

Bɛɛkunko Programme Introduction



Programme Introduction

- The Bɛɛkunko programme (Affaire de Tous) is an assessment of school learning by the Malinese civil society;
- The Bɛɛkunko assessment is carried out at home, not at school;
- The Bɛɛkunko assessment is completed orally, with each child individually;
- The survey is aimed at all children (enrolled in school, withdrawn from school, unregistered) from 6 to 14 years old;
- The assessment is completed both in French, and in the relevant national languages; those which are used for teaching the niveau I basic educational curriculum (1st and 2nd years).

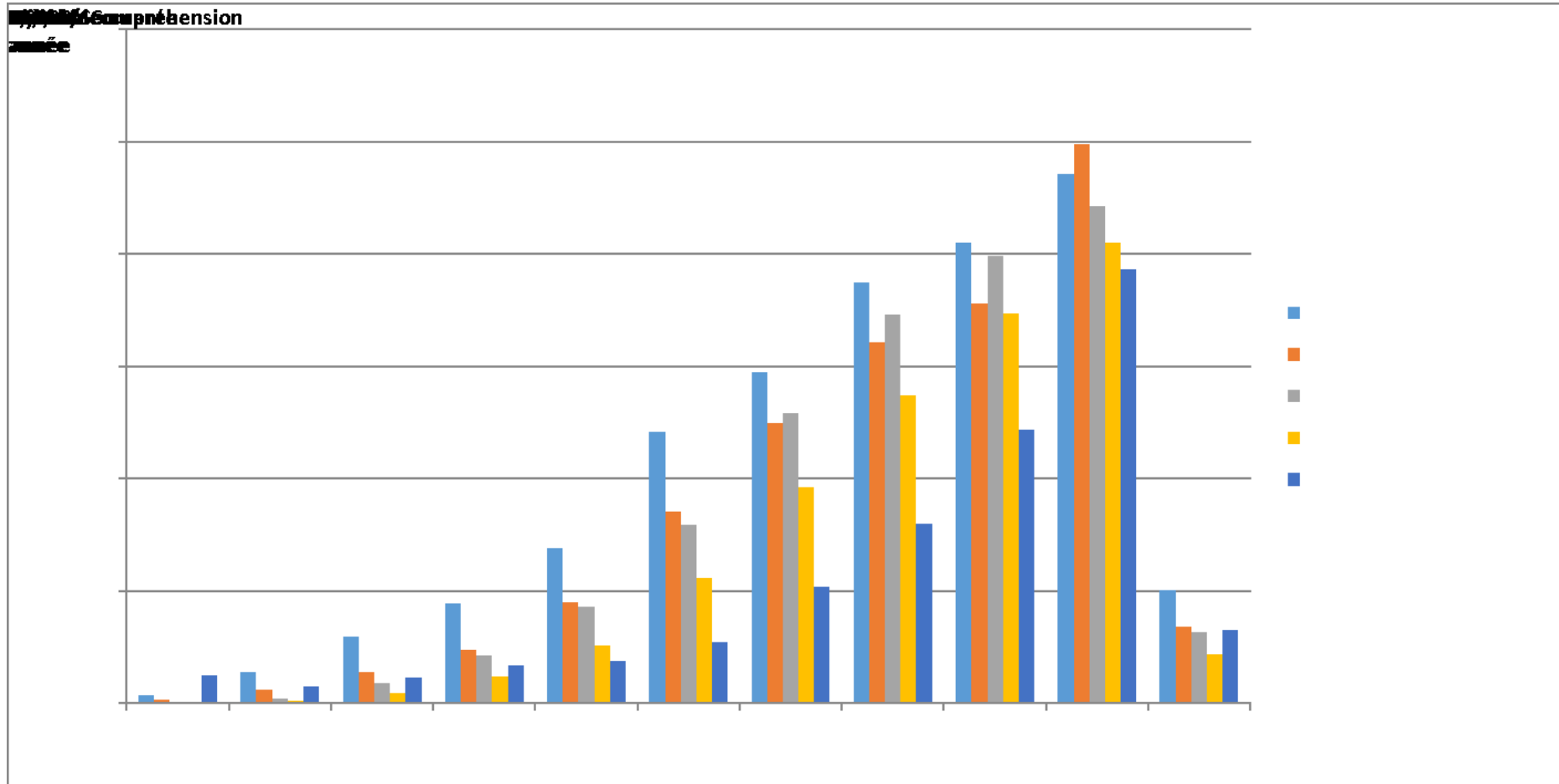


Support during the different stages of assessment

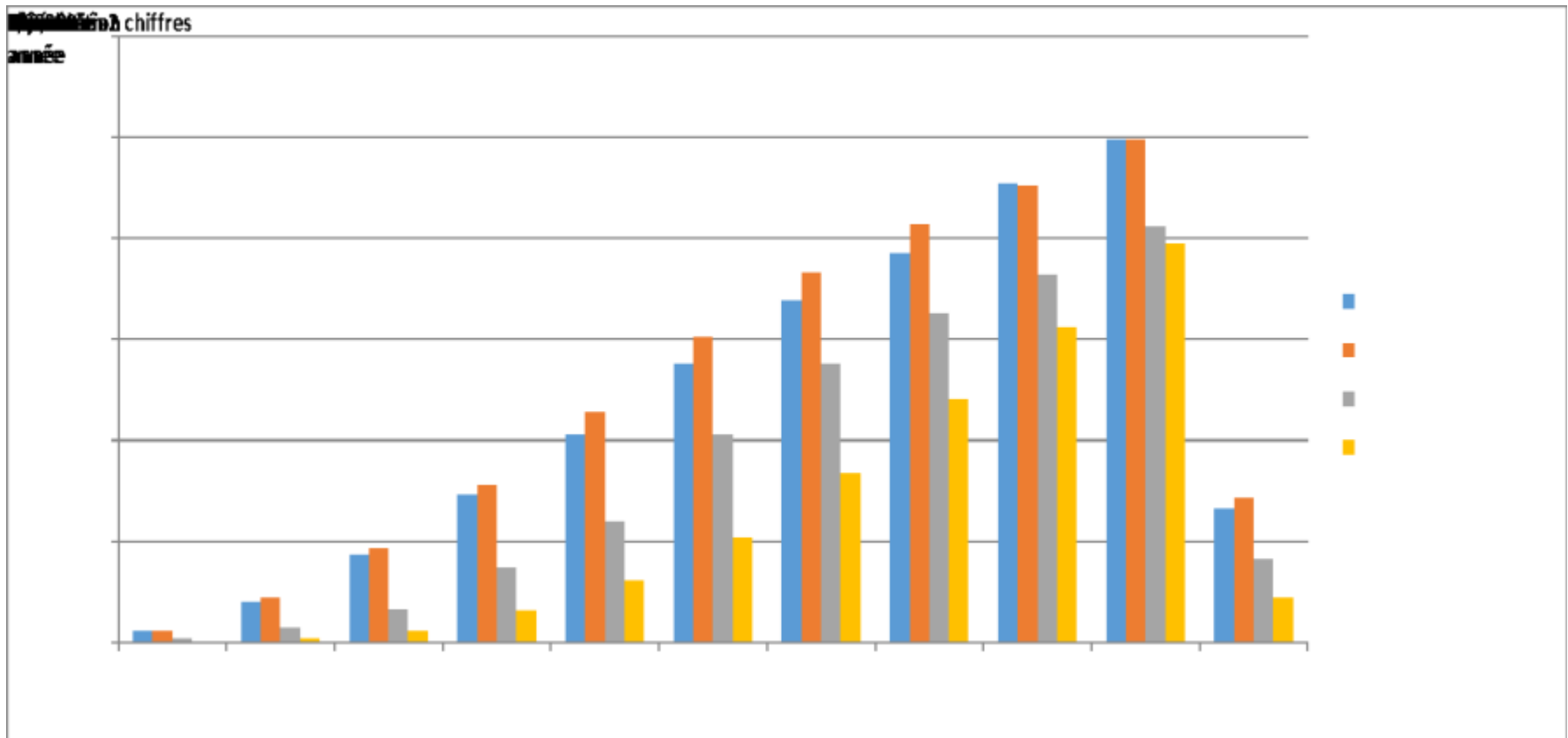
- Creation/review of evaluative tools, information, and participants' awareness (TV skit, mission) before beginning the surveys, researcher training, research supervision, data collection and analysis.
- The Bεεkunko assessment provides policymakers, decentralised collectives, and communities, with information to develop policies and improve the quality of learning processes.
- The results can be used for re-establishing ideas at regional and national levels, and are discussed by all participants (national and local policymakers, civil society, and).



Reading Results 2016



Mathematics Results 2016



Advantages of using data for policies

Following the introduction of the 2016 report, the national Minister for Education sent a circular letter asking the decentralised education services to organise informative activities and awareness campaigns for all educational bodies, and pedagogical conferences covering teaching strategies for reading in entry level classes; to prioritise teacher training in phonics methodology in annual programmes; and to increase mentoring and support from the Académie d'Enseignement aux Centres d'Animation Pédagogique.



