

# **PUPIL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (PIN) PROGRAMME.**

## **1.0 Introduction**

In 1997, the government of Uganda (GoU) introduced and begun the implementation of Universal primary Education. The programme was designed to benefit all children of primary school going age, particularly those located in the rural areas whose parents could not afford paying the mandatory school fees. In addition, UPE was expected to address the inequity concerns as well as strengthen quality outcomes in the primary education sub-sector. Since 1997, therefore, UPE has been the focus of GoU effort and has consistently received 65% or more of the total budget allocated to the education sector.

The Ministry of Education and Sports therefore intends to introduce the pupil identification numbers (PIN) as part of an overall strategy for quality enhancement to increase the impact of the UPE programme through more efficient targeting of beneficiaries programme is to focus on strengthening the monitoring of resource management systems for pupil attendance and identification throughout the country in order to ensure that children who are the real beneficiaries actually benefit from the funds disbursed under UPE. It will also provide a mechanism of tracking and accounting for all pupils in UPE.

## **2.0 JUSTIFICATION**

The Operationalisation of the PIN is being carried out as an efficiency measure aimed at enhancing the credibility and reliability of school based data. It can be justified on the grounds that it will.

- i. Enhance the credibility and reliability of pupil data for planning and decision-making through better verification and analysis.
- ii. Enable the Ministry of Education and Sports to effectively monitor pupil flows through better cohort analysis to gain accurate data on enrolment, drop-outs, transfers, promotion, repetition and transition.
- iii. Facilitate better monitoring of pupil participation in the classroom through daily attendance registers and other school records on pupil performance.
- iv. Create a unique identifier for each individual pupil to ensure that no single pupil is left behind the learning process.
- v. Enhance ownership of and accountability for the data submitted by districts and school on pupils' enrolment and participation.
- vi. Create a pupil focused rather than 'statistics' focused data management in the Education system.

## **3.0 TARGET GROUP**

The PIN programme will benefit government aided, community, and private primary schools and Non-formal Basic Education Centers in the country. A total of approximately 14,000 primary schools with an estimated total enrolment of 8 million children are targeted.

## **4.0 OBJECTIVES**

### **4.1 Overall objectives:**

The overall objective of the Programme is to consolidate the access gains made through the UPE Programme since its inception to ensure steady improvement in the management and utilization of resources; render accountability for all the children who enroll at school; and improve the quality of data for informed decision making.

### **4.2 Specific Objectives:**

Specifically, the introduction of Pupil Identification Number (PIN) and improved Record Management is intended to:

- i. Enhance the credibility, reliability, timeliness and usefulness of data used in the management of the UPE capitation grants.
- ii. Strengthen the verification system for school enrolment and attendance to improve the accuracy of aggregate data at district and national levels, through independent checks and balances.
- iii. Expand quality enhancement measures and monitoring to ensure achievement of targets.
- iv. Account for pupil transfers between schools and districts.
- v. Help minimize the risk of drop-out of children from schools.
- vi. Improve the ability to make sound decisions related to pupil achievement and improvement.
- vii. Modernize registration procedures for UPE clients by establishing a national electronic database.

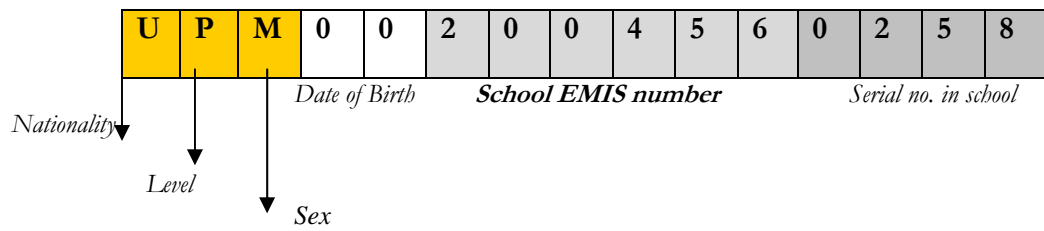
## **5.0 Proposed PIN Design**

5.1 The pupil identification number (PIN) which is to pupil's identifier has to be unique and unduplicatable for each pupil. In order to achieve this we need to have a number of characteristics to use. These include, the pupil sex, date of birth, a school number, nationality and a separate pupil serial number. In doing this it is necessary to keep the PIN as short as possible.

5.2 The PIN will therefore comprise of the following:

- i. The school EMIS number, which is six digits and since every school has a unique number, there will be no duplication.
- ii. The date of birth, which will be two digits, represented by the year of birth e.g. 98 for a child born in 1998 or 02 for a child born in 2002, regardless of the date and month.
- iii. The sex of the child e.g a male represented by a number 1 and female represented by number 2.
- iv. A four –digit school serialized number for each pupil
- v. The nationality of the child represented by U for Ugandan and F for Foreigner. (Optional).

Thus a PIN for male pupil called Omoding Eriya of Agule Kyere Ps in soroti could be



- 1 digit for nationality
- 1 digit for level of education
- 1 digit for sex
- 2 digits for date of birth, which is year
- 6 digits for EMIS
- 4 digits for serial number or PIN
- Total digits =15

- 5.3 The PINs will be assigned as much as possible centrally and transferred to the districts. This will be done by the use of the pupil record cards (PRCc information, which the schools will submit by use of the PIN 2 forms.
- 5.4 By the way of the structure described above, the PIN will be unique and it is very unlikely that any other child can have a duplicate number, even without the nationality option.