

# Experiences in Quality Education

PROGRAM FOR EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT OF EQUATORIAL GUINEA



República de Guinea Ecuatorial  
Ministerio de Educación, Ciencia y Deportes

prOdege



*“The lack of accurate educational statistics is one of the sicknesses of our educational system. PRODEGE brings hope to finding a cure for this illness”.*

*Secretary General of MECD*

## **Institutional Strengthening Team Created to Improve the Quality of Education Information in Equatorial Guinea**

PRODEGE's Introductory Workshop for Institutional Strengthening was held in Malabo in June 2007. The Secretary General of the MECD inaugurated the workshop and spoke about PRODEGE as a force that the government of Equatorial Guinea had created to improve education in the country. He noted that PRODEGE is a national program of vital relevance to achieve educational development in the country. The Director General of Planning outlined the following topics:

- PRODEGE's Action Plan and its three fundamental pillars;
- The role of the institutional strengthening component of PRODEGE and its place within the planning

division and the education program of the MECD; and

- The institutional strengthening component's relation to the vision of education reform.



The education information systems specialist presented the relation between statistics and educational politics, in interrelated and interdependent phases; the practical use of working with an education statistics system, showing the use of the automated census application for primary education; and the international conceptual evidence to support school mapping activities. The specialist explained the initial stage with the 40 active schools and also the objectives and methodological concepts of this stage.

*“Institutional strengthening is one of the three pillars of PRODEGE. Today is a special day because with this introductory workshop, we are beginning the work of the institutional strengthening team, which was born from the womb of our education planning division.”*

*Director General of Planning of MECD*

The participants had the opportunity to do exercises in planning, executing, and evaluating fieldwork activities. They also engaged in discussions about how to initiate direct communication with local authorities to get to know local education communities, their population, and context. Participants were trained in interview tactics and observation exercises, as well in the use and analysis of the global positioning system (GPS).

The participants identified the following lessons learned from the workshop:

- Realizing the importance of our work for PRODEGE and above all for the educational development of our country;
- Familiarizing ourselves with the theoretical, technical, and political relationship between statistics and educational politics;
- Learning and developing competencies as interviewers, and technical and observational investigators;
- Learning how easy it is to use GPS;
- Realizing how useful it is to keep a fieldwork diary in order to contextualize the information;
- Appreciating the usefulness of



- combining theory and practice, in particular the focus of our training, in which we “learned by doing”. This strengthened our technical capacity in statistical and education policy; and
- Above all, learning that our work, if done well, will benefit thousands of our children in Equatorial Guinea.

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