



With the support of European Commission

SCB
Programme

INFORMATION AND MONITORING SHEET
FOR STATISTICAL CAPACITY BUILDING
IN EDUCATION
2003-2005

HONDURAS

I. Structure of the Education System in Honduras

ISCED Level	Name	Ministry Responsible	No. of Schools (2004)
Pre-school (0)	Educación Pre-básica	Ministry of Education	n.a.
Primary (1)	Educación Básica (Grados 1 -6)		n.a.
Lower secondary (2A)	Educación Básica (Grados 7-9) including EDUCATODOS		n.a.
Lower secondary vocational (2C)	Formación de Oficios (INFOP, Academias)		n.a.
Upper Secondary (3A general)	Educación media (académica)		n.a.
Upper Secondary (3A vocational)	Educación media (técnica)		n.a.
Upper secondary vocational (3C)	Cursos técnicos (INFOP, CADERH)		n.a.
Tertiary, first stage (5)	- Técnico universitario. (5A first cert, short) - Bachiller Universitario. (5A first cert, long) - Licenciatura. (5A second cert) - Maestría. (5A further cert)	National University	8
Tertiary, second stage (6)	Doctorado		8

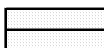
II. Summary of the results of the Diagnostic Study (June 2004)

Educational Level or Sector	Data collection		Data entry and processing		Publication of reports	Analysis		Dissemination		Financing of the statistical process
	Collection instruments	Organisation	Tools and technical support	Organisation		Analytical tools	Capacity for Analysis	Dissemination tools	Organisation	
Pre-school										
Primary										
Lower Secondary										
Upper secondary										
Higher education										

Good
Fairly good
Acceptable



Lacking
Non-existent



III. Progress in the 2003-2005 Action Plan

Ministry of Education initiatives in this field started in 2002, lacking a clear action plan and with substantially poor results. The Ministry of Education, mostly relying on external sources (i.e. donors) has invested a significant amount of resources in hardware, software and consultancy services; nevertheless, this has not paid attention to the major strengths (i.e. regular collection of data at a local level largely based upon administrative registers) and weaknesses (mainly institutional and professional) of the information system. The relation efforts-results are seen by national authorities as a regretful situation and this has recently led to pay more attention to central issues like strengthening the statistical team at the Ministry HQ and its relation within the general framework of planning activities.

IV. Progress made since the beginning of the partnership with the UIS

UIS established a first link in September 2002 when an exploratory mission was carried out together with the UNESCO Regional Bureau for Education. In 2003 a decision was made concerning inviting Honduras to participate in the SCB project and they agreed on that at the end of that year.

A first mission was carried out in December 2003 to establish formal links and define a preliminary set of actions aimed at developing a diagnosis. The diagnosis mission was carried out in May 2004 and a draft report was sent to the Ministry the following month. Simultaneously, a working relationship was established with the Statistics Unit at the MoE.

The political situation in Honduras became particularly hectic and eventually led to the Minister of Education resignation in September 2003. Given the involvement of the designated national focal point in the political process and the increasing evidence that previous efforts related to information did not yield significant results, this focal point did not allocate time to review the draft diagnosis report or to discuss any possible next steps creating, in spite of several efforts from our side, a communication breakdown for several months including suspending the training session for the statistical team (originally foreseen to take place by July 2004 and funded by the MoE). However, regular e-mail contact with the statistical unit was sustained, allowing for the provision of continuous technical advice mainly in relation to defining a basic set of indicators and tables to be reported once data coming from the School Census 2003 and 2004 become available.

A new Minister was appointed and this led to several weeks of uncertainty, since one of his first decisions involved readjusting the whole internal structure to the enacted legal regulations concerning this. The Statistical Unit was, therefore, relocated within the realm of the Planning Division and a new head of this latter division was appointed in January 2005.

This appointment allowed for resuming the formal communication and this person became the new focal point for the project. After an unfortunately long sick leave period, the diagnosis report was finally discussed and a final version was produced. It also allowed for resuming high-level contacts and started planning a more substantial action.

In August 2005 a new mission was carried out. The major outcomes of this mission were: establish the guidelines for a short-term work plan (a new government will be in office by the end of January 2006 and, therefore, major longer term issues will need to be revisited then) aimed at achieving two major results: consolidate the information produced in 2002-2005 and have, finally, official consistent figures; and create a solid information system design to be implemented next year largely based upon local education authorities and the key strengths already identified at that level. At the same time, the statistical unit at the MoE will lead the whole process in a way that would allow them to “learn by doing”.

V. Products

N°	Type of Product	Date
1	Diagnosis report	August 2005
2	Short term work plan	September 2005
3	Consolidation of available information 2002-2005	January 2006
4	Information system design	January 2006

VI. Workplan 2004-05

Activities Planned

- Diagnosis mission and report - Training workshop for the statistical unit - Continuous advice to the statistical unit

Results

- Diagnosis mission carried out in May 2004. Draft diagnosis report submitted in June 2004 and finished in August 2005 - Training workshop for the statistical unit. Suspended. - Continuous advice to the statistical unit. Started in May 2004 and sustained.

VII. Workplan 2005-06

Activities Planned

- Gathering of available information, critical review and consolidation of official figures.
- Design of the information system
- Implementation of the information system

Results Anticipated

- Official figures for the education system (2003-2005) published by January 2006
- A robust design of the information system to be submitted to new authorities at the end of January 2006
- Information system implemented by July 2006
- Statistical unit trained in the whole process and able to sustain, improve and lead the statistical process in a continuous manner.