Benefits and use of data in policies

The SIRA (Activités de Lecture Sélectives et Intégrées au Mali) programme, financed by USAID from 2016 to 2021, which is overseen by OMAES in the community, has been heavily inspired by Bækunko. It aims to improve the reading competencies in the national language of bamanankan of pupils in the 1st and 2nd years at community school, public school, in mixed-ability classes, and in madrasa education.

The accessing education programme for all children in Mali is a partnership between the national Ministry of Education and a consortium of national and international NGOs in Mali about to start. This programme, which combines access and quality, will use all the educational options available in Mali (classic state schools, mobile state schools, mixed-ability classes, accelerated and preparatory schooling strategies, new Koranic schools).



Challenges and Issues

The main challenge is in implementing the assessment results.

The Bεεkunko strategy is based on change through communication, with no direct remedial action expected to be necessary. That's why, OMAES, through other programmes such as « Votre Enfant, La lecture et Vous » instigated remedial actions, for example in public libraries, with graded booklets, and local stories. They also trained students' parents how to use new information and communication techniques (tablets), and learn-to-read games for children. Within the framework of the SIRA programme, Bεεkunko tools have been adapted to be able to be used for performance assessments, and OMAES has trained parents in using learn-to-read games, and creating a family-school liaison booklet, as well as producing performance reports and education improvement plans.



(This presentation was translated by Suzanne Atherton,
United Nations volunteer translator)