



FIRST READ GLOBAL CONFERENCE

“Developing a Vision for Assessment Systems”

Assessment Overview

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Outline of Presentation

- **Purpose of Assessment**
- **The Assessment Cycle**
- **How is Evidence Used?**
- **Who Uses Assessments?**
- **Components of an Assessment System**
- **The Assessment Continuum**

Purpose of Assessment

**to gather and use
evidence about
learning**

Assessment Cycle



How is this evidence used?

- **Support improvement in learning**
- **Monitor functioning of schools/the system**
- **Certify and/or select learners**
- **Hold institutions and staff accountable**
- **Reporting to stakeholders**
- **Compare learners, schools, systems**
- **Determine the effectiveness/impact of educational strategies/policies**

Two approaches for using evidence

- **Formative - IMPROVEMENT**

Assessments used to provide specific feedback about how to go about improving learning, i.e., use of evidence here and now

- **Summative - JUDGEMENT**

Assessments used to determine how much an individual has learned i.e., evidence based on what has already been done

How is assessment evidence obtained?

- **Teacher observations and questions**
- **Classwork & homework**
- **Projects and assignments**
- **Portfolios of student work**
- **Teacher tests**
- **Standardized tests**
- **Examinations (classroom & national)**



Users of assessment information

- **Learners** need feedback on their performance
 - To know where they are doing well and where they need assistance
- **Teachers** need information about their learners' understanding in order to make decisions about:
 - What and how they teach and/or
 - What support required by learners
- **Parents** need information about their children's learning so they know the areas where their children need additional support.

Users of assessment information

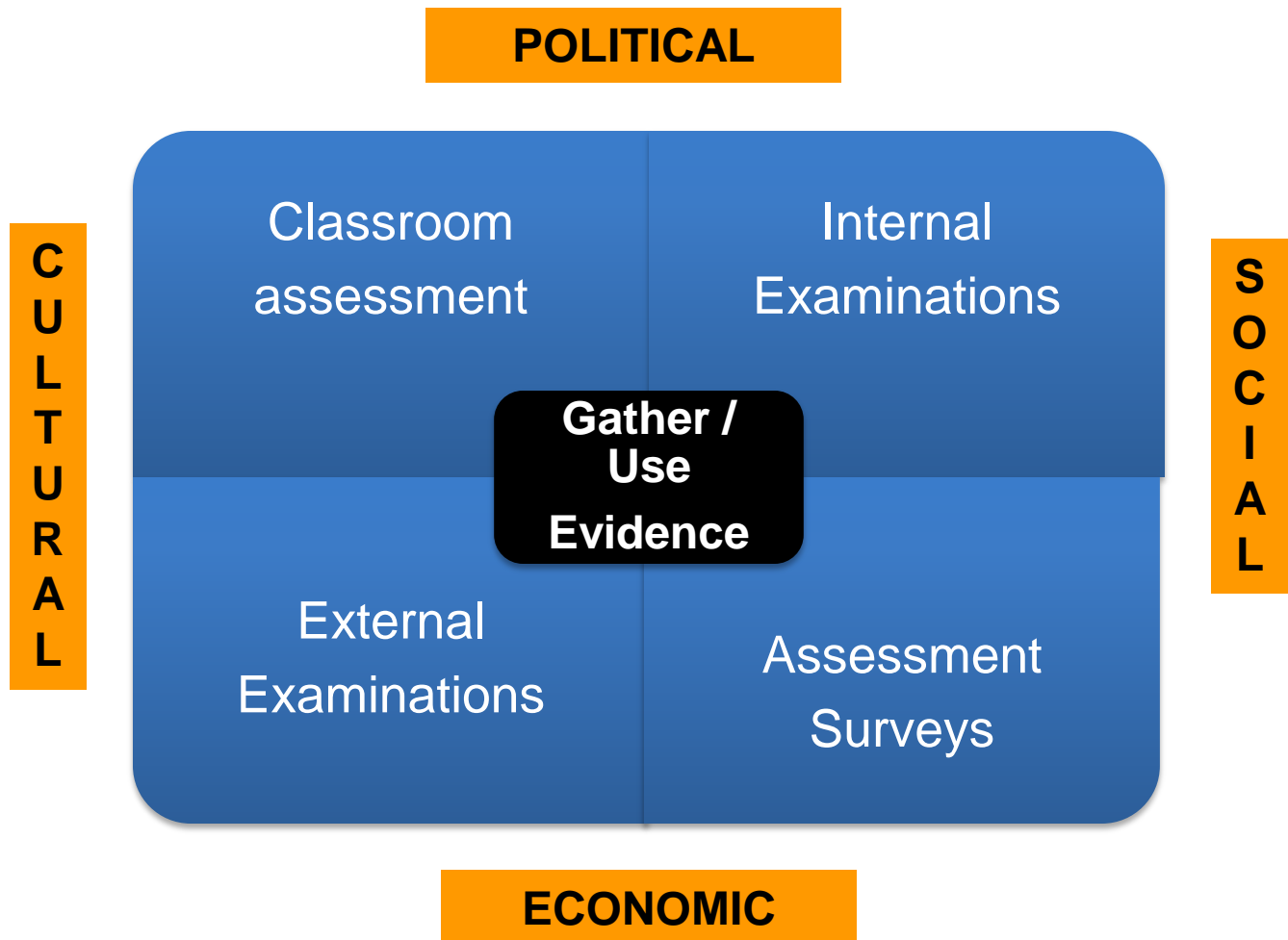
- **School districts / Principals** need information about progress of schools and learners so they can know where additional support may be needed.
- **National and Provincial (policy makers)** need to know whether the education system is providing the appropriate environment for enhancing learning in order to support those areas in need of improvement
- **Public / community** – need to know how well education system is functioning and whether its producing citizens with required skills

