



CREATE NEWSLETTER

ISSUE SIX

DECEMBER 2010

Director's Note: March to December 2010

SEASON'S GREETINGS TO ALL CREATE ASSOCIATES!

CREATE is now approaching the end of its fifth year and has a high profile of activities and many research products. Its research was showcased recently at a very successful international conference in London at the Institute of Education organised under the auspices of the UK Forum for International Education and Training (UKFIET). CREATE joined with the two other DFID Consortia on education in an event to celebrate the wide range of research outputs and the extensive capacity building that has taken place. The conference facilitated the sharing of key messages with DFID advisors and other colleagues in the field of study. Earlier in the year the CREATE model was adopted by DFID in its Education Strategy 2010-2015 Paper and by UNICEF to inform its 21 country study of Out of School Children.

In the last six months CREATE has published 16 monographs and 5 policy briefs as well as developed papers for four special issues of international journals. By the end of 2011 we anticipate having over 65 research monographs, four country analytic reviews, four special editions of journals, and four books based on CREATE research as well as various synthetic reports, working papers and a series of more than 20 thematic and country focused policy briefs. CREATE graduate associates will complete 15 doctoral theses. The outputs are all available on the website and will stand as a major resource for research and policy making on educational access and development issues created jointly by all the CREATE partners.

The conference in London was preceded by another cross research consortia event at the University of Cape Coast in Ghana with Government of Ghana and DFID participation. CREATE's findings have also been presented to the Chinese Comparative Education Society and to various other regional and national meetings over the last six months as listed on the website.

There will be a further CREATE international conference in Delhi in February 2011. This will draw together all our research partners, and development agencies, and representatives of the Government of India. It will be held at the well-known India Habitat Centre under the auspices of the National University of Educational Planning and Administration (NUEPA). This event will launch a book based on CREATE research in India and will provide a synthesis of key messages from the research outputs. Country papers and thematic research products will be presented.

CREATE continued to support the annual Gladwyn lecture in the House of Lords which took place in early December. This is organised by the Council for Education in the Commonwealth (CEC) and co-sponsored by CREATE. Last year a book exploring changing patterns of access over the last thirty years in Africa was published by CEC with support from CREATE.

CREATE continues to develop and consolidate its novel conceptualisations of access to education and has deep analytic insight into the factors that have made the difference between educational inclusion and exclusion. It has been very active in policy dialogue in national and international fora and is now projecting many messages into policy making systems through its high level networks of associates.

All CREATE products are available free at www.create-rpc.org which includes a searchable database of over 6000 items.

Best wishes to all for the New Year and for a productive and purposeful 2011.

Professor Keith Lewin, Director of CREATE



Members of the CREATE team at the Joint RPC conference at the Institute of Education, 15th November 2010

CREATE News**Ghana**

CREATE Ghana researchers have produced a series of research monographs (PTAs) and policy briefs. Several more are planned along with a country synthetic report and a book capturing the Ghana research findings. The University of Cape Coast hosted a joint conference with other DFID Consortia in September 2010, which was attended by academics, education administrators and representatives of the Ministry of Education. CREATE organised a separate event at the University of Winneba. Keith Lewin and Kwame Akyeampong subsequently were invited to a meeting with the Deputy Minister and DFID and World Bank representatives at the Ministry to discuss messages from the research.

Jerome Djangmah has been writing a weekly column in the Ghanaian Times – the second largest daily paper - called 'Education Matters' about education in the country, drawing on CREATE research. Fieldwork in the North is now complete and will be disseminated in February in the field.

South Africa

CREATE South Africa researchers have been occupied writing PTAs and policy briefs. Much of the focus is on the edited book that the CREATE South Africa team is finalising for publication in early 2011. The book, edited by Shireen Motala and Veerle Dieltiens will be called: 'Access to What? Exploring meaningful and equitable learning in South African schools'. Two research monographs have recently been completed on over and under age achievement and school based support for vulnerable children.

