Editor's Note

Dear Readers,

We are pleased to present the first issue of our e-newsletter. The purpose of EPR E-Newsletter is to keep you informed of what's happening in the field of education policy and reform in the Asia and Pacific region, not only from the sector-wide perspective, but also in those critical to the crossroads of learning and life—such as secondary education as well as technical and vocational education and training. It is hoped to be a channel for knowledge and information exchange on education policy and reform among professionals in the education sector.

To start with, in this issue, you will find articles and links pertaining to a range of activities carried out by UNESCO Bangkok in the field of education policy and management. We hope you find this issue useful and informative.

For improvement and enrichment of EPR E-Newsletters, we encourage you to send your feedback and contributions for our future issues to us at epr.bgk@unesco.org.

Kind regards, EPR E-Newsletter Editor

Highlights

How Much Does It Cost to Achieve EFA?
Most countries cannot answer this question, and not because it is impossible to do so, but often due to a lack of capacity. Estimating the actual cost of an entire education system is one of the most important steps in the process of planning for the achievement of the EFA goals. » Read the full story

Disparities Hinder Access to Secondary Education for Young People
Understanding the challenges facing access to secondary education in the Asia-Pacific requires much more than solely analyzing enrolment rates, but calls for a more comprehensive examination of many and multiple factors. » Read the full story

Understanding the Performance of Education Systems
Furthering the development of education systems is a major concern for most governments. Why some education systems perform better than others is a question that the international community is trying to answer. » Read the full story

Decentralization of Education Finance and Delivery in China -- Lessons to Learn
China appears to have the largest educational system in the world with 162.85 million students enrolled in regular, nine-year compulsory schools in 2007. In the past, this sheer scale meant that China had no choice but to decentralize the financing and provision of basic education. » Read the full story

Upcoming Event

International Seminar on National Qualifications Frameworks with Thai MOE
The Ministry of Education of Thailand is set to host the International Conference on “the Implementation of National Qualifications Frameworks (NQF): Policies and Strategies” in Pullman King Power Hotel, Bangkok on 27 – 28 April 2011. » Read the full story
UNESCO Completes Training Workshop on Education Planning
Lahore, Pakistan: UNESCO Bangkok’s EPR (Education Policy and Reform) Unit and UNESCO Islamabad jointly facilitated a technical workshop on education planning and policy simulation in Lahore, Pakistan, from 17-19 January 2011. » Read the full story

New Changes to Affect the Future of Lao Education
It is considered a “milestone” by some, as officials from the Lao Ministry of Education gathered to discuss and finalize a secondary education sub-sector action plan to help implement major education reform.
» Read the full story

UNESCO Workshop Hosts Education Officials from Papua New Guinea
The workshop was an eye opener for many of us, especially those involved in costing of education and planning. We have now realized the importance of data. With the costing tool, we can scientifically develop our budget and justify our needs.” PNG official said. » Read the full story

Online Resources

UNESDOC
UNESDOC Database is UNESCO’s main online resource center containing mostly recent documents, publications, tools, and other information materials published or produced by UNESCO. » click here

UNESCO E-MAP
E-Map is E-Network on Educational Planning and Management aims to promote the exchange of expertise and research in the field of educational planning and management between UNESCO and the Members States. » click here

Invitation for Content Contribution
All members are invited to contribute related news, feature articles or recommend publications, websites, or other information sources as well as provide feedback to enrich the EPR E-Newsletter. Please use the template provided at on EPR website send an email and attachments (if any) to epr.bgk@unesco.org

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