

**Webinaire #1**  
**Une analyse des pratiques de pilotage de la qualité  
de l'éducation : démarche et constats**

 **20 juin 2023**  
14h00-15h30 GMT



## Opening address by the Director of IIEP-UNESCO

Ladies, Gentlemen, Dear Partners,

Yours respectfully



The IIEP is very honored by your overwhelming presence at this first webinar presenting the results of our quality management support program. It bears witness not only to your confidence in the Institute, but also to the importance of the crucial issue of improving the quality of student learning in Africa.

Indeed, available reports tell us that 70% of 10-year-olds cannot read a simple text. Some education ministers claim that there are children in their education system at the end of primary school who cannot write their names. So there is a crisis or poverty of learning that concerns us all. All the more so since, over the past 20 years, countries have made major efforts - often with the support of all of us here today, technical and financial partners - to improve basic learning.

The current crisis is prompting us to question the quality management practices of all those involved in education, and to identify what more can be done, while ensuring that it will bring better results.

In 2018, the French Development Agency (AFD) and UNESCO's International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP-UNESCO) launched the Programme d'appui au pilotage de la qualité de l'éducation (Education Quality Steering Support Program) in an attempt to address this issue. Since then, this Program has been conducted in 8 sub-Saharan African countries (Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Madagascar, Niger, Senegal and Togo). Based on an analysis of education quality management practices at all levels of these 8 education systems, the aim was to identify priority areas of intervention with relevant actions to improve education quality.

The approach adopted by this Program is innovative in that the analyses are carried out by Ministry of Education executives themselves, with the support of the IIEP. For several months, they visited all levels of the education system (local, decentralized, central) to study the extent to which quality management practices are relevant, coherent and geared towards achieving quality education. Similarly, it was the players in the education system who participated in the development and testing of solutions to the problems arising from the analyses.

Faithful to its mandate to strengthen the capacities of the players involved, the UNESCO-IIEP has reinforced the capacities of around a hundred executives from ministries of education in the program's approach, combining theoretical training with immediate practical application

of the notions acquired. This approach has been so appreciated by national players that it has inspired the IIEP-UNESCO to develop training modules on steering the quality of education with national education training institutes in three countries (Burundi, Senegal, Togo).

After 5 years of program implementation, we are delighted to share our achievements and results with you. Several sharing sessions have already taken place with national stakeholders throughout the Program's implementation. This series of four webinars is specifically aimed at technical and financial partners, because the results identify priority areas of intervention that are complementary and call for concerted responses. It is therefore a good opportunity to gain a better understanding of the issues that hinder the effectiveness of education actions, and to envisage synergies for more comprehensive, relevant and effective interventions.

I would like to reiterate my thanks to the Agence Française de Développement for its support, and to all the IIEP-UNESCO partners. I would also like to thank the Ministries of Education of the 8 countries that took part in the program. As pioneers, their work not only produces public goods that can be used by other countries, but also provides elements that will enable the IIEP-UNESCO to draw up an action plan for the effective implementation of its strategy for Africa, a strategy in which improving the quality of education plays an important role.

Hoping that these webinars will lead to more fruitful collaborations between our institutions represented here, I once again welcome you to this webinar and wish you a good working session.

Martín Benavides