DEFINITION – Assessment System

an assessment system can be defined as a group of interacting, interrelated, or interdependent policies, practices, structures and processes for the use of evidence of learning at the different levels of the education system

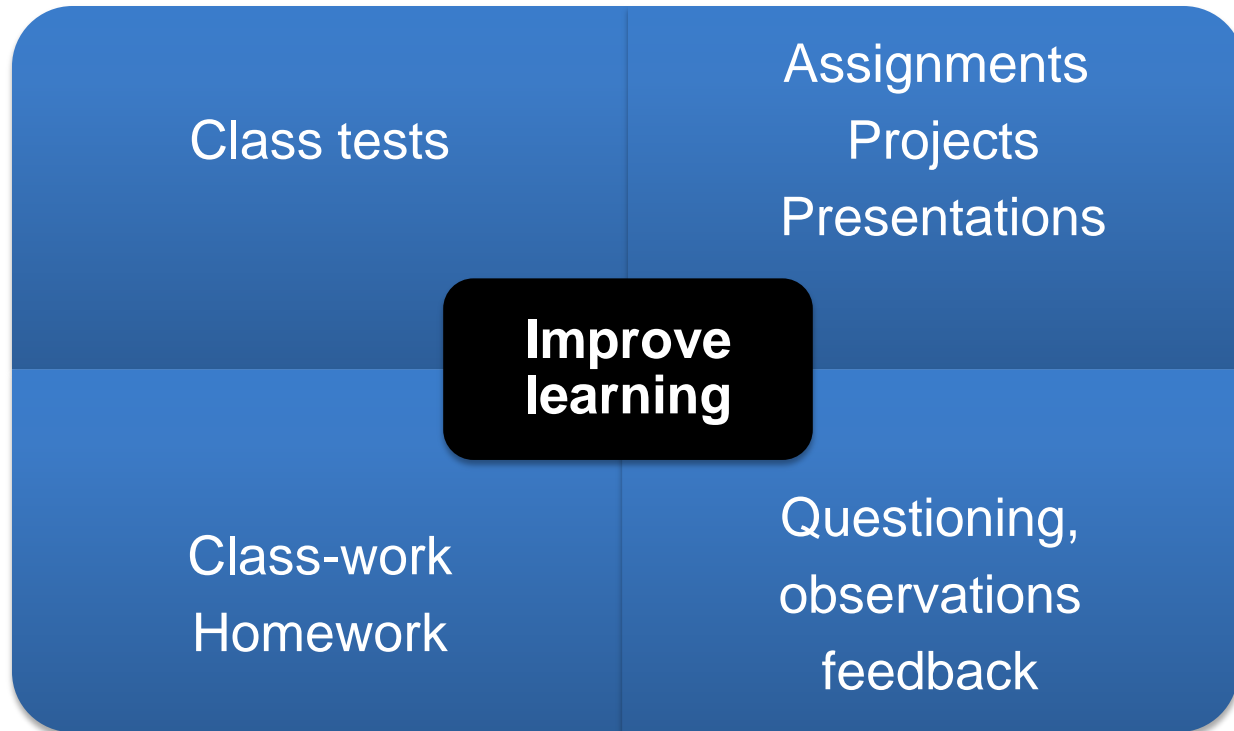
What are the different parts of an **Assessment System?**

