

MANAGING BASIC EDUCATION

No. 1 - July 2003

What is the MBE Program?

The Managing Basic Education (MBE) Program is a new program supported by USAID. The program is intended to build capacity at district level to manage Basic Education. USAID has been given assistance for several years in the area of local government through projects such as PERFORM, BIGG and CLEAN.

Why Basic Education?

Basic Education was chosen as the focus of this program as it is the largest sector managed by local government. Additionally education is the key to social and economic development both now and for the future.

Which areas are receiving support?

The target districts for the program have been chosen from those districts working within the PERFORM project which have already shown a willingness to innovate, a desire to progress and an openness to change in managing Basic Education. The districts were all visited by the MBE consultants as part of the selection process.



ORIENTATION WORKSHOP

Representatives of each district took part in an orientation workshop for the MBE program, which took place from 11 – 13 June 2003 at the Grand Bromo Hotel in Probolinggo, East Java. Participants of the workshop from the districts included members of local parliaments and the local education council, local government staff from the local education, religious affairs and finance offices, principals of primary and secondary schools and non-government representatives from school committees, school foundations and NGOs. Representatives of the Provincial Education Departments from East and Central Java and from Central Government also joined the proceedings.

The activities of the workshop included: making an inventory of issues faced by each district, recording ways in which districts are attempting to tackle these issues and discussions about tackling school level issues by introducing School Based Management (SBM), developing Community Participation and implementing improved Teaching and Learning.

One of the most interesting activities for the participants was a visit to a number of schools in Probolinggo district. Several of the schools which have already received assistance through the Creating Learning Communities for Children (CLCC) program (UNESCO-UNICEF) showed a great deal of worthwhile change and innovation.

Some of the innovations are described on the following pages.

What will the program do?

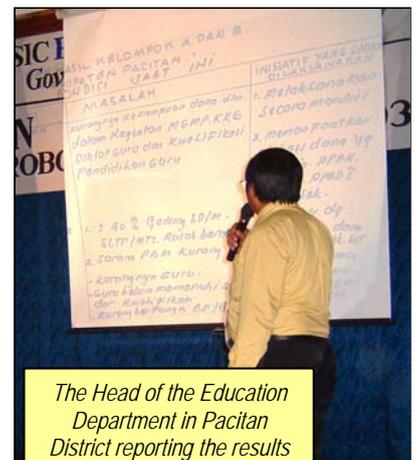
The program will support the management of education at district level, especially in the areas of management of finance, personnel (especially teachers) and facilities. The program will also directly assist 20 primary and junior secondary schools in each district to implement School Based Management (SBM), develop Community Participation and implement improved Teaching and Learning using Active, Joyful and Effective Learning.

What activities will take place:

Planned activities include:

- Study visits to other areas, where innovation is taking place;
- School mapping, data collection and planning;
- Training workshops at district and school and community levels;
- On-the-job training and assistance by consultants

Workshop participants making an inventory of issues faced in their district



The Head of the Education Department in Pacitan District reporting the results of a group discussion

Who is assisting the MBE Program?

MBE program will be supported by a team of national as well as international Consultants. These consultants are well experienced in education. The team is led by Stuart Weston from England. He is an ex teacher and principal of a primary school in England, but has been working in Indonesia for more than 12 years in the area of basic education. The program has a coordinator in each province namely Mr Yuniaso Adi in Central Java, Mr Abdurachman As'ari East Java. They will be assisted by district coordinators who will be posted at Kantor Dinas Pendidikan (District Education Office) in each district.



Our Consultants:

In the back row: Abdur Rachman As'ari Coordinator for East Java), Mohamad Najid (School Based Management), Wahjudi S (Teacher Training) Stuart Weston (Chief of Party)Yuniarso Adi (Coordinator of Central Java), Steven Dunn (Education Finance)

Front row: Neneng Widiastuti (Facilities Management) Vina Serevina (Education Management) Ninasapti Triaswati (Education Finance), Dewi Listyowati (Office Manager)).

Field Visit

On this page and next page we set out some examples of innovations found in Probolinggo District during our field visit.

Active Creative and Transparent

The key is developing Community Participation in Education

It is very interesting to listen to some of examples of community participation in education, which have been developed. The experiences from Probolinggo described here are intended to support the creativity of the community in assisting the world of education in various ways including funds, manpower as well as other non-materials ways.

Education Voucher (coupon)

Other interesting idea from Sukapura Sub District is developing education vouchers. From every transaction of cattle (Ternak) in the village, the farmer are expected to set aside some of their earnings to buy a coupon that cost from Rp500 – Rp 1.000 each, The funds raised are given to a primary school in the village to improve the quality of education.

“Peeping” Teacher

It started when many of the pupils' mums were waiting for their sons and daughters outside the class and now and then peeping inside at what was going on in Primary School Kedung Dalam I and II in Probolinggo District. The teachers of these schools finally opened the door and asked the mothers to come into the school and help with student activities in the class. There are various activities carried out by the mothers, from health activities such as measuring the students weight and height to helping the teacher in the teaching learning process.

