemeal manner, instead of as comprehensive, coordinated reforms based on technically sound plans.

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Major impediments to implementation included the lack of adequate resources, short time frames, overly optimistic assumptions about economic growth, and the weak implementation capacity of ministries. But even if resources had been adequate, it is unlikely the reforms would have been implemented as planned. The process of implementing social and economic programs is not linear and systematic. In fact, in each of these countries, policy was often formulated not before, but during implementation, when, for example, funding agencies offered budgetary support conditional upon governments' adoption of policies and programs that funding agencies favored, whether or not they matched governments' priorities.

The report suggests that implementation strategies move from a structural, top-down strategy toward an incremental bottom-up strategy that stems from experiences at the educational system's periphery and expands according to the institutional capacity available. Such strategies would allow for more diversified attempts to reach more limited objectives and more room for politics and negotiation after the initial framework has been approved.

Schooling In Guinea: Findings from the GDHS-II 1999

Opinion Research Corp. Macro International Inc., Ministry of Pre-University Education and Vocational Training, Ministry of Plan and Cooperation, National Directorate of Statistics, Guinea; USAID/G/HCD, USAID/AFR/SD, Washington, DC. January 2001. 111 p. \$14.43 paper, \$2.00 disk.
English summary: PN-ACK-874; French main report: PN-ACK-875; French summary: PN-ACK-876
PN-ACK-873

This report describes Guinea's education sector based on data from the 1999 Guinea Demographic and Health Survey (DHS). Overall, the level of education is low. Of those age 6 and over, only 24 percent of females and 38 percent of males have ever attended



school. School attendance is higher in urban areas (especially Conakry) than in rural areas, and for those from wealthier families. School attendance has surpassed the goal of 53 percent by 2000 set in 1989. However, only 14 percent of children enter school at the official age of seven, with urban children, children from Conakry, children from wealthier families, and children with educated mothers having a substantial advantage.

The main reasons children never attended school or started later were that their labor was needed, the school was not easily accessible, and schooling was too expensive. On average, children quit school at age 12, boys mainly for lack of interest, girls because of failure. In rural areas, lack of teachers is a significant reason for children quitting school.

Cost can be a major impediment to schooling, and the vast majority of students' households spend money on schooling regardless of the student's gender, residence, region, or type of school. More is spent on boys than on girls in nearly every expenditure category, especially for school fees. School expenditures are much higher in urban than in rural areas.

Access to school is also an important barrier to schooling, with average travel time to primary school in urban areas less than half what it is in rural areas. Urban schools are also generally better equipped and supported than rural schools.

Environment

A First Look at Logging in Gabon

Collomb, Jean-Gael; Jean-Bruno Mikissa; et al. Global Forest Watch, World Resources Institute, USAID/AFR/SD, Washington, DC. 2000. 56 p. \$7.28 paper, \$2.00 disk

PN-ACK-830

This document is the first study to present complete, up-to-date, and peer-reviewed information on the logging industry in Gabon. The first section gives an overview of logging activities within Gabon's forests, using six indicators. These indicators show that although at least two-thirds of Gabon's original forest cover is thought to remain, the actual extent of current forest cover is unknown (indicator 1). As of 1999, more than three-quarters of Gabon's forests have

been, or currently are, allocated as logging concessions (indicator 2). As elsewhere in Central Africa, foreign interests exert significant control over the logging sector (indicator 3). Most of the rapid increase in logging development has taken place recently. For example, the area allocated to logging concessions has doubled in the past five years (indicator 4). Gabon's wood production and export statistics (indicator 5) reveal that the industry lacks diversification because it relies mostly on a single timber species (*okoume*) and exports the majority of its logs to the Chinese and French markets. Finally, the logistical resources of the Ministry of Water and Forests (indicator 6) are unequal to the magnitude of the task to be achieved. Existing data are incomplete and sometimes of questionable accuracy, illustrating the disarray of forestry information and the challenges faced by the administration to properly manage this resource.

The second section summarizes Gabon's forestry law and tax system, which is weak and has been poorly implemented and enforced. Finally, this report showcases the efforts of two government agencies and a logging company to promote better management of natural resources through the creation of new management tools and guidelines.

