

For information

Panel on Education

**School-based Professional Support Programmes
Financed by the Education Development Fund**

Purpose

This paper reports the progress of the School-based Professional Support (SBPS) Programmes financed by the Education Development Fund (EDF) in the 2013/14 school year (s.y.).

Background

2. In July 2004, the Finance Committee (FC) of the Legislative Council approved the setting up of the EDF with a grant of \$550 million to provide diversified school-based professional support (SBPS) to build up schools' capacity to take forward the education reform measures. Since its inception, the EDF has been supporting schools and teachers by way of the following five strands of the SBPS Programmes, namely:

- (i) Principal Support Network;
- (ii) School Support Partners (Seconded Teacher) Scheme;
- (iii) Professional Development Schools Scheme;
- (iv) University-School Support Programmes; and
- (v) Collegial Participation in External School Review.

In January 2012, the FC approved the injection of a sum of \$550 million into the EDF to continue providing support to the school sector for five years from the 2012/13 s.y. up to 2016/17 s.y., for making necessary adjustments arising from education reform initiatives through the SBPS Programmes.

3. The Advisory Committee on the Education Development Fund which comprises frontline teachers, principals, academics and community members has been set up since August 2004 to advise on the operation of the Fund and the implementation of the SBPS Programmes. A cross-divisional working group within the Education Bureau (EDB) has been set up to oversee and monitor the delivery of the Programmes on a regular basis.

4. EDB's annual report on the progress of the implementation of the SBPS

Programmes for the 2012/13 school year was submitted, vide Information Paper No. CB(4)350/13-14(01), in February 2014.

Progress Update

5. The school sector's demand for support services has remained high over the years. In the past ten years, the EDF has allocated a total of about \$671 million for some 5,863 school support services. In the 2013/14 s.y., about 39% of secondary schools, 46% of primary schools, 30% of special schools and 14% of kindergartens benefitted from different SBPS programmes. The numbers of schools supported since the 2004/05 s.y. can be found in Annex I. A brief account of the support programmes provided to schools under the five strands in the 2013/14 s.y. is at Annex II.

6. As at August 2014, the Fund has a balance of some \$513 million. The SBPS Programmes expenditure and cash balance of the EDF at the end of each s.y. can be found in Annex III.

Advice Sought

7. Members are invited to note the progress of the SBPS Programmes.

Education Bureau
January 2015

Number of schools supported by the SBPS Programmes financed by EDF

	2004/05 School Year			2005/06 School Year			2006/07 School Year			2007/08 School Year				2008/09 School Year				2009/10 School Year				2010/11 School Year			
	Sec	Pri	Sp	Sec	Pri	Sp	Sec	Pri	Sp	Sec	Pri	Sp	KG*	Sec	Pri	Sp	KG*	Sec	Pri	Sp	KG*	Sec	Pri	Sp	KG*
Number of participating schools & its % share in respect of the respective school types	165 (35.7%)	108 (16.3%)	10 (16.1%)	228 (48.6%)	216 (35.2%)	20 (32.3%)	218 (46.1%)	246 (43.9%)	21 (34.4%)	170 (36.2%)	220 (41.0%)	15 (25.0%)	48 (4.9%)	170 (36.5%)	196 (38.1%)	14 (23.3%)	87 (8.7%)	204 (44.1%)	204 (41.4%)	19 (31.7%)	98 (10.2%)	168 (36.2%)	195 (40.4%)	31 (51.7%)	111 (11.7%)
Total	283			464			485			453				467				525				505			

	2011/12 School Year				2012/13 School Year				2013/14 School Year			
	Sec	Pri	Sp	KG*	Sec	Pri	Sp	KG*	Sec	Pri	Sp	KG*
Number of participating schools & its % share in respect of the respective school types	185 (38.7%)	222 (47.9%)	26 (43.3%)	76 (7.9%)	214 (46.3%)	220 (45.5%)	14 (23.3%)	132 (14.1%)	181 (39.3%)	221 (46.2%)	18 (30%)	129 (13.6%)
Total	509				580				549			

*KG stands for kindergartens and kindergarten-cum-child care centres

Progress of Implementation of the School-based Professional Support Programmes in the 2013/14 school year

I. Principal Support Network (PSN)

Strategy	Secondment of experienced principals or recruitment of retired principals to provide collegial support to partner principals, and formation of network clusters to facilitate interactive professional sharing among principals with a view to enhancing their leadership skills through various modes of professional exchange activities.
Progress of Implementation (2013/14)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Under the Collegial Principal Support Network, six experienced retired principals were invited to conduct a series of six talks entitled “Road to success of Principals” from January to June 2014 to share their practical experiences as school leaders. ➤ To foster leadership of the middle managers, a total of 12 thematic sessions under the Middle Managers Learning Community (MMLC) were organised for vice-principals and senior teachers of secondary schools in four districts, including Tsuen-Kwai-Ching, Tuen Mun, Tai Po and the North District in the 2013/14 s.y. to enhance their knowledge and skills in school administration and development. These thematic sessions included developing students’ multiple intelligences, professional growth of middle management and professional leadership. ➤ Each session of the MMLC consisted of theoretical input, experience sharing along with authentic case studies.
No. of Beneficiaries	About 760 principals, vice-principals and senior teachers of secondary, primary and special schools participated in the above support activities under the PSN.
Accumulated Expenditure (from 2004/05 to 2013/14)	About \$10 million ^{Note}

II. School Support Partners (Seconded Teacher) Scheme (SSP)

Strategy	<p><u>SSP(Local)</u></p> <p>Secondment of experienced local teachers on a full-time or part-time basis to provide school-based support to teachers in other schools on various theme-based or Key Learning Areas projects and to establish platforms for professional sharing.</p> <p><u>SSP(Mainland)</u></p>
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	<p>Interflow programmes with Mainland expert teachers (MET) to enhance professional capacity of local teachers.</p>
<p>Progress of Implementation (2013/14)</p>	<p><u>SSP(Local)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ In the 2013/14 s.y., a total of 30 projects with 108 seconded teachers were recruited to support projects on topics such as catering for learner diversity, supporting small class teaching, interface between kindergartens and primary education, and students with special educational needs etc. <p><u>SSP(Mainland)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ In the 2013/14 s.y., 50 METs joined the “Mainland-Hong Kong Teachers Exchange & Collaboration Programme” (MHKTECP). They worked in partnership with local teachers and shared their experiences with 115 local schools in the learning and teaching of Chinese Language, Putonghua and Mathematics at primary level. In respect of kindergartens, the collaboration programmes covered such areas as integrated activities for music, physical education and arts, and fostering children’s mathematical thinking. ➤ To allow more schools to benefit from the MHKTECP, four district-based networks for primary schools were established to facilitate schools’ development in the learning and teaching of Mathematics. <p><u>SSP(Local) – “Scheme on Hong Kong Teachers’ Exchange Activities to the Mainland” (HKTEAM)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Four local English Language teachers were recruited in the 2013/14 s.y. to participate in a 5-week professional collaboration programme in the Mainland. Teachers from the Mainland schools were invited to visit Hong Kong schools and conduct interflow programmes with local teachers during their 1-week stay in Hong Kong. ➤ Sharing sessions were conducted in the Mainland city concerned and in Hong Kong.
<p>No. of Beneficiaries</p>	<p><u>SSP(Local)</u></p> <p>In the 2013/14 s.y., a total of 108 seconded teachers from local secondary, primary and special schools provided school-based support to 180 schools (69 secondary schools, 91 primary schools, 9 special schools and 11 kindergartens) through 30 SSP projects.</p> <p><u>SSP(Mainland)</u></p> <p>For the 50 Mainland teachers who joined the MHKTECP, they provided intensive school-based support to 44 primary schools and 71 kindergartens. Among these METs, 20 of them also provided</p>

	<p>support to another 30 primary schools through four district-based networks with a focus on the learning and teaching of Mathematics.</p> <p><u>SSP(Local) –Scheme on HKTEAM</u></p> <p>The four local English language teachers seconded under the HKTEAM enhanced their professional capacity through collaboration with secondary schools in the Mainland. Local English language teachers also benefitted from participating in the territory-wide sharing session.</p>
Accumulated Expenditure (from 2004/05 to 2013/14)	About \$256 million ^{Note}

III. Professional Development Schools (PDS) Scheme

Strategy	Schools with exemplary practices in learning and teaching and a good sharing culture are designated as PDSs. Each PDS will form a network with two or three partner schools (PS) focusing mainly on specific pedagogical themes to foster an interactive collaborative culture and to enhance the effectiveness of learning and teaching through various exchange activities.
Progress of Implementation in 2013/14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ In the 2013/14 s.y., there were 31 PDSs (12 secondary schools, 17 primary schools, and 2 special schools) providing support services. ➤ Professional sharing among teachers covered a wide range of subjects and themes, including Chinese Language, Mathematics, General Studies, Liberal studies, catering for learner diversity and supporting students with special educational needs, etc.
No. of Beneficiaries	89 partner schools (35 secondary schools, 51 primary schools and 3 special schools) benefited from the Scheme in the 2013/14 s.y.
Accumulated Expenditure (from 2004/05 to 2013/14)	About \$54 million ^{Note}

IV. University-School Support Programmes (USP)

Strategy	Universities are commissioned to provide schools with diversified school-based professional support connecting research-based
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	pedagogies with classroom practices to cater for schools' development needs.
Progress of Implementation (2013/14)	<p>In the 2013/14 s.y., support services were provided to kindergartens, secondary and special schools through the following five USP projects:</p> <p><u>For Kindergartens:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Supporting Kindergartens in the Teaching and Learning of Chinese for Non-Chinese Speaking (NCS) Children (2012-2015) <i>(Centre for Advancement of Chinese Language Education and Research, Faculty of Education, The University of Hong Kong)</i> 2. Quality Early Childhood Education: The Practice of Assessment for Learning and the Use of Portfolios in Kindergartens (2012-2015) <i>(School Development and Evaluation Team, Hong Kong Centre for the Development of Educational Leadership, The Chinese University of Hong Kong)</i> <p><u>For Secondary Schools:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Quality School Improvement Project: Support for Learning Diversity (2013-2016) <i>(Hong Kong Institute of Educational Research, Faculty of Education, The Chinese University of Hong Kong)</i> 4. Tradition and Innovation: Supporting the Learning and Teaching of Chinese Language for Non-Chinese Speaking Students in Secondary Schools (2013-2015) <i>(Centre for Advancement of Chinese Language Education and Research, Faculty of Education, The University of Hong Kong)</i> <p><u>For Special Schools:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Quality School Improvement Project: School Improvement for Special Schools (2012- 2015) <i>(Hong Kong Institute of Educational Research, Faculty of Education, The Chinese University of Hong Kong).</i>
No. of Beneficiaries	In the 2013/14 s.y., a total of 115 schools, including 59 secondary schools, 8 special schools and 48 kindergartens benefitted from

	the aforesaid five projects.
Accumulated Expenditure (from 2004/05 to 2013/14)	About \$344 million ^{Note}

V. Collegial Participation in External School Review (ESR)

Strategy	Experienced serving principals and teachers are invited to serve as external reviewers in the ESR team.
Progress of Implementation (2013/14)	Principals, vice-principals and senior teachers continued to be recruited to join the second cycle of ESR for secondary, primary and special schools which commenced in the 2009/10 s.y.
No. of Beneficiaries	Between September 2013 and June 2014, 107 external reviewers from 45 secondary schools, 60 primary schools and 2 special schools joined ESR.
Accumulated Expenditure (from 2004/05 to 2013/14)	About \$6 million ^{Note}

Note: round up to the nearest million

The SBPS Programmes expenditure and cash balance of EDF at the end of each school year

SBPS Programme Expenditure and Accumulated Expenditure for the SBPS Programmes

	(HK\$ Million)											
School Year (Sept – Aug)	2004/05 (Actual)	2005/06 (Actual)	2006/07 (Actual)	2007/08 (Actual)	2008/09 (Actual)	2009/10 (Actual)	2010/11 (Actual)	2011/12 (Actual)	2012/13 (Actual)	2013/14 (Unaudited)	Accumulated Expenditure 2004/05 to 2013/14	2014/15 (Estimate)
Principal Support Network (PSN)	2.29	0.99	0.75	0.86	1.42	1.46	0.32	0.86	0.52	0.08	9.55	0.29
School Support Partners (Seconded Teacher) Scheme (SSP)	1.08	9.43	22.20	25.89	31.77	23.01	28.35	28.14	36.27	50.00	256.14	51.73
Professional Development Schools (PDS) Scheme	1.60	1.56	4.68	2.37	4.99	7.58	6.22	6.08	5.55	13.46	54.09	13.78
University-School Support Programmes (USP)	20.20	24.16	37.10	63.70	30.75	55.49	30.15	23.83	29.72	29.08	344.18	67.84
Collegial Participation in External School Review (ESR)	0.51	0.66	0.78	0.51	0.35	0.76	0.69	0.37	0.64	0.59	5.86	0.94
External Review (ER) of SBPS/SBSS Programmes	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.18	0.37	0.37	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.92	0.00
Total	25.68	36.80	65.51	93.51	69.65	88.67	65.73	59.28	72.70	93.21	670.74	134.58

Cash Balance of EDF at the end of each School Year

	(HK\$ Million)										
School Year (Sept - Aug)	2004/05 (Actual)	2005/06 (Actual)	2006/07 (Actual)	2007/08 (Actual)	2008/09 (Actual)	2009/10 (Actual)	2010/11 (Actual)	2011/12 (Actual)	2012/13 (Actual)	2013/14 (Unaudited)	2014/15 (Estimate)
Opening Cash Balance	0.00	535.45	505.63	457.05	379.61	316.40	229.49	165.62	662.32	598.46	512.61
Income											
Fund Injection	550.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	550.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Interests	11.13	6.98	16.93	16.07	6.44	1.76	1.86	5.98	8.84	7.36	6.30
Expenditure											
SBPS Programme Expenditure	(25.68)	(36.80)	(65.51)	(93.51)	(69.65)	(88.67)	(65.73)	(59.28)	(72.70)	(93.21)	(134.58)
Cash Balance (by the end of Aug)	535.45	505.63	457.05	379.61	316.40	229.49	165.62	662.32	598.46	512.61	384.33