

THE INITIATIVE WEEKLY

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Student teachers taking the pilot Pre-Service Early Grade Reading program at College of Education, Kangere, Bauchi State. Pix: Amina Aminu

Top Stories

32 EMIS Officers Trained on Data Management

The Initiative built capacity of 32 Education Management and Information Systems personnel at local government and state levels from the Ministry of Education, State Agency for Mass Education, State Universal Basic Education Board and Local Government Education Authorities in Bauchi and Sokoto states to use Microsoft excel program for data analysis and management.

The training will support processes in the education sector that require data for planning such as the Annual School Census conducted yearly to inform resource allocation and budgeting.

Civil Society Organizations Identify Out-of-School Children for Education Opportunities

More than 50 Civil Society Organizations were trained by the Initiative to conduct a community mapping exercise identifying out-of-school-children in 20 local government areas of Bauchi and Sokoto states for non-formal education opportunities.

The Initiative trained Lead Program and Monitoring and Evaluation Officers to conduct surveys locating out-of-school-children that could be enrolled in 1,400 Non-Formal Learning Centers in both states.

They also identified marketable locally-oriented trades to offer as vocational skills and primary schools within the communities to mainstream learners in primary four.

The community mapping exercise was conducted with the State Agency for Mass Education and Area Coordinators in the local governments. Data has been collated and is now being analyzed.

For the second round of the Non-Formal Education program, the Initiative will provide education opportunities to 63,000 children. They will learn literacy, numeracy and life skills for nine months before mainstreaming into primary school or continuing with post basic in non-formal education.

The Initiative Monitors Reading Program Implementation

The Initiative embarked on a monitoring exercise of the *Let's Read! Mu Karanta!* program in selected schools in Bauchi state. The activity helped identify areas for strengthening to provide effective school support for teacher professional development in early grade reading.

The Reading team which conducted the exercise observed that teachers have improved in their delivery of Hausa and English lessons across primary grades one to three.

Areas identified by the team for further strengthening include building capacity of head teachers and School Support Officers to support teachers to deliver instruction and encouraging frequent meetings of the Teacher Learning Circles so teachers can share experiences.

College of Education donates laptops to support Pre-Service Reading Course

The College of Education Kangere, Bauchi state has donated four laptops to two teacher educators and two mentor teachers of the college to support the pilot Early Grade Reading Course recently introduced by the National Commission for Colleges of Education and the Initiative.

Teachers were orientated and trained to deliver a thirteen-week course to students in the college exposing them to practical strategies required to teach reading methods and principles in lower primary schools in Bauchi state.

Provost of the College Dr. Garba Ibrahim presented the laptops when the Reading team of the Initiative visited the college to monitor delivery of the Early Grade Reading Course to Year Two students from Primary Education and Languages Departments.

The Provost said the laptops will enable the teachers prepare better for lessons.

The Reading team observed a lesson on oral reading and vocabulary and also visited a new classroom assigned for the program. The class is designed to encourage interaction amongst students.

Other Highlights

- Trained 25 enumerators to collect data for the rolling Community Education and Conflict Assessment in Bauchi state.
- Conducted internal preparation for Data Quality Assurance in Bauchi and Sokoto states.
- Developed framework for Project Year Three work plan for Bauchi and Sokoto states and central level support.
- Concluded technical review of proposals to air media campaigns on radio stations in Bauchi and Sokoto states.

Upcoming Activities

- Year Three Work Plan workshops from July-August, 2017
- Data Quality Assessment, Bauchi State from August 7-11, 2017

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Regards from,

Northern Education Initiative Plus

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Fun Fact

Although GPS is free for the entire world to use, its operating cost alone is \$2 million a day.