Assessment system components



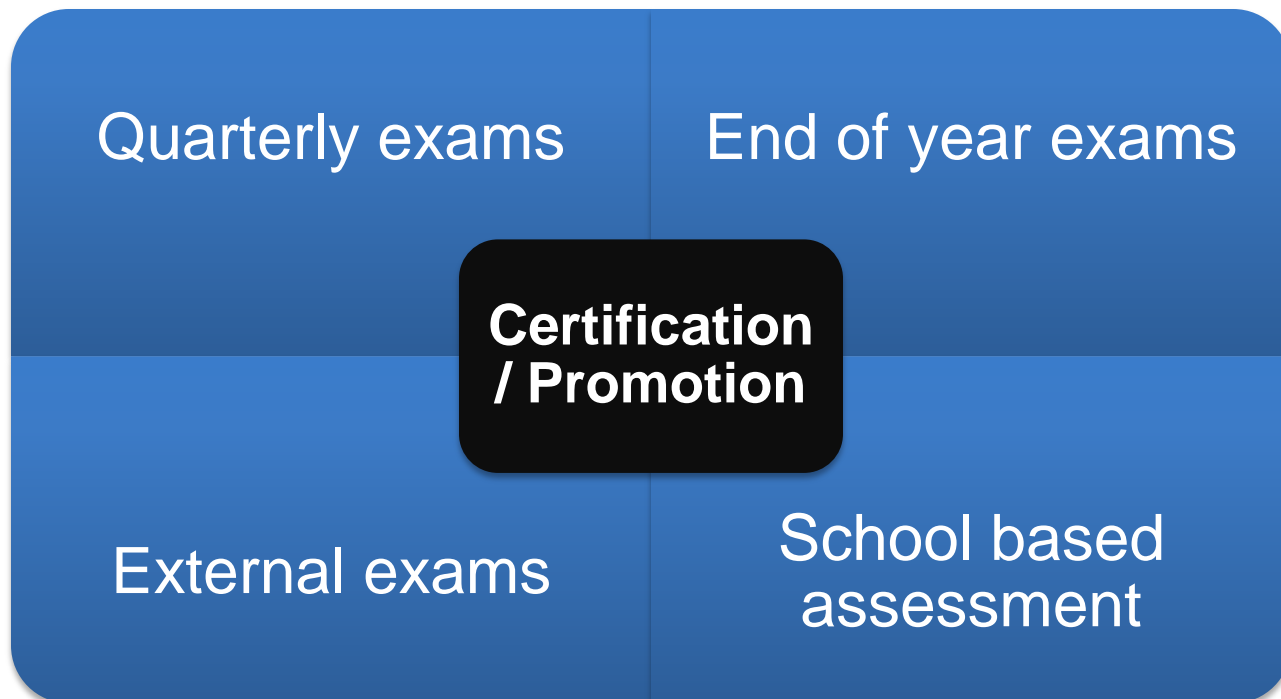
Classroom assessment

The process of obtaining evidence on the knowledge, skills and attitudes of individual learners for improving learning



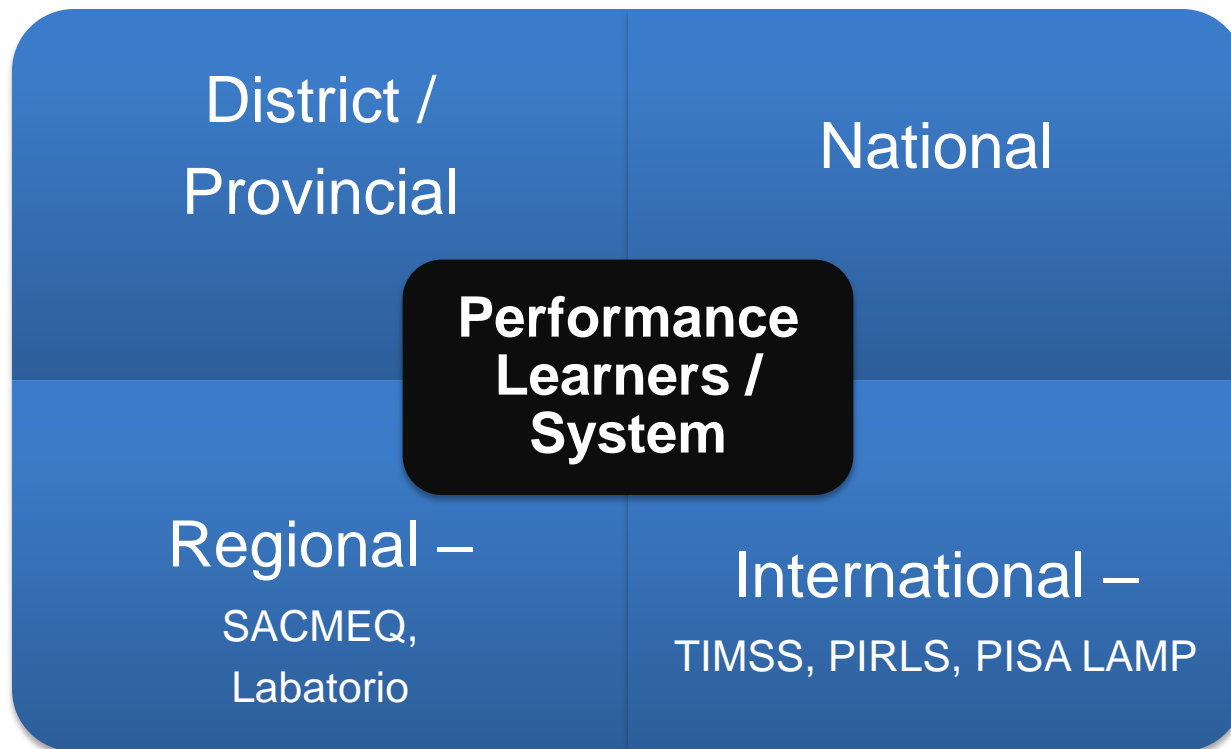
Examinations

A process prescribed for testing qualification of candidates

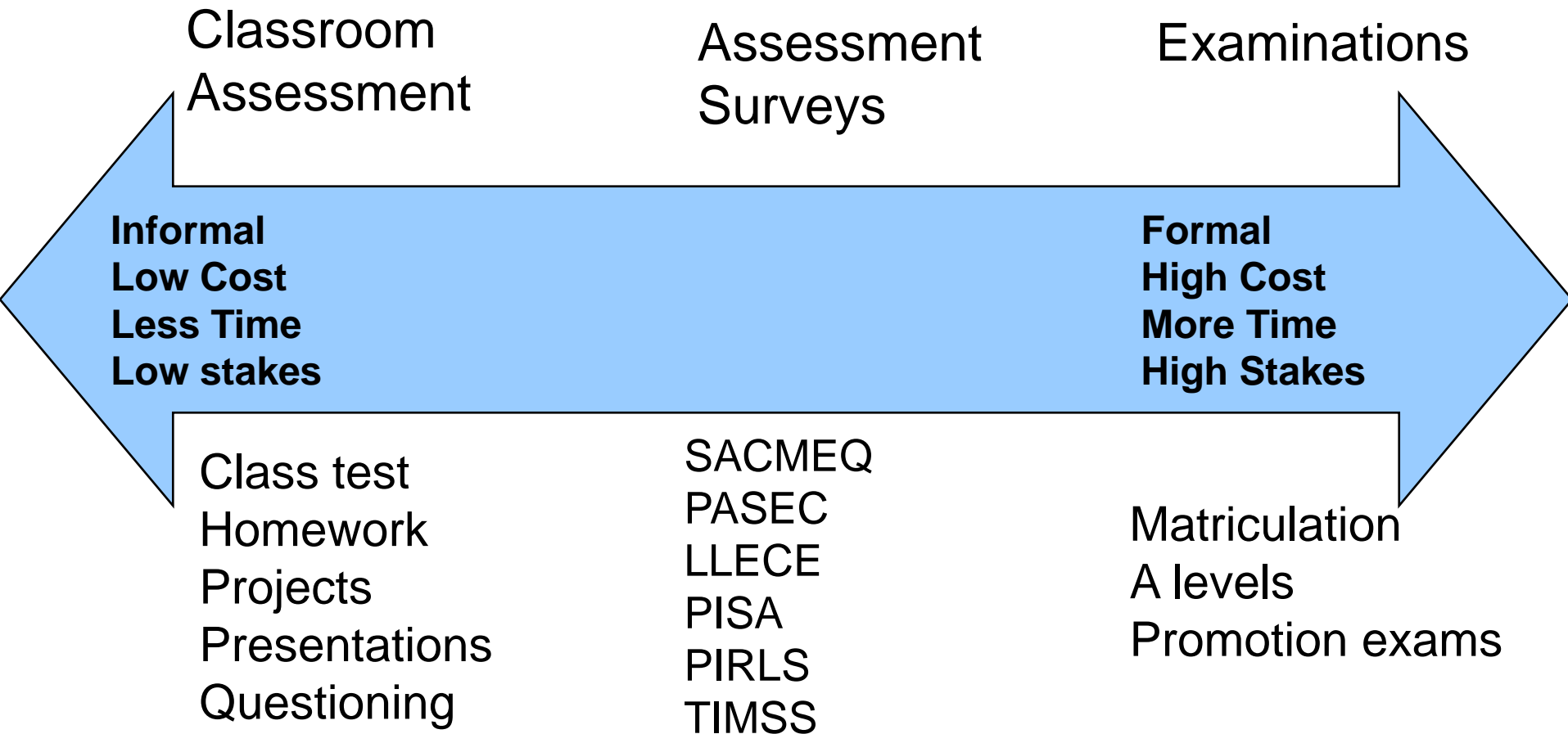


Assessment surveys

The process of obtaining evidence from an education system (or part thereof) on the performance of learners and other role players as well as on the functioning of structures and programs within the system



Assessment Continuum



Thank you