Editor's Note:

Dear Readers,

This is the second issue of the e-Newsletter on Education Policy and Reform (EPR) in Asia-Pacific. The purpose of this e-Newsletter is to keep policymakers, practitioners and researchers informed of what's happening in the field of education policy development, reform implementation and related innovations and research in the Asia and Pacific region, not only from a 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.

After the release of the first issue, we have received several encouraging messages and also useful comments for improvement of EPR e-Newsletter. We wish to thank them all, as well as our readers for your continued support and contribution. As education policy reform is an active process, this requires continuous update of information. We count on your support and contribution to make this e-Newsletter a rich and useful tool of knowledge sharing on education policies and innovative reform practices in the region.

In this issue, we are carrying a selection of highlights of the news and activities that occurred in recent months, especially in March and April.

Highlights

For Japan, Our Generous Donor
The Tsunami that hit on 11 March 2011 has brought difficult circumstances to Japan that should not be dealt with alone. It is time to mobilize needed support from the international community, and UNESCO stands ready to lend Japan a helping hand. » Read the full story

Addressing Challenges in Financing Secondary Education
A regional expert meeting on “Financing Secondary Education in the Asia-Pacific Policy Research” was organized at UNESCO Bangkok on 17-18 March 2011. Good practices on issues such as decentralization of governance, formula funding and cost-sharing with households were exchanged. » Read the full story

Tenth Meeting of the High-Level Group on EFA in Jomtien, Thailand
Some 40 global leaders attended the Tenth Meeting of the High-Level Group (HLG) on Education for All (EFA) from 22 to 24 March in Jomtien, Thailand. This meeting revisited the original Jomtien vision and reviewed progress towards the six EFA goals adopted in Dakar in 2000. » Read the full story

Education MTEF: Approaches, Experience and Lessons from 9 countries in Asia
The third booklet of the Asia-Pacific Education System Review series was published. It summarizes the basic concepts of the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) process and the experiences that Asian countries have had in its implementation in the education sector. » Read the full story

Upcoming Events

Conference on System Assessment and Benchmarking for Education Results Pilot Survey
To be held in Bali, Indonesia, 5-8 June 5-8 2011, the conference is hosted by Indonesia and co-organized by UNESCO and the World Bank. The conference will provide a forum for sharing firsthand accounts of the pilot system assessment surveys and practitioners’ experience within the region. » Read the full story

Expert Meeting to Develop a Toolkit on Education Micro-Planning
An expert meeting on 27-28 June in Bangkok, Thailand, to discuss capacity needs and challenges in the context of educational decentralization in the Asia-Pacific region, with the eventual aim to develop a Toolkit on Education Micro-Planning. » Read the full story
News

Critical Education Issues in Central Asia
Central Asia has made significant achievements in the past decade in all subsectors of education, but it also faces some challenges in continuing progress in the sector. One particular challenge is having policies and curriculums that prepare students with sufficient knowledge and skills. » Read the full story

Building Capacity for Sustainable Education Policy and Development
UNESCO organized two workshops: one in Tonga and one in Kiribati to enhance knowledge and skills of Ministry of Education officials in both countries on education indicators, education sector analysis, the logical framework approach and the simulation model. » Read the full story

