Measuring for Success

The role of assessment in achieving learning goals

4th READ Global Conference | May 12–14 2014 | St. Petersburg | Russian Federation

Technical Workshop on Large-Scale Assessment with a Focus on the School Achievements Monitoring (SAM) Tool
May 15–16, 2014

The 4th READ Global Conference will take place from May 12–16 at the Corinthia Hotel in St. Petersburg, Russia. Participants at the 2014 conference will include delegates from the eight countries receiving support under the READ Trust Fund program, Russian policymakers and experts, World Bank staff, and international experts in the areas of assessment and learning. The main conference proceedings will take place from May 12–14. The remainder of the week (May 15–16) will be devoted to technical training workshops for the READ country teams. Two workshop options will be available. One will focus on large-scale assessment; the other on classroom assessment.

Workshop Dates

The workshop on large-scale assessment will take place after the main conference proceedings and will run for two full days, from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm on May 15–16, 2014.

Workshop Objectives

The workshop will address large-scale assessment, with a particular focus on the School Achievements Monitoring (SAM) tool for assessing competence in core subject areas, and how countries can use this tool to improve the learning process in primary schools.

By the end of the workshop, participants should be able to:

· Understand the main purpose, features, and uses of large-scale assessments, and SAM in particular.

· Identify key factors to take into account in SAM projects/interventions.

· Design SAM interventions that are relevant to their country contexts.

Participants

Workshop participants will primarily be delegates from the eight READ country teams. Workshop capacity is up to 30 people.

Workshop Topics

The workshop will address the following topics:

1. Why large-scale assessment in general, and SAM in particular, is important: theoretical and other evidence.

2. Issues addressed by SAM: Typical problems encountered in teaching/learning that SAM helps address (e.g., focus on lower-order cognitive skills, poor feedback to students).

3. Best practices in SAM: Country examples and experiences.

4. How SAM relates to other components of the school system: learning standards and the curriculum, teacher training, supervision.

5. How to design, implement, report on, and ensure the quality of SAM projects and interventions.

6. Interpretation and uses of SAM information: uses for improving teaching and learning, scoring/grading student work, administrative/bureaucratic uses, student report cards, EMIS.

Languages

The workshop will be delivered in Russian, with simultaneous translation into English.

Workshop Team

The workshop program is being developed and delivered by the team from Open Institute "Developing Education" (OIDE) (Russia), supported by the Center for International Cooperation in Education Development CICED (Russian Federation).