An Overview of Logging in Cameroon

Bikie, Henriette; Jean-Gael Collomb; et al. USAID/Cameroon; Global Forest Watch, World Resources Institute, USAID/AFR/SD, Washington, DC. 2000. 72 p. \$9.36 paper, \$2.00 disk

PN-ACK-829

This report documents the current and historical extent of logging in Cameroon along with the key actors engaged in this activity. It also provides data on the benefits and costs of logging, both in economic and environmental terms, and reviews the implementation of recent forestry legislation.

Once concentrated primarily along the coast, logging concessions now cover 76 percent of the forested area. The most intact forests, in southeastern Cameroon, also have among the highest extraction rates and extensive concession area. Timber generates more than a quarter of Cameroon's nonpetroleum export revenues, along with some US\$60 million in taxes.



A limited number of operators benefitted from logging activity in the 1998-99 period. Of the 84 individuals and companies with active, registered concessions, 25 held title to three-quarters of the forests being logged. Foreign companies, primarily French, held at least half of the concession area and indirectly controlled other holdings through subcontracting practices.

The 1994 forest legislation, while still a long way from being implemented, has already produced a 40 percent increase in tax revenues generated per cubic meter of wood produced. However, the open auction system of new concessions, which was to allocate titles to the highest bidder, has slowed down because of irregularities in the first round of bidding. More than half of existing licenses, which are to be phased out in favor of the new concessions, operate in violation of the law.

A compliance assessment in the Central and East Provinces raised further concerns. While the number of violation reports issued for illegal logging and related activities declined dramatically between 1985 and 1999, citations increasingly languished in administrative files. Surprisingly, the bulk of citations are issued against individuals rather than companies. While lack of enforcement capacity is clearly a major problem, a review of 63 violation reports indicated that one in five citations had been terminated after "the intervention of an influential person," indicating that other factors may also be at play.

Landscape Approach for Reviewing USAID/Uganda Activities in the Southwest

Clausen, Rob. International Resources Group, Ltd.; USAID/Uganda; USAID/G/ENV, USAID/AFR/SD, Washington, DC. April 2001. 114 p. \$14.82 paper, \$2.00 disk

PN-ACL-342

The Southwest region of Uganda, one of the country's most densely populated regions and part of the ecologically rich Albertine Rift, has been the focus of a great deal of USAID support for over a decade, particularly in the fields of environment/natural resource management and agriculture. This report employs a landscape analysis of the Southwest for use in mission planning. The landscape approach, a comprehensive method of area analysis, focuses on

three characteristics of the landscape: 1) the kinds of systems that exist; 2) flows of energy and how the systems interact; and 3) the change of systems over time.

Section one of the report describes the landscape in target districts of the Southwest, first in terms of biophysical, social, cultural, and economic factors, then in terms of mission activities in the area. Section two presents the recommended landscape approach for such activities. It is a framework that uses the information in section one to demonstrate how a landscape approach defines gaps and organizes important pieces of information for analysis. The framework and the guidelines provided could be used for any part of Uganda. Section three uses Southwest target districts as a model for analyzing constraints and opportunities for developing strategies, programs, or projects throughout Uganda. Section four contains the major findings and recommendations.

Agro-Economics

Sahelian West Africa: Impact of Structural Adjustment Programs on Agricultural Competitiveness and Regional Trade

Barry, Abdoul W.; B. Lynn Salinger; Selina Pandolfi. John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, Boston; Associates for International Resources and Development, BHM International, Inc., USAID/AFR/SD, Washington, DC. EAGER/African Economic Policy Discussion Paper No. 37. December 2000. 43 p. \$5.59 paper, \$2.00 disk

PN-ACK-754

It has recently been argued that the low level of West African trade, especially agricultural trade, stems from economic and sectoral policies adopted during structural adjustment programs (SAPs). The rationale behind this argument is that these programs, which have been negotiated individually by the different African countries, serve only to reduce national budget deficits, without considering their impact on the productivity of the agricultural sector. Furthermore, the removal of input subsidies has resulted in a drastic reduction in the demand for chemical fertiliz-



ers, to the point where agricultural productivity has substantially declined, thus negatively affecting both the competitiveness of the West African agricultural sector and agricultural trade flows. Focusing on Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea, Mali, and Senegal, this study discusses the extent to which SAPs have been implemented, as well as the effects of these programs on production efficiency, costs of production, competitiveness of West African agricultural products, and potential regional flows. The macroeconomic and sectoral measures to counter negative impacts of these programs are also discussed. The study concludes that the potential for West Africa subregional trade is significant, but that policies to upgrade basic infrastructure to increase the efficiency of marketing agricultural products need to be improved substantially.

