USAID Decentralized Basic Education Program
Component 2: Teaching and Learning

Program Overview
In October 2003, President Bush announced a major new initiative to improve the quality of basic education in Indonesia. This $157 million Indonesia education initiative (Decentralized Basic Education – DBE) is a cornerstone of the U.S. Government technical cooperation program in Indonesia for 2005-2010. President Bush’s Education Initiative directly responds to the Government of Indonesia’s priorities and reflects the joint Indonesia-U.S. commitment to revitalize education for the next generation of Indonesia’s leaders. This innovative program is carried out through a bilateral Agreement between Indonesia and the United States.

Implemented through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and coordinated by the Coordinating Ministry for People’s Welfare Republic of Indonesia (Kokesra). DBE Program is divided into three cohorts during 2005 – 2010. For the first cohort, DBE is currently working with 29 local governments in eight provinces of Indonesia (East Java, Central Java, West Java, Banten, Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam, North Sumatra, South Sulawesi, and DKI Jakarta). DBE has been working with 640 schools including primary school, Madrasah Ibtidayah (MI), junior secondary schools and Madrasah Tsanawiyah (MTs) and 114 Non Formal Education (NFE), and with 11,340 educators including teachers and NFE tutors that directly serve 166,000 students and 6,015 NFE participants. The program will expand to 100 districts by 2008.

The Decentralized Basic Education Program (DBE) has three components:

Component 1: Improving the quality of education through better management and governance (DBE 1)
Component 2: Improving the quality of teaching and learning (DBE 2)
Component 3: Improving the quality of junior secondary and non-formal education for youth with an emphasis on life skills (DBE 3)

Teaching and Learning
The Teaching and Learning component of Decentralized Basic Education is dedicated to improving educational quality through:

- New attention to strengthening teacher training
- Improving the school learning environment

The Teaching and Learning component works with the Ministries of National Education and Religious Affairs, provincial and district governments and other public and private sector partners to develop a more comprehensive system of professional development for teachers. This strengthens the capacity of educators and principals to initiate, facilitate and promote school improvement at the local level. The teaching and learning component incorporates new elements into the system that will significantly enhance the school environment as an arena for student learning and community participation.
**Strengthening Teacher Training**

The teaching and learning component creates opportunities for local officials and education stakeholders to shape and take ownership of systems and strategies to provide effective training in decentralized teaching. This component works within the existing school organizational structure known as a cluster, which consists of a geographic grouping of six to ten schools. A cluster-based approach is used to organize and implement training activities. Clusters serve as hubs for Teaching and Learning component tasks and offer school principals, teachers and community members a valuable opportunity to fully engage in activities and strengthen their professional identity through active and participatory learning.

The decentralized in-service teacher training model is supported by training packages created by partner universities in each province, with the assistance of teachers, principals, local government officials, and U.S. university partners. By targeting local partners and education stakeholders, this component helps to identify and address the needs most relevant to primary school educators. The Teaching and Learning component also works with Indonesia’s Open University to ensure they have the capacity to respond to diverse professional training needs in an increasingly decentralized educational environment.

The Teaching and Learning component is developing resource centers to support and facilitate activities in each school cluster. These cluster resource centers will be used by stakeholders as a meeting place to discuss training content, classroom applications and innovations, as well as to develop teaching and learning materials and access online teaching and learning resources.

**Improving the Learning Environment**

The Teaching and Learning component of the Decentralized Basic Education Program supports activities directed at improving the learning environment. Two hundred audio-based kindergartens are being established and equipped with trained personnel and quality instructional materials. A school library system, using the cluster resource center as the distribution hub, is being established to provide students with high quality, non-textbook reading materials.

Information Communication Technologies are serving to inform and promote change in schools, communities and districts. They provide instructional tools in clusters and classrooms and they serve as reference guides and resources for teachers and principals to support and enhance the teaching and learning process.

The Teaching and Learning component is leveraging additional resources for project activities through public-private alliances. These are innovative partnerships with entrepreneurs, multinational and domestic companies, non-governmental organizations and academic institutions.

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**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT:**

www.dbe-usaid.org