



Eugene Gonzalez, USA
International Assessments and Quality of Education in USA

Presentation will provide a comparative overview of the purpose and methods of the three largest international educational assessment programs that are currently taking place around the world: TIMSS, PIRLS and PISA. It will also make brief mention of some additional international educational surveys that are being conducted such as the Civics Education Study (CivEd) and the Second International Technology in Education study.

Ph.D David Rutkowski, Germany
Intergovernmental Organization and Indicators

The purpose of the presentation was to introduce the concept of indicators, explain their history, demonstrate the work of IOs within the creation of indicators, and propose one theory toward explaining the increased use of indicators within IOs.



International Association for Educational Assessment
33rd Annual Conference, 16-21 September 2007, Baku

NEWSLETTER (ISSUE No.2)



Marlenn van der Lubbe, Netherlands
Pupil Monitoring System for Primary Education

The presentation discussed the Pupil Monitoring System (PMS) as a tool for teacher and school to monitor the progress of individual learners, groups of learners and the quality of the school in a reliable and systematic way.

PHOTO GALLERY



FIRST LADY'S MESSAGE

To the Participants of the 33rd IAEA Annual Conference
on "Inter-dependence of National Assessment Systems and Educational Standards"



Dear conference participants!
Ladies and gentlemen!
With all my heart I greet you in the capital of Azerbaijan - the city of Baku. You came here from different countries to participate in such an honourable event, but all of you have one common interest - the current situation of education and its future perspectives.
In Azerbaijan like anywhere in the world education has always been the issue of prime importance. It was not by chance that the International Conference on "UNESCO-Azerbaijan: Bridge to the Future" was held in Baku in August 24, 2005 attended by the UNESCO General Director Koichiro Matsuura. The different aspects of education development were discussed and the major problems were identified at that Conference.
It's a big achievement that Azerbaijan was chosen to host your conference on "Interdependence of National Assessment Systems and Educational Standards". Azerbaijan is the first country in the post Soviet territory which started applying the modern systems for the assessment and achieving for the last fifteen years some significant results in this area. Thus many countries in the region acknowledge our experience as a good model to follow.
The Heydar Aliyev Foundation plays a substantial role in improving of the Azerbaijani educational system quality. The purpose of the program "New school to renewing Azerbaijan" carried out by the foundation is to bring up the young generation of educated people with broad world outlook. Multiple activities have been implemented within the framework of this program. The issue of higher priority for the foundation is to supply schools with high-tech equipment to meet the requirements of the informational society.
Next year within the UNESCO the regional conference on education is considered to be held in Baku. It may be regarded as an important step towards integration of Azerbaijan in the world educational system. In this respect your conference is also very important.

I believe that such kind of events would help to advance the system of education and to define new educational standards to successfully implement the educational reforms in our country.
I wish you good health, happiness and success in solving educational problems for further development of your countries.

Mehriban Aliyeva
President of the Heydar Aliyev Foundation
Goodwill Ambassador of UNESCO

Chairperson of the SSAC, Dr. Maleyke Abbaszade gave an interview to media representatives



She stressed that the conference is open to local scholars as well. She also mentioned that it is the first time that delegates from the CIS participate in the IAEA annual conference.

Dr. Abbaszade noted that this conference is of great significance as we exchange our knowledge and experience. She underscored that unlike the CIS, it has been already 15 years

that Azerbaijan have been using the testing system as an assessment of applicants knowledge. Moreover, Dr. Abbaszade mentioned that along with testing we regularly publish analytical reports on results of testing which enable us to analyze applicants knowledge.

Paper Presentations



Anil Kanjee, Executive Director National Education Quality Initiative, South Africa
Providing effective support to teachers is the greatest challenge for improving education quality in schools

Purpose of National education Quality Initiative is to support education officials and teachers improve the quality of education for all South Africans.

Chris Whetton, Assistant director of National Foundation for Educational Research, UK
Preliminary Stages of a Validity Study of the Use of an Aptitude Test in University Entrance

The describes and explores the relationships between scores on the SAT Reasoning Test and looks in particular at subject relationships.



Exhibition



Presentation materials about 34th Annual Conference of International Association for Educational Assessment (IAEA) that will be held in Cambridge, UK in September 2008 is exhibited in the hall of Park Inn hotel. The theme of the Conference will be "Re-interpreting assessment: society, measurement and meaning". The Conference will include keynote sessions and paper presentations. It will provide a forum for participants to share professional expertise and strengthen mutual understanding and relationship.



Dylan William, Deputy director of the Institute of Education, University of London, UK

The rate of progress of students in our schools is much slower than most people assume. If we are to hold schools to account for the progress of their students, we need to understand that our test do not measure the quality of teaching that students receive. Learning happens much more slowly than most people believe.

Judith Asein, Admission into Tertiary Institutions, Nigeria

The Federal Republic of Nigeria has devised a means whereby we use central admission into universities to correct educational disbalance. We have to balance the ration of science and arts in favor of Science Education.



Anne Oberholzer (South Africa):
"If the teachers don't change the way they are teaching, the learners will not learn better".



Amango Ugoji (Nigeria):
"Parents must take more responsibility in education of their children".



Bene't Steinberg (UK):
"Businesses are always complaint that tests don't produce quality professionals. We should not take it too seriously".



Luis Saldivia (USA):
"The more research we make on our items, the better we understand what we measure and how to measure better".



Terezia Reisz, University of Pecs, Hungary

An important question of the national research policy is the efficiency of the educational system. The aim of the research is to find the success criteria of getting into higher education.