Economics

Restarting and Sustaining Growth and Development in Africa: A Framework for Improving Productivity

McPherson, Malcolm F. John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, Boston; USAID/AFR/SD, Washington, DC. EAGER/African Economic Policy Discussion Paper No. 62. March 2001. 62 p. \$3.00 paper, \$2.00 disk

PN-ACK-931

This report, one of a series of studies from the Equity and Growth through Economic Research Project, examines how improved productivity could help restart and sustain growth and development in Africa. Both the factors that undermine productivity and the opportunities for making major improvements in productivity are discussed. Factors undermining productivity include civil disruption, excessive foreign debt, growing aid dependence, fiscal and monetary mismanagement, lack of accountability, spread of government intervention, decline in investment, the declining quality of labor, lack of regional cooperation, and other influences, particularly the spread of HIV/AIDS. Potential ways to improve productivity are to augment the supply of inputs, particularly capital and labor, and increase output per unit of input through technological upgrading.

The report reaches five main conclusions: 1) Macroeconomic stability and a predictable policy direction are essential to any attempt to sustain improvements in productivity. 2) Productivity improvements cannot persist without the generalized capital accumulation associated with broad-based improvements in health, education, food security, and institutions that sustain social stability. 3) A major stimulus to both productivity and growth in Africa could be achieved relatively rapidly through concentrated efforts to reduce waste and inefficiency. An obvious place to start is a government's own operations. 4) A renewed focus is needed on improving management at all levels. A useful start has been made by liberalizing markets and opening African economies to competition. 5) Major sustained improvements in productivity would occur across Africa if governments began emphasizing the largely untapped agriculture sector.

Foreign and Local Investment in East Africa: Interactions and Policy Implications

Phillips, Lucie C.; Marios Obwona; et al. John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, Boston; Associates for International Resources and Development, BHM International, Inc., USAID/AFR/SD, Washington, DC. EAGER/African Economic Policy Discussion Paper No. 67. December 2000. 33 p. \$3.00 paper, \$2.00 disk

PN-ACK-725

Existing economic literature shows that foreign direct investment (FDI) is a strong impetus to growth in trade, gross domestic product, and social welfare. What is less clear is whether domestic investment, a cheaper and more politically popular option, can play a more important role. This study examines the relationships between foreign and domestic investment in 110 countries, using both annual data and 5-year averages for the period 1970 to 1996. Analysis showed that FDI has a strong impact on domestic investment. To the study team's surprise, in developing countries there was no converse stimulation of foreign investment by spurts in domestic investment.

Three case studies—Mauritius, Uganda, and Kenya—demonstrated the intricacies of investor relations and investment policies on the ground. All three have officially had FDI promotion policies since independence, but these were often not coherent with other policies. Each country has experienced periods when

macro-economic policies and/or ethnic tensions counteracted investment incentives. For instance, the role of Asians as “invisible investors” in Ugandan and Kenyan investment policy is explored.

The study concludes with recommendations for a holistic approach to investment policy. Investment incentives will only pay off once countries overcome their ethnic particularism, and ensure that the fundamentals that attract investors are in place. These fundamentals include access to resources; secure mobility of people, goods, information, and capital; sound governmental, financial, and social institutions; a proactive globalization policy; and alertness to international opportunities and obstacles as they appear. These issues are of such broad scope that investment climate monitoring needs to be conducted at the top levels of both the government and private sectors. Investment promotion centers have little impact until such monitoring is established.

Globalization and the WTO Agreement on Financial Services in African Countries

Isimbabi, Michael J. John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, Boston; Associates for International Resources and Development, BHM International, Inc., USAID/AFR/SD, Washington, DC. EAGER/African Economic Policy Discussion Paper No. 51. December 2000. 36 p. \$3.00 paper, \$2.00 disk
PN-ACK-724

This paper examines how globalization trends are creating a new and complex global economic order. To ensure rapid economic and social progress, African countries must find ways to compete successfully in this emerging global economy and benefit from trends in globalization. Given the limited capacity of African countries, dealing with the challenges of globalization requires bold steps with a strong sense of urgency in order to spur private domestic and foreign investment and build well-functioning financial services sectors that are well-integrated with international financial markets. In particular, policies must be designed to foster equitable economic growth and improvement in the economic conditions of the poor, who constitute the majority of the African population. This requires effective financial services delivery to the private sector in areas that can have a direct impact on

poverty alleviation, such as infrastructure development, the establishment and growth of small- and medium-sized businesses, export trade, microenterprise development, agricultural and rural enterprise development, and housing.