India

The CREATE team in India has generated a consistent flow of research monographs and are now producing a synthesis of the three rounds of data collection undertaken since 2007 on a large sample of schools covering about 10,000 children. CREATE data and methods are being used in national training programmes in NUEPA. CREATE findings were disseminated at a national conference on "Exploring Improvement in Elementary Schools" at NUEPA in April. In February 2011 NUEPA will host a conclave for New Researchers, the first of its kind in India.

The CREATE international conference will be hosted by NUEPA in Delhi in February 2011. Work on two books on access to education in India is well advanced and the first will be published by Oxford University Press India for the conference.

Bangladesh

The Bangladesh team has completed several PTAs and have more in the pipeline. A forthcoming PTA on Sector Wide Approaches will feed into the national debate about the new Primary Education Development Plan (PEDP3). The CREATE team in Bangladesh plan to organise a dissemination event in March 2011.

CREATE work in Bangladesh is being used by BRAC IED on a new MEd (Educational Management and leadership course) and in action research projects tackling silent exclusion.

London

CREATE's research contributed directly to the education sections of the recent Lancet Commission (Lancet, Sept.13th 2010) published in advance of the recent UN summit on the Millennium Development Goals. Angela Little and Veerle Dieltiens contributed ideas to the Commission issue which was coordinated by Jeff Waage, Director of the London International Development Centre (LIDC) (www.lidc.org)

In July the eminent V. J. Kumar, former director of well known Activity Based Learning (ABL) programme in Tamil Nadu was invited to give a CREATE seminar. ABL was showcased at the education advisors meeting in Chennai in 2009 at which CREATE presented its preliminary findings. In November Tony Somerset gave a seminar on Free Primary Education in Kenya.

In December Angela Little received the Sahithiya Viza Viruthu award which was presented by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Education (Tamil) of the Central Province for her 'outstanding contribution to the development of primary education in the Plantation schools of Sri Lanka' recognising more than 25 years of work on access most recently with support from CREATE. The Sahithiya event was covered extensively in the Tamil press and on Sri Lankan TV.

The Institute of Education hosted the international CREATE team for three days of meetings in November, during which the next stages of the programme were discussed and planned. Through its membership of the LIDC CREATE has developed its communication strategy in London and has organised a series of podcasts on 'Development Matters' which include several featuring CREATE researchers. After the joint RPC conference in November the four CREATE country team leaders were interviewed for the podcasts, which are available on the LIDC website: www.lidc.ac.uk

Sussex

CREATE's model of access was adopted by DFID in its recent "Education Strategy Paper" which identified priorities of educational aid and which was launched in London earlier this year. Independently UNICEF has initiated a 21 country study of out of school children which has been informed by the CREATE model and its findings. The programme was framed at two conferences in Paris and Istanbul to which Keith Lewin was invited.

CREATE organised a CREATE set of inputs to the International Doctorate programme in July. A series of speakers explored different themes. Ato Essuman, former Chief Director of the Ghana Ministry of Education graduated this year with a Doctorate and is contributing to the CREATE research products, as is another CREATE team member Christine Adu-Yeboah

who also graduated with a doctorate. 10 Sussex faculty have contributed to CREATE to date.

Keith Lewin was invited to the DFID retreat of advisors on health and private sector partnerships to contribute to a discussion on PPPs with James Tooley in July in London. A lively debate ensued around the controversial aspects of private low price for profit schools. Keith contributed to the deliberations of the Open Society Foundation on the same topic at a retreat in Nairobi in September. He also presented insights from CREATE in plenary to the Chinese Comparative Education Society where a small scale study continues, and to a meeting of the UNESCO International Science Technology and Innovation Centre in Malaysia.

Kwame Akyeampong has been working closely in support of the Ghana team developing a range of research products with Joseph Ghartey Ampiah and other team members. Ricardo Sabates and Jimena Hernandez presented a paper on the influence of maternal education on access in Sub-Saharan Africa at a conference of the International Association of Research on Income and Wealth in Geneva.

