

Appealing Agency:	UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND
Project Title:	Basic Education
Project Code:	DPRK-04/E01
Sector:	Education
Themes:	Education, Children / Youth, Rights of the Child
Objective:	Improve and sustain the quality of the learning environment for primary school and kindergarten pupils with a focus on the most disadvantaged, identified based on the best available information
Supporting CAP Objective:	Education Sector: Operational Objectives One to Four
Targeted Beneficiaries: (total # & description)	645,000 girls/boys in primary schools and kindergartens in the more vulnerable east-northeast of the country. 5,000 children in branch schools and children's homes in all provinces
Implementing Partners:	Ministry of Education / Provincial and County authorities
Project Duration:	January – December 2004
Funds Requested:	US\$ 924,000

Summary

Project Outputs:

- 650,000 primary and pre-school year kindergarten school children receive textbooks (8 and 3 books respectively).
- 650,000 schoolchildren in the same schools, kindergartens and children's homes receive a set of essential basic school materials (pencils, eraser, ruler, note-books).
- National EFA plan finalised and adopted (UNICEF-UNESCO).
- Two studies completed - in textbook production and in learning achievement.
- 200 primary school teachers trained in new teaching methods and student learning assessment.
- Education annual report on key education indicators prepared (in collaboration with UNESCO).

Project Description:

The overall aim of the project is to improve the quality of the learning environment for primary and kindergarten school children with a focus on the most disadvantaged, identified on the basis of the best available information. UNICEF is currently the only resident agency providing support to basic education.

Since the onset of the emergency, UNICEF has supported the provision of school materials and textbooks, teacher training and education video production. Unfortunately, low funding frequently prevented full implementation of all planned activities. In 2003, the onset of SARS in the region delayed a number of planned in-country consultancies, trainings and studies on key aspects of education quality. It is anticipated that these will be completed in early 2004.

The project aims to:

- increase the availability of basic learning materials – textbooks and writing materials. Specifically, the project will target the 1,894 primary schools (out of the total of around 4,886 primary schools countrywide) and 5,128 kindergartens (out of 14,000 kindergartens countrywide) in the four most vulnerable northeast provinces, as well 200 remote branch schools and 26 children's homes in all provinces.
- increase the capacity of the MoE to be able to prepare its long-term education sector development plan. This will be through the provision of technical assistance in education with a focus on improving the quality of education.

Monitoring and Evaluation:

Regular joint field visits will be carried out by UNICEF project staff and line-Ministry project managers to monitor the end-use of supplies and equipment and to discuss general progress in implementation. Formal mid-year and end-year reviews of project progress, including compilation of indicator data, will be held.

Prioritisation according to project funding levels

25% funded	50% funded	75% funded	100% funded
Basic school materials for 300,000 children	Basic school materials for 350,000 additional children	Textbooks for an additional 300,000 children	Textbooks for an additional 150,000 children.
Field monitoring	Textbooks for 200,000 children		
Textbook study			
Learning assessment study			

Financial Summary	
Budget Items	US\$
Textbooks and basic school materials for 650,000 children in 1,894 priority disadvantaged schools	
Provision of printing paper (683 MTs) for 4.1 million textbooks	460,000
Provision of basic school materials: 5.9 million pencils, 0.65 million rulers, 1.7 million erasers Notebooks – made from scrap paper from textbook printing at no cost	285,000
EFA national seminar	*
Learning assessment study	*
Textbook printing study	30,000
Training in new teaching methods and learning assessments	*
Education information annual report	*
Project monitoring, planning and evaluation	
Field monitoring and evaluation	10,000
Project support (international / national)	40,000
Sub-total	825,000
Cost recovery at 12% (see footnote)	99,000
Total	924,000

(* Denotes regular programme funding)

Note: Actual recovery rate on individual contributions will be calculated in accordance with Executive Board decision 2003/9 of 5 June 2003.