Health

Costing of Community Maternal and Child Health Interventions: A Review of the Literature with Applications for Conducting Cost-Effectiveness Studies and for Advocacy

Waters, Hugh. USAID/AFR/SD, Washington, DC. March 2000. 29 p. \$3.77 paper
PN-ACH-697

This document reviews and presents lessons learned from the formal and informal literature on the costing of community interventions for maternal and child health (MCH) care, with a focus on sub-Saharan Africa, where formal health care coverage is low. An introduction discusses the importance of community-level costing, showing that community interventions are a cost-effective means of reaching otherwise unreachable groups. Next, the report reviews costing methodologies that have been used for MCH in general, identifying three major categories of studies: those using predictive costing; those using actual costing; and those using cost-effective analyses, which can be used for either of the first two types. The report then briefly presents the community component of the integrated management of childhood illnesses (IMCI), including a description of the work in progress on the costing of the community component.



HIV/AIDS in Southern Africa: Background, Projections, Impacts, and Interventions

Futures Group International. USAID/AFR/SD, USAID/G/PHN, Washington, DC. August 2000. 60 p. \$7.80 paper, \$2.00 disk

PN-ACL-049

From the beginning of the HIV/AIDS epidemic through 2000, about 4.4 million persons may have developed AIDS in southern Africa. Currently, about 20 percent of the population aged 15-49 in nine southern African countries—Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia, and Zimbabwe—is infected. This report profiles the current and projected status of HIV/AIDS in the region, details its impacts, and outlines existing and proposed interventions to combat it.

The opening sections present background information on HIV transmission mechanisms; the incubation period for AIDS; sentinel surveillance results and current estimates of HIV for the nine study countries; patterns of HIV infection and of reported AIDS cases, disaggregated by age and sex; knowledge of AIDS and perception of risk; factors affecting the spread of HIV; and the disparate levels of HIV/AIDS infection, ranging from the relatively small number of AIDS cases reported to the large number of those infected by HIV.

The next sections present various HIV/AIDS related projections through the year 2015 and document the demographic impact of AIDS. An examination of the social and economic impacts of AIDS covers the number of maternal orphans as a result of AIDS, the increasingly greater impact of AIDS on women than men, health care costs, the relationship between HIV and tuberculosis, and the impact of HIV/AIDS on education, the micro- and macro-economy, households, agriculture, and businesses. A final section discusses interventions to combat the causes of AIDS, for example, behavior change and voluntary counseling and testing programs, and cites recent reductions in HIV prevalence in Thailand and Uganda as signs of hope.



HIV/AIDS and Nutrition: A Review of the Literature and Recommendations for Nutritional Care and Support in Sub-Saharan Africa

Piwoz, Ellen G.; Elizabeth A. Preble. Commonwealth Regional Health Community Secretariat for East, Central, and Southern Africa; Academy for Educational Development, USAID/AFR/SD, Washington, DC. November 2000. 66 p. \$8.58 paper, \$2.00 disk

PN-ACK-673

This paper discusses the role of nutrition in HIV infection in African settings and describes three overlapping processes that lead to weight loss and wasting in people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA): reductions in food intake, nutrient malabsorption, and metabolic alterations. The paper also explores what is known about the possible effects of key vitamins and minerals on HIV disease progression, mortality, and on mother-to-child transmission.

The paper reviews research indicating that in the early period of HIV infection, weight gain might be achieved, and it addresses the extent to which nutrition counseling and interventions can slow or reverse the process and consequences of weight loss and wasting in PLWHA. It presents examples of a number of nutrition support programs that are being offered to PLWHA in Africa. The paper provides evidence-based, practical nutrition care recommendations for individuals who are asymptomatic or experiencing weight loss, adults with AIDS, and children suffering from HIV and AIDS. Guidelines for developing programs to provide nutritional care and support for PLWHA in Africa are also provided.

