

Ho! ManaBU Project Newsletter

Project on Improving Access to Quality Primary Education by Community Participation

No.3 <May 2010>

Project Purpose

School management is improved in the target area through collaboration between educational administration (WEOs, CRCs, schools) and community

Project Period

September 2008 ~ September 2012

Project Outputs

- 1. The capacity in monitoring and reporting of school management is strengthened at the woreda and cluster levels
- 2. Community members, head teachers, teachers and CRC supervisors have a deeper understanding about "Making our school better" through cluster-based activities
- 3. The knowledge and experiences acquired from the activities and outputs 1 and 2 are widely shared and utilised among education administrators at the various levels

Target Area

West Showa, North Showa, South West Showa, Jimmma, Illbabor, Horo Guduru Wellaga, East Wellaga,

West Wellaga, Kellem Wellaga, Arsi, East Showa, West Arsi and West Hararge in Oromia Region • 43 WEOs • 11 STEOs • 104 CRCs Target Area



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Ho! ManaBU is a technical cooperation project between Oromia Education Bureau (OEB) and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). The project aims to improve school management through collaboration among school, community members, Cluster Resource Centre (CRC) and local educational administrations.

"Ho!" is nicknamed after Hoggansa (an Oromo expression of "management"), while "ManaBU" stands for Mana Barnoota Ummataa (an Oromo expression of "community-based school"). "Manabu" also means "to learn" in Japanese.





Akkam Jirtu! Hello, everyone! Ho! ManaBU newsletter No 3 provides you with the update on our activities from March to April 2010.

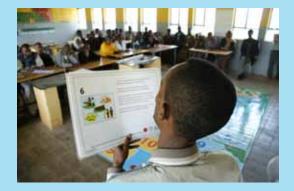
Monitoring of Ho! ManaBU Training at cluster level (March – April 2010)

During March and April 2010, the Project team visited the pilot CRCs in Arsi, East and North Showa, West Hararge and Wellega zones. We are pleased to learn that these CRCs play an active role in implementing Ho! ManaBU Training.

Some of the CRCs have implemented more than 2 rounds of each Training. Amba24 in Abe Dongoro woreda, Horo Guduru Wellega has implemented Ho! ManaBU Training 15 times by mid-April. After the Trainings, the CRCs have taken various actions to reduce drop-out, to promote girls' education and school improvement programme (SIP). Among good practices are the increase in the attendance



rate of weekly tutorial class for girls, the increase of library users, starting a morning reading programme, opening a tea club for teachers and local community to generate income to support Orphan and Vulnerable Children (OVCs) and so on. Let us congratulate all these CRCs on their progress and achievements. Keep up the good work!



Girls' education in special towns

Girls' participation in education in Oromia region has been greatly improved over the last several years. In particular, development in many special towns is truly impressive. As a part of our monitoring activity, the Project team interviewed educators in special towns to find out how girls' education has been developing in their areas.

So why is girls' participation so successful in special towns?

- A: There have been a lot of activities done, 'Don't let girls stay home' campaign was launched Sector during Education Development Programme II (2000/01-2004/05) and an extensive sensitisation towards community was carried out. Posting female teachers at lower grades and assigning females to management position as role model are another strategies. Many new schools have been constructed under 'one school for one kebele' policy. Teachers visit parents to encourage them to send their daughters. A combination of these activities helps community to gain a deeper understanding about the importance of girls' education and more and more families have started sending their daughters to school consequently.
- B: The recent increase in kindergartens in special towns is another factor. Many girls go to kindergarten so that they will get ready for schooling. Some parents in a rural area also send their daughters to urban school, for fear of abduction or early marriage in local areas.

Is girls' education necessary?

- C: Yes, females have potential, and at the same time responsibility for society. They also need to boost their confidence through education. Educating females actually educates society.
- D: Girls' education has not been accomplished overnight. After all, it is the results of joint efforts of the governments, schools and community members. We need to continue our collaboration.

Girls' education is one of the key issues on which Ho! ManaBU is working along with drop-out and school improvement, and the comments above are useful inputs to our project activities. Through the reports from your school and WEO/STEO, the Project team is keen to learn how schools in your area are working to improve girls' education.

The first-ever Afaan Oromo PC manual

Gelana has come back! Gelana is a visual expert who had developed the Interactive Training Package (ITP) last year. Since he arrived in Ethiopia at the end of March, Gelana has wasted no time in revising ITP Year One and developing various materials for the second year activities of Ho! ManaBU Project. One of the materials he works on is a computer manual. The manual provides basic instructions on how to work on computer, how to make documents and tables by using Microsoft Word and Excel Programmes. The great news for Afaan Oromo speakers is that the manual is prepared in a printed hard copy as well as video in Afaan Oromo!



The manual will be distributed with a set of a computer, printer and generator to 104 Ho! ManaBU pilot CRCs in Oromia region. Computer is indispensable at school work nowadays and the Project hopes Ho! ManaBU computer will be made good use. Needless to say, we look forward to reading the quality reports produced with the Ho! ManaBU computer!

