

# RECOUP Ghana: Work in Progress and Policy implications

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**Dr. Leslie Casely-Hayford**  
**Director**  
**Associates for Change, Ghana**

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# Goals and vision of RECOUP

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“To study the mechanisms that drive the cycle of deprivation and to identify the policies needed to ensure that educational outcomes benefit the disadvantaged.”

- Support policy makers with timely research outputs in relevant areas..

# Goals of the Conference

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To share with policy makers, DPs and other stakeholders the key results, outputs and findings of RECOUP and EdQuall;

To receive feedback and engage on the findings (validity, reliability, methodological rigor; relevance and policy implications)

To provide an opportunity to network, forge linkages;

To view the research outcomes across two research consortium (RECOUP and EdQUALL)

# Context of the conference

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New Government and what this means for the education reforms...

MOE is in the process of developing its new Education Strategic Plan for the next 10 years...

National Development Plan 2010

New Education Act: decentralization

GOG Aid Policy: MDDBS and SBS

# The presentation

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## **Introduction**

### **Work on sub projects**

- ❑ Social and Human Strand (Youth, Gender and Citizenship)
- ❑ Market and Economic Strand
- ❑ Aid and Partnership Strand

### **Capacity building**

- ❑ Training of researchers
- ❑ ICT data analysis and software
- ❑ Web based training manuals on qualitative research

### **Dissemination of research work**

- ❑ Research Outputs
- ❑ Dissemination channels & methods

### **Policy implications**

# Associates for Change (AFC)

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- AFC is a research and consulting firm specializing in social policy analysis, education and social development research.
- Provides research, consulting and advisory services to government, donors and civil society organisations using a multi-disciplinary approach.
- Undertakes operational research in program design, monitoring and evaluation.
- AfC has two offices in Northern and Southern Ghana with a total of ten staff with seven full time researchers (two senior and five intermediate).

# AfC Partners

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International partners for RECOUP work include:

- ❑ Faculty of Education, University of Cambridge
- ❑ University of Edinburgh
- ❑ Center for the Study of African Economies, University of Oxford

AfC has also developed working relationships with the:

- ❑ Institute for Planning and Educational Administration at the University of Cape Coast;
- ❑ Center for Social Policy Studies (CSPS), Institute of African Studies and Department of Economics at the University of Ghana.
- ❑ Center for Research in Basic Education (CRIBE), University of Education.
- ❑ The University of Development Studies

# RECOUP Research Strands

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## Social and Human Strand

- Youth Gender and Citizenship project
- Health and Fertility project
- Disability project

## Market and Economic Strand

- Qualitative study on Skills training
- Quantitative Household Survey work

## Aid and Donor Partnership Strand

- Public Private Partnership project
- Impact of New Aid modalities in the education sector



# RECOUP Research Outputs

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- ❑ Literature reviews
- ❑ Meta-analysis series
- ❑ Working papers
- ❑ Project management documents e.g. Field guides, Analysis and writing guide,
- ❑ Field Reports-scoping reports, community profiles, etc
- ❑ Community Working Paper series

Annotated Profile of RECOUP outputs

# Youth, Gender and Citizenship (YGC)

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## Working Paper completed

1. "Youth Citizenship, National Unity and Poverty Alleviation: East and West African approaches to the education of a new generation"

## Working papers in progress:

1. The making of a Ghanaian Citizen: the role of education among urban youth from poor and non poor households.
2. The Effects of Education among Rural Youth in Northern Ghana: an intergenerational perspective.
3. Growing up Modern in Ghana: Educational Outcomes and Social Transition among young people across different social classes.

# Theme 1: Health and Fertility

## Research Focus:

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How education impacts on the pathways women use to negotiate health and fertility behavior;

- Across all four research sites
- Field Work (Dec, 2008 and will end in March, 2009)
- 80 in-depth interviews with women between 20-30 years of age.

# Theme 1: Disability mini project

## ■ Research questions

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- What is the local understanding and meaning of disability?
- What is the outcome of education to the disenabled persons from the individual, family, community, social and human levels of development?
- What is the relationship between disability and poverty? What role does education play in helping people with disability to break out of poverty?

# Theme 2. Market and Economic Strand (Skills Training Qualitative)

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## Research questions:

‘How does skills training (both public and non-state) contribute to labour market outcomes that help break the cycle of deprivation for the poor’

- Field Work included: 80 in-depth interviews with master artisans and 80 interviews policy makers & key informants in across the four sites

# Theme 2: Market and Economic Outputs

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- Preliminary Findings Report: Skill Pathways out of Poverty: Technical and vocational skills development: *Breaking the cycle of poverty for youth and young adults in Ghana?*
- Working Paper: Skills and Labour market outcomes among youth in urban and rural Ghana: the role of formal and informal skills training.

# Theme 2: Household Survey work

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Panel data from the Ghana Household Survey Work on Market and Economic Outcomes to Education conducted by the University of Oxford.

## Outputs:

- RECOUP working paper by Francis Teal (2008) "Does Apprenticeship Pay Off? Evidence from Ghana". (RECOUP web site).
- Raw Data Available on the Oxford University web site.

## Theme 3: Aid Partnership Strand

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**Aid Modalities to the education sector:** Interviews conducted with DPs, MOE Senior officials and Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning.

Second phase to commence next week.

### Outputs

- ❑ *The Financing and Outcomes to Education:* presents important expenditure trends and educational outcomes 1987 and 2006.
- ❑ Aid and Partnership Literature Review
- ❑ Working Paper on the changing nature of aid modalities in the education sector in Ghana



# Theme 3: Public Private Partnerships

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## Research Questions

- Is the growth in the private schools in comparison to the public schools due to the inadequacy of the public schools?
- Do private schools provide for better education than the public schools? if so, why?
- How do different types of schooling interact to affect educational outcomes?
- Field work: June to September 2009 in two research sites

# Capacity Building of AfC Staff

## International Training workshops

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- ❑ ICT in qualitative data analysis (Atlas-ti)

Gender and poverty analysis training;

- ❑ Data collection (multi methods, transcription and translation)
- ❑ ICT survey technologies for household census
- ❑ Web based training manual development on qualitative research methodology
- ❑ Research design workshops: Health and Fertility, Market and Economic and YGC.

# Dissemination Channels and Methods

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- - AFC website ([www.associatesforchange.org](http://www.associatesforchange.org))
- - RECOUP website (<http://recoup.educ.cam.ac.uk/>)
- Regular mail outs to partners and education stakeholders.
- National Reference Group meeting
- Education Sector Annual Review
- Consultative meetings with individual policy makers, planners (COTVET, PBME, MOE and GES)
- Briefings with CIDA, DfID and the WB
- Mid-term Conference
- Collaborative fora with other organizations (NNED and GNECC—global week of action)

# Policy implications for the Education Sector

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- **qualitative and quantitative approaches to illumine policy making. Risks in using one methodology.**
- **More understanding behind the trends and numbers...**
- **Multi disciplinary teams : sociologists, educationalists and economists.**

# RECOUP

Thank you for your  
attention.

THANK YOU



# Research Consortium on Educational Outcomes and Poverty (RECOUP)

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- ❑ MDG inspired research project focused on the study of Market and Economic outcomes, Social and Human outcomes of Education related to Health, Fertility, Gender Equality and Citizenship
- ❑ RECOUP seeks to identify the pathways in which the poor use to escape poverty and the policies needed to ensure that educational outcomes benefit the disadvantaged.
- ❑ Five year project carried out in Ghana, India, Kenya and Pakistan.
- ❑ Associates for Change (AFC) is the lead research agency in Ghana.