Existing data suggest that nutrition interventions to increase energy and protein intakes of people living with HIV may help to build their reserves and reduce their vulnerability to the weight loss and wasting that accompany diarrhea and other opportunistic infections. Improvements in micronutrient intake and status may also help to strengthen the immune system, reduce the adverse consequences of infection-related oxidative stress, and lengthen survival. Both interventions may help people living with HIV to remain relatively healthy, and prolong the interval from initial infection to the development of AIDS and improve the quality of their lives.



The paper also explores the complexities of the competing risks of HIV transmission through breastfeeding and the various risks of replacement feeding. Recent research on HIV and breastfeeding is reviewed, and recommendations for safer breastfeeding are made. It concludes with recommendations for further research in the fields of nutritional management of HIV/AIDS and reduction of the risk of mother-to-child transmission of HIV.

Epidemic Preparedness and Response in Africa: An Epidemiological Block Approach

Academy for Educational Development, World Health Organization Regional Office for Africa, USAID/AFR/SD, Washington, DC. March 2001. 46 p. \$5.98 paper, \$2.00 disk.

Summary report: PN-ACL-396

PN-ACL-449

This report presents the epidemiological block approach used by the World Health Organization Regional Office for Africa (WHO/AFRO) to implement its emerging and other communicable diseases surveillance and control (EMC) programs, and discusses the performance of the epidemiological teams in the West Africa block and Great Lakes block. It discusses the availability and use of data for assessing trends in the incidence, mortality, and occurrence of outbreaks of epidemic-prone diseases, particularly cholera and meningitis.

In their few years of operations, the EMC teams in the West Africa block and the Great Lakes block have provided valuable technical assistance to many countries in emergency preparedness and response (EPR). The program is starting to show some results, including timely detection and notification of outbreaks; regular publication of epidemiological bulletins at the subregional levels; increased availability of vaccines and other supplies for quick response to initial cases; and strengthened laboratory capacity for the confirmation of epidemics.

In the West Africa block, the EMC team trained biologists of national reference laboratories from eight countries. A number of laboratory technicians have subsequently been trained in 10 West African countries. In Uganda, an integrated disease surveillance (IDS) assessment was performed in March 2000, followed by the development of a 5-year plan

of action. The broad involvement of the Ministry of Health and the support of the Great Lakes block EMC team, the Institute of Public Health, the Centers for Disease Control, and WHO made this a landmark event in public health in Uganda. An IDS committee is now in place and 10 districts have already been trained on the improved surveillance system.

At least partially as a result of the EMC program, there is an increasing awareness of the feasibility of better control of epidemic-prone diseases and an increasing demand from member states for technical and financial support for EPR activities. Given the limited resources currently available for the EMC program and the high expectations from member states, WHO/AFRO needs to increase its advocacy, collaboration, and resource mobilization efforts. Recommendations to achieve these objectives are detailed briefly in conclusion.

Cross-Sectoral Linkages

Survival is the First Freedom: Applying Democracy and Governance Approaches to HIV/AIDS Work

Private Agencies Collaborating Together (PACT) AIDS Corps. USAID/Zambia; USAID/Ethiopia; USAID/AFR/SD, Washington, DC. March 2001. 69 p. \$8.97 paper, \$2.00 disk

PN-ACL-456

This toolkit is intended to assist current efforts to scale up responses to HIV/AIDS and increase access to prevention and care services through collaboration with democracy and governance (DG) approaches at individual, community, and national levels. These DG approaches can improve HIV/AIDS prevention and care by generating leadership commitment, improving the information flow about HIV/AIDS, mobilizing community and civil society to support HIV/AIDS programs, promoting respect for human rights of those living with HIV/AIDS, and supporting gender empowerment. Some of the major obstacles identified to applying DG approaches to HIV/AIDS include lack of participation, a weak enabling environment,



inadequate resources, poor coordination of national responses, general insensitivity to the pandemic, and lack of information, particularly in rural communities. The toolkit acknowledges those barriers and offers practical ways of addressing and overcoming them, in part by focusing on areas where HIV/AIDS and DG work naturally complement one another. The toolkit is organized around key DG concepts that have direct application to specific needs in HIV/AIDS programming: 1) democratic principles and practices; 2) rule of law; 3) increased citizens' participation; 4) increased capacity; and 5) enhanced flow of information. Specific tools for relating these DG focus areas to HIV/AIDS work are included at the end of each section. Since these tools emerge directly from field experiences, their effectiveness depends as much on how they are used as on their intrinsic merits.



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