Tony Somerset has continued his work analysing changing patterns of access in Kenya which is showing how growth in participation has led to hardening of stratification and reductions in quality. This complements the work that Keith Lewin has been doing with Ricardo Sabates on large scale data sets on thirteen countries in Sub Saharan Africa which shows that in many cases the chances of the poorest participating have not risen as fast as those in the middle of the household income distribution, and that growth has often increased the numbers of seriously over age children likely to drop out. This and other work on these data sets and from the Ghana surveys profiles how health remains a key issue for access, as well as one of its key outcomes and this is reflected in several research products from DHS data and from collaboration with the "Young Lives" project at Oxford where Angela Little is on the board and Kate Orkin is working on analyses for CREATE.

CREATE People

CREATE people have been busy in the last six months. Fran Hunt has moved to a new job at the Institute of Education, she has been replaced as research fellow by Benjamin Zeitlyn who is warmly welcomed to CREATE.

Shireen Motala has moved from the University of the Witwatersrand to a new position at the University of Johannesburg and has been promoted to associate professor. Veerle Diltens has become a full time doctoral student at the University of the Witwatersrand.

Joseph Ghartey Ampiah has been appointed Dean of the Department of Education in Cape Coast University.

Caine Rolleston will take up a new research job in the Young Lives project at the University of Oxford and will continue to work to support CREATE in Ghana and Sri Lanka.

Altaf Hossain spent four months at the University of Sussex as a visiting fellow and has worked with Sussex staff on a series of publications.

Guy Collender, senior communications manager at the London International Development Centre joined the team and has strengthened the CREATE London communications strategy.

The CREATE team in India has recruited a number of new staff: S. Umavati, Naresh, Moitri Dey, Debanjana Das, Renu Bisht and Bindiya Kaushik.

Recent CREATE meetings, activities and events

Joint International Conference

The joint DFID Research Programme Consortia conference was hosted by the UK Forum for International Education and Training (UKFIET) at the Institute of Education in London on the 15th of November. In the opening session Angela Little welcomed the audience and Chris Whitty, DFID's chief scientific advisor, gave an insightful opening speech. Jo Bourne, Head of Education also spoke. Next the directors of the three consortia gave presentations summarising the approach and work of their large scale programmes of research which spans more than 10 countries.



Jo Bourne, Angela Little, Peter Williams and Chris Whitty at the inaugural session at the Institute of Education

PowerPoint presentations are available at:

<http://www.create.rpc.org/media/Powerpointslides/London2010/JointRPCConferenceNov2010powerpointpresentations.php>

The conference split into three parallel sessions around each consortium. In the CREATE session, each of the four country teams gave presentations summarising the range of work and some of the key findings in each country.

R. Govinda, Vice Chancellor of the National University of Educational Planning and Administration in India

presented the results of research in Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh. He reported on large scale studies which have returned to the same places where he and his colleagues conducted research twenty years ago. He summarised the progress and challenges that remain for Education for All in the two states highlighting problems of drop out, poor achievement, over age and poor infrastructure that persist despite the national SSA programme.

In his talk, Manzoor Ahmed founding director of the Institute of Educational Development at BRAC University in Bangladesh described some of the characteristics of exclusion from education in Bangladesh, and the groups most likely to be excluded. He reported some of the findings from large scale household surveys undertaken for CREATE. He urged his government and development partners to recognise messages from CREATE's research when making plans for the next five year plan of education policy in Bangladesh which will be heavily supported by development partners.

Joseph Ghartey Ampiah and Kwame Akyeampong spoke about CREATE research in Ghana which is based on household surveys in two regions. Among other findings, Ghartey highlighted the prevalence of problems of over age children in Ghanaian schools and very low levels of achievement.

Shireen Motala gave a presentation based on CREATE work in South Africa. Her discussion highlighted issues of equity, age in grade and the extent to which learning was compromised by ineffective teaching. She discussed the redistributive quintile system of non-salary education financing in South Africa.

