13.2 Creating and Testing Educational Pilot Programmes at the Second Level of Selected Primary Schools (Pilot Z project)

The public oversight monitoring of the utilization of funding was conducted at 13 primary schools involved with pilot projects. The audit covered the period from September 1, 2004 to December 31, 2006 – i.e. from the start of the project to the last day of the calendar year in which the project terminated (the Pilot Z project ended on June 30, 2006). The financial audit was based on the performance indicators set out for the project, which were also part of a quarterly reporting cycle.

The total amount of funds provided to the pilot schools for the given period was CZK 8,067,846 and the inspectorate audited a total expenditure of CZK 727,813 that had been incurred in relation to this project in 2006. The inspectorate learned that 88 out of a total of 281 classes in the pilot schools had participated in the project with 132 groups representing 31.9% of the total student body.

The funding had been provided in accordance with the rules for the project. As the suppliers of the funding, the regions had properly set out the rules for utilization and tracking the funding. All of the schools had prepared reports on what they had accomplished with respect to the project and also financial statements.

The utilization of funds for the payroll of the schools' academic staff was usually tracked in staff time sheets and, in certain cases, also in salary records. The inspections showed that the hours worked by the teachers and the corresponding salaries were being properly tracked and monitored.

In 13 of the schools participating in the pilot project, the reconciliation of the funds provided for a specific purpose was carried out in accordance with the provisions of Section 6, Subsection 2 of Decree No. 551/2004 Coll.; however, the inspectorate uncovered two cases in which funds had been improperly used.