Quality Education Provision focused on Institutional capacity building and students’ learning and competence Achievements

Russia Education Aid for Development (READ)
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National Learning Assessments in Ethiopia

What…?

A national assessment may be defined as an exercise designed to describe the level of achievement, not of individual students, but of a whole education system or a clearly defined part of one (such as grade 4 pupils or 11-year-olds).

(Kellaghan and Greaney, 2004)
Why…?

“National assessments would provide policymakers and decision-makers with relevant and reliable information about the state of the education system, its achievements, and its problems.”

(Kellaghan and Greaney, 2004)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baseline NLA</td>
<td>4 &amp; 8, 2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd NLA</td>
<td>4 &amp; 8, 2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd NLA</td>
<td>4 &amp; 8, 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baseline NLA</td>
<td>10 &amp; 12, 2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th NLA</td>
<td>4 &amp; 8, 2010 (Scheduled)</td>
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</tbody>
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Objective

1. To determine the level of students’ academic achievement and attitude development in Ethiopian primary education.

2. To analyze the variations of students’ achievement by region, gender, location and language of instruction.

3. To explore factors that influence students’ achievement in primary education.

4. To monitor the improvement of students’ learning achievement from the second national learning assessment in 1996 E.C.
Objective (cont’d)

5. To build the capacity of the education system in national learning assessment.
6. To create reliable baseline data for future study.
7. To generate recommendations for policy making to improve quality education.
Methodology

- **Design**
  - Quantitative
  - Qualitative
  - Cross-sectional
  - ‘Longitudinal’

- **Sampling**
  - Two stage stratified cluster sampling
  - Purposive for the qualitative
Level of Analysis

- Nation
- Region
- Gender
- Location
- Language of Instruction
- Subject Score
- Composite Score
Instruments:

- Achievement Tests
  - English, Mathematics, Environmental Science, Mother Tongue (G 4)
  - English, Math, Biology, Chemistry, Physics (G8, G10 and G12)
- Attitude Scale
- Questionnaires
  - Students’ Background
  - Subject Teachers
  - School Directors
- School Checklists
- Focus Group Discussion guide
Validity and Reliability:

- Experts’ review
- Workshop
- For and back translations
- Piloting
- Item analysis
- School roster
Major Findings Based on ETNL
% Mean Score by Subject Grade 4

- Mathematics: 40.3
- Reading: 40
- English: 35
- Env. Science: 42.5
- Average: 40
% Mean Score by Subject Grade 8

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>38.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math</td>
<td>34.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>38.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>34.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physics</td>
<td>32.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Composite</td>
<td>35.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
As the result of this assessment the Ministry of Education, Ethiopia has initiated a World Bank Project called GEQIP (General Education Quality Improvement Projective).

Areas of intervention identified:
- Redesigned Assessment of National learners’ Achievement,
- Inspection,
- Quality audit (institutional and program level),
Inspection

- **General:**
  - There was emphasis on supervision.
  - Currently supervision is focusing on quality care at school level.
  - Inspection is taken as an external quality audit process focusing on students’ learning achievement and starts from SE of schools on set quality standards.
Inspection.....

- Schools supervision or quality care units to be established
- **Composition:** parents, students, staff, community representatives, employers, school management
- **Ten quality focal areas identified:** mission, vision and educational goals, governance and management, infrastructure and learning resources, Academic and support staff, Student admission and support service, relevance and quality of curricula, teaching learning and assessment, etc
Inspection.....

- Schools are expected to write self evaluation documents
- An independent team of 5 inspectors write external inspection report
- The report will be public
- Schools are expected to prepare quality enhancement plan time bounded
Quality audit

Quality assurance is about making sure that appropriate and effective teaching, support, assessment and learning opportunities are provided for students in an institution that they join for further study.

The quality assurance process involves:

- Internal audit conducted by the institution itself
- External audit undertaken by an independent non-partisan quality assurance agency
Quality audit.....

✓ Quality audit in HEIs could be done at two levels:
  ➢ Institutional and
  ➢ program
  ❖ General:
  ✓ Has an aim of meeting public interest in knowing that HEIs provide degrees of an acceptable quality
  ✓ Basis for quality audit is the self-evaluation reports
Quality audit…..

✓ Institutional level audit examines:

- the effectiveness of an institution's internal quality assurance structures and mechanisms, in the light of, for instance, the HERQA's Code of practice for the assurance of academic quality and standards in higher education.
Quality Audit Achievements

- Eight p15 September 2009 public Universities
- Four Private University Colleges
- Two more universities have been audited and report ready
- IQA reports made public
Challenges we face

- Access to and quality in education is yet hard to fetch;
- Disparity between boys and girls still needs attention;
- Pupils in urban schools need more support;
- School feeding has to be encouraged;
- Parents should be sensitized to avail home materials that support academic achievement;
- A comprehensive school reform has to be in place, with which school leadership needs to be reformed;
Challenges we face....

- Schools need to focus on students center teaching and learning focused on students’ achievement
- Universities need to work hard in producing competent graduates the meet the needs of the industry and employer
- They have to launch demand driven educational programs
Issues for discussion

- What are the good practices in National learners’ Achievement Assessment Ethiopia can to learn?
- How best can we make IQA and PLA an instrument for quality enhancement?
- What are the current practices in school inspections and their integration from school to Federal level?
Thank You