During lunch there were doctoral poster presentations, Luke Akaguri, Eric Ananga and Stuart Cameron presented their work along with other students. After lunch CREATE researchers participated in four thematic sessions on poverty, exclusions from education, partnerships for development and capacity building. CREATE presented in each of the four sessions.

Angela Little presented her work on policy, poverty and political will in the poverty session. The session on exclusions was chaired by Mairead Dunne and featured presentations from Ricardo Sabates about his work with Keith Lewin on changing patterns of access in sub-Saharan Africa and Caine Rolleston on his analysis of CREATE data from Ghana and the Ghana Living Standards Survey. In the session on partnerships for development, Keith Lewin and Tony Somerset focused on the role and limitations of public-private partnerships for development.

Kwame Akyeampong, Madhumita Bandyopadhyay and Benjamin Zeitlyn contributed to the discussion of capacity building, and the strengths and weaknesses of the RPC model. Bandyopadhyay presented the

capacity building activities of NUEPA where the CREATE data and conceptual model are used as material for new doctoral students. Akyeampong brought a unique perspective to the discussion having been in both the role of a recipient and a donor.

CREATE invited Professor Krishna Kumar (former Director of the National Centre for Educational Research and Training, Delhi and CREATE sponsored Gladwyn lecturer in the House of Lords in 2007), and Steve Packer (CAG member and former Deputy Director of the UNESCO based Global Monitoring Report) to sit on a panel to discuss future directions for DFID sponsored research.

Other events

CREATE was well represented at the World Congress (WCCES) in Istanbul between June 14-18. Angela Little delivered a paper 'Education policy reform in Sri Lanka: the double-edged sword of political will', and Keith Lewin gave a paper on "Changing Patterns of Access and Participation in Sub Saharan Africa" exploring how access and participation was evolving in different groups of countries.

CREATE co organised a joint RPC conference at the University of Cape Coast in Ghana on the 27th and 28th of September 2010. The event was organised with the Institute for Educational Planning and Administration at the University of Cape Coast.

The CREATE team from Sussex included Keith Lewin, Kwame Akyeampong, Benjamin Zeitlyn, Eric Ananga and Luke Akaguri – from the University of Winneba. Caine Rolleston attended from the CREATE group at the Institute of Education in London. In Cape Coast the UK based team joined up with the CREATE Cape Coast and Winneba based research team including Jerome Djangmah, Joseph Ghartey Ampiah, Ato Essuman, Christiana Buxton, Chris Kwaa and Louis Boakye-Yiadom, (University of Ghana).

CREATE presentations from the conference are available on the website: <http://www.create-rpc.org/media/Powerpointslides/Ghana2010/index.php>

CREATE co-sponsored the Gladwyn Lecture on "Peace, Progress and Challenge" given by Dr Nosa Aladeselu, Director of the Africa Women's Empowerment Guild. And chaired by David Lammy, previous Minister of State for Higher Education, CREATE was also represented by Benji Zeitlyn at the Global Campaign for Education meeting with Gordon Brown sponsored by the Guardian in early December.

Angela Little gave a lecture to the University of Colombo's Faculty of Education, Sri Lanka on 2 Dec 2010 on "The Sri Lankan Education Reforms of 1997: the double-edged sword of political will". She subsequently spoke to an invited audience of the Sri Lanka Association for the Advancement of Science Annual Meeting on the MDGs.

Forthcoming CREATE-related events, meetings and activities

NUEPA are planning the next international event for CREATE on the 22nd of February 2011. In Ghana the CREATE team are planning regional dissemination events in Mfantseman and Savelugu-Nanton Districts. Details of all upcoming CREATE events and activities can be found at:

<http://www.create-rpc.org/events/>

Documents and publications

The most recent of many Pathways to Access Research Monographs are listed below:

- PTA38. Little, A. (2010) *The Politics, Policies and Progress of Basic Education in Sri Lanka*. CREATE Pathways to Access Research Monograph No. 38. London: Institute of Education.
- PTA39. Wang, X.G. (2010) *Girls' Access to Education in China: Actors, Cultures and the Windmill of Development Management*. CREATE Pathways to Access Research Monograph No. 39. London: Institute of Education.
- PTA40. Reddy, A and Sinha S. (2010) *School Dropouts or Pushouts? Overcoming Barriers for the Right to Education*. Pathways to Access Research Monograph No. 40. Delhi/Brighton: NUEPA/ University of Sussex.
- PTA41. Dunne, M., Bosumtwi, S., Sabates, R., Owusu., A. (2010) *Bullying and School Attendance: A Case Study of Senior High School Students in Ghana*. CREATE Pathways to Access Research Monograph No. 41. Brighton: University of Sussex.
- PTA42. Little, A. (2010) *Access to Basic Education in Ghana: politics, policies and progress*. CREATE Pathways to Access Research Monograph No. 42. London: Institute of Education.
- PTA43. Seidu, A. and Adzahlie-Mensah, V. (2010) *Teachers and Access to Schooling in Ghana*. CREATE Pathways to Access Research Monograph No. 43. Winneba/Brighton: University of Education, Winneba/University of Sussex.
- PTA44. Little, A. (2010) *Access to Elementary Education in India: Politics, Policies and Progress*. CREATE Pathways to Access Research Monograph No. 44. London: Institute of Education.
- PTA45. Cameron, S. (2010) *Access to and Exclusion from Primary Education in Slums of Dhaka, Bangladesh*. CREATE Pathways to Access Research Monograph No. 45. Brighton: University of Sussex.
- PTA46. Williams, S.E. (2010) *Exploring the Viability of School-Based Support for Vulnerable Children: A case study of two township schools in Johannesburg*. CREATE Pathways to Access Research Monograph No. 46. Johannesburg/ Brighton: Wits EPU/ University of Sussex
- PTA47. Taylor, N, Mabogoane, T, Shindler, J and Akoobhai, B. *Seeds of Their Struggle: The Features of Under- and Overage Enrolment Among Grade 4 Learners in South Africa*. CREATE Pathways to Access Research Monograph No. 47. Johannesburg/ Brighton: Wits EPU/ University of Sussex

- PTA48. Hossain, A. *Age in Grade Congruence and Progression in Basic Education in Bangladesh*. CREATE Pathways to Access Research Monograph No. 48. Dhaka/Brighton: BRAC/University of Sussex.
- PTA50 Siddhu, G., *Can families in rural India bear the additional burden of secondary education? Investigating the determinants of transition*. CREATE Pathways to Access Research Monograph No. 50. Brighton: University of Sussex.



Forthcoming Monographs

A selection of forthcoming Pathways to Access Research Monographs are listed below:

- Ahmed, M., *Projects to Programmes to SWAps and Back? What we know and what works: Lessons for primary education with equity and quality in Bangladesh*
- Ampiah, J. G., and Adu-Yeboah, C., *Understanding the social and economic lives of out of school children: a case study of communities in Northern and Southern Ghana*
- Ampiah, J. G., Akyeampong, K., and Sabates, R., *Understanding the effect of over-age attendance on progression: A longitudinal study of schools in Northern and Southern Ghana*
- Ananga, E., *Dropout of from Basic School in Ghana; The Push Out and Pull Out Factors*
- Bandyopadhyay, M., *Exploring gender and school participation. To what extent does gender matter?*
- Lewin, K., and Sabates, R., *Changing Patterns of Access to Education in Anglophone and Francophone Countries in Sub Saharan Africa: Is Education for All Pro-Poor?*
- Lewin, K., *Taking Targets to Task Revisited: How Indicators of Progress on Access to Education can Mislead*
- Lewin, K., *Universalising Access to Secondary Education in India: Is it Achievable at Affordable Costs?*
- Lewin K., *Evolution and change in educational access over two decades in three Xiang in China*
- Little, A., *Access to, attendance at, and achievement in basic education in rural Sri Lanka*

- Panda, B. K. *Access and Participation Among Scheduled Tribe Children in Ashram Schools of Chhattisgarh*
- Rolleston, C., *Fosterage and Access to Education in Northern Ghana*
- Sabates, R. and Hernandez, J., *Parental education and children's educational access over time: Evidence from six African countries*
- Sharma, A., *The dilemma of access to education for the nomads of South Asia*
- Obanya P, *The politics of access to education: the Nigerian story*
- Orkin K., *The effects of child and parental illness on school participation in Ethiopia*
- Mwanza A, *The re-entry to school policy and its impact on school girl mothers in Zambia*

Policy briefs

CREATE publishes policy briefs based on research.

Recent policy briefs include:

- Cameron, S., *Education for the Urban Poor in Bangladesh*
- Rolleston, C., *Fosterage and Educational Access Among the Dagomba of Savelugu-Nanton, Ghana*
- Akaguri, L., *Public and Private Schooling in Rural Ghana: Are the Poor Being Served?*
- Arkoful, K., *Complementary Education and Access to Primary Schooling in Northern Ghana*
- Ananga, E., *Typologies of Drop Out in Southern Ghana*
- Pereira, C., *Access to Learning - Mathematics Performance in Schools in Gauteng and Eastern Cape*

They are available free online on the CREATE website: <http://www.create-rpc.org/publications/policybriefs/>

Journal articles

CREATE researchers have edited special editions of journals including *Prospects* (Vol 40, No. 3) edited by R. Govinda and Manzoor Ahmed containing articles by Amartya Sen, Manzoor Ahmed, R. Govinda, Madhumita Bandyopadhyay, and Zia-Us-Sabur.

A forthcoming special issue of the *International Journal of Education and Development (IJED)* edited by Keith Lewin, Angela Little and Fran Hunt will include articles by: Caine Rolleston, Joanna Härmä, Luke Akaguri and Kwame Akyeampong, Eric Ananga, Stuart Cameron, Stephanie Buckland, Asayo Ohba, Keith Lewin, Guarav Siddhu, Victoria Turrent,

CREATE and other researchers are developing a special issue of the *Journal of Educational Policy*. Edited by Angela Little and Keith Lewin. Authors include Angela Little, Tony Somerset, Michael Ward, Ato Essuman and Kwame Akyeampong, Desmond Birmingham, Wim Hoppers and Keith Lewin. All CREATE products are available on its website: www.create-rpc.org and on the CREATE CD ROM.

What's new online?

The CREATE website (<http://www.create-rpc.org>) has been redesigned and updated to improve the look and make it more user friendly. The way the publications are ordered and displayed has been changed and we are adding PowerPoint presentations. The searchable data base remains available as a research tool.

Capacity building

CREATE supports capacity building in a variety of ways. The main focus of capacity building activities is around the development of research skills amongst team members. The primary audience for capacity building is therefore the constituency of junior and middle level CREATE team members in partner institutes, including those in the UK.

More than 20 CREATE doctoral students and early career researchers have contributed to the PTA monograph series, written policy briefs, presented their work at conferences, or published their work in journals. The large CREATE data bases, now completed, provide a wealth of opportunities for analysis for years to come.

The prestigious Commonwealth Scholarships Commission has supported 6 awards for doctoral studies. The Government of Ghana has sponsored over 20 staff members on the International EdD programme at Sussex many of whom have worked in access issues. The University of Winneba has financed two full time doctoral places linked to CREATE. The Institute of Education in London has provided a Post Doctoral Fellowship. NUEPA in Delhi has developed its doctoral programme on which several students have worked on CREATE related topics. CREATE informs BRAC's action research projects with head teachers and education administrators. Students at Wits in South Africa have worked on CREATE and undertaken research on its concerns.

CREATE's team has been engaged in a wide range of dissemination events which build capacity and its research products are reaching a large audience through its participating institutions. It is close to policy makers in all its research sites and will continue to project its messages into the policy community during 2011 through its publications and events.