At Primary School Maron Wetan I, teaching learning activities are supported by the parents by developing learning materials and teaching groups. One activity we saw was a mother helping grade 1 children make a simple Indonesian dictionary of words they knew.



The mothers helping in the class of Primary School Kedung Dalam 1. It is reported that the children learned to read faster if helped by the parent.

Active, Creative, and Transparant

The activities above describes different kinds of the community activity in helping the school actively and creatively. Certainly, the success cannot be achieved without transparent in financing. In the school visited the local community know how much funds the school receives and how they use it. School finance report, income as well expenditures are displayed openly for all to see at school entrance. That is why the community is happy to help the school. ... Come on who else will do the same?

Maron Sub-District, Probolinggo.

The atmosphere in Primary School Maronwetan I and II is impressive. In all the classes children's work is displayed. The quality of students work is very good, so good that Steve Dunn, our consultant from USA was worried that the school of his own son starting school in the US might be losing out! - His school might not be as good as what he saw in Maron)



Teacher of grade 1 Mrs Wiwit, one of the teachers who has driven the development of Primary School Maronwetan I has an enjoyable class. This *imagination theater* is used so that children can do role-play to develop imagination, self confidence, and language skills. She is also a pioneer for getting parents to help in her class.

1000	1. Perang KRM	800.000
	2. ATK dan Sarana KRM	400.000
	3. Pemeliharaan Sarana	400.000
	4. Promosi dan Olahraga	700.000
		440.000
100	1. Honor guru kelas	1.000.000
	2. Honor guru KRM	800.000
	3. Pemeliharaan Sarana	500.000
	4. Mutasi guru	500.000
	5. DAKOT	500.000
	6. Transportasi rapat	500.000
	7. Asuransi rapal dengan wali murid (PP), Dewaguru dll	500.000
	8. Listrik dan Pan	250.000
	9. PRM / PBM	250.000
	10. Pesejahteraan guru	3.000.000
		4.100.000
	1. Per UUS UAS Perpisahan dan pentas seni	1.800.000
	2. Honorarium KRM	500.000
	3. Administrasi Kantor	400.000
	4. Kegiatan Sosial	400.000
		4.200.000
	Kepentingan kelas	420.000
	1. Biaya pengadaan naskah UAS	400.000
	2. Biaya panitia, Pengawas dan konsultasi	320.000
		20.230.000

RAPBS (School Budget Plan) is displayed in the principal's office. The budget plan include all the fund resources, from state funds, the school committee, community , as well as donors and all school expenditure. The transparency makes the parent more willing to help the school.



Primary school Maronwetan is located in a village. However, the children could communicate in English with our international consultants Mr Stuart and Stephen Dunn.

School Based Management is Bananas!

To help raising the school funds, the local community of Primary School Ngepung planted banana trees. Later on a sale was held in the school yard to sell the banana by auction. The event was attended by the head of the Probolinggo District, the district staff, and the community in general. The auction raised Rp 14,5 million (over \$1,700), The fund raised was used for purchasing 5 computers for the students.

When Banana Cares for Education

The crowd were in the school yard. The organizing committee were busy with various activities. Important guests were coming, Head of District Office of Education, business and industrial representatives, and various community components who care for education. The program started. 8 bunches of bananas were brought on to the stage, and offered to the audience. One small student with simple and touching language offered the bananas to the audience:

"Will you please buy our bananas?"

"How much ?"

" Six million sir! We sell these bananas to reconstruct our school which is deteriorating".

"What about one million for each bunch?"

" We get no profit. Our school needs a lot of money"

"What if we offer you 4 million?"

"No way sir, If you pay six and a half million, we are happy sir"

Those was a little dialogue happened at the school yard. The eight bunches of bananas finally were sold for millions of rupiahs. The money is spent for purchasing computers for the students.

This is an interesting event proves the community cares for education. There are many ways to solve our problems if everyone cares. Don't forget our children!



Children at Sukapura planting and looking after flowers to be sold to help the school

WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS AT PROBOLINGGO



BANYUWANGI



PACITAN



PATI



PROBOLINGGO



BATANG

News from the districts

The plan is to issue "Suara MBE" (The Voice of MBE) every two or three months. We want to use it to tell about and disseminate innovations from the districts. We expected contribution from the districts on innovative activities in basic education. News can be sent by e-mail and fax, or submitted directly to our consultants.

Upcoming activities

- ❑ We are developing an MOU with each district as the basis for our activities. The MOU document will be signed by the local governments and RTI
- ❑ At the beginning of July our consultants will visit each district to find out basic education conditions and help selecting project schools for school based management (SBM)
- ❑ As the next step we will hold training for trainers in SBM , followed by training for teachers, head teachers, school committee, and local community of the schools.
- ❑ We will also hold a workshop for managers and other stakeholders at district level on education management, including data collection, analysis and planning.

Pay a visit to our office

If you are in Jakarta, we welcome you at our office with the following address:

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