

Motivation

Since mid-1997 Indonesia has been experiencing, and attempting to recover from, a severe economic crisis. The Government of Indonesia, with the support of the Asian Development Bank and The World Bank, launched a “stay in school” media campaign, a program to provide block grants to schools to offset the shortfalls resulting from parents’ lessened ability to pay fees, and a program to provide scholarships to poor students to offset the direct costs of schooling.

Objectives

This PETS was undertaken to follow-up on the previous survey and assess whether early findings would be confirmed, or needed to be modified, because the economic crisis persisted.

Main findings

In general, it revealed an increase in total funding during the crisis years at both primary and junior secondary levels, but these increases did not keep pace with inflation.

Little evidence of an impact of the crisis on basic education enrollment. For primary, the 5.1% decline in enrollment found over the five year period 1995/6 to 1999/0 was basically in line with the population decline for 7-12 year olds during that period. For junior secondary, the overall decline over the same period was insignificant (0.3%). These general findings, however, mask significant differences across years, geographical areas, the public/private divide and gender.

Other findings

A substantial number of the schools surveyed received block grants during the two crisis years under the ministry’s program to minimize crisis impact: in the most recent year (1999/0) 67% of primary schools did so, and 46% of junior secondary schools (the target was 60%).

The proportion of schools collecting fees those two years declined at both the primary and junior secondary levels, 15 percentage points for the former and 12 for the latter.

Sample

600 primary and junior secondary schools in five provinces

Sample design

Same methodology as in 1998.

Contact

Deon Filmer: Dfilmer@worldbank.org

Main report

Filmer, D. and Nielsen, D. and Suwaryani, N. and Indriyanto, B. (2001) “Indonesia’s Primary and Junior Secondary Schools in a post-crisis environment: Findings from a follow-up survey of 600 schools,” The World Bank Human Development Working Paper, July.