

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

PRESS RELEASE

(Issued under Article 35 (3) of the Constitution)

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NAIROBI JUNE 29 2015

The Government in conjunction with Global Partnerships of Education (GPE), is poised to spend some of USD **88.4million** to improve the teaching and learning of Mathematics 6 million pupils in class 1 and 2 from January next year.

The envisaged investments, which will be made under the auspices of the Primary Education Development Project (PRIEDE), will also be used to strengthen the management system at school and national levels.

This was contained in remarks the Cabinet Secretary for Education, Prof. Jacob Kaimenyi made during the inaugural meeting of the PRIEDE steering Committee at his Jogoo House offices today. Present during the launch included the Principal Secretaries in the Ministry— Dr. Belio Kipsang, State Department of Education and his Counterpart in the state Department of Science and Technology and a Senior Education Specialist at the World Bank-Kenya, Dr. Nalina Jena.

Mr. Kaimenyi said the project will address some of the challenges, it was sad that a significant number of children in class seven or eight could not read or solve maths problems in class two.

“It was imperative that we ensure children acquire the competencies and skills they need at every stage of their educational progress,” Prof. Kaimenyi noted.

The Chairperson of Education Development Partners Donor Group in Kenya, Sandra Barton said the PRIEDE was unique in scale and scope and also ambitious.

“It will turn round the hope of education, of learning for millions of children if well implemented,” Sandra Barton who is also the head of Department for International Development (DFID)/Kenya noted.

Prof. Kaimenyi said the project target 6 million pupils in grade 1 and 2 who will benefit from improved early grade mathematics textbooks.

Other beneficiaries will, according to CS be 40,000 teachers who will benefit from new methodologies of early grade mathematics instruction through improved in-service training and regular pedagogical supervision and support; 1.3 million pupils in participating schools who will benefit from more effective and present teachers as well as improved teaching-learning inputs.

The CS also said Head teachers and Boards of Management (BoMs) who will receive guidance and support in school improvement planning and be empowered to implement plans to improve their school performance while parents and Communities whose aspirations will be met through greater information and enhanced responsibility in school management for improving

Also present during the occasion included the Secretary/CEO, Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development (KICD), Dr. Jwan Otieno, Secretary/CEO Kenya National Examinations Council (KNEC), and Dr. Joseph Kivilu among other senior Ministry of Education officials.

The GPE is a product of the 2000 Dakar framework of action when the international community declared that 'no country with a credible sector plan will be thwarted from achieving the Education For All goals by lack of resource'. Since 2002, The GPE has been helping developing country partners develop and implement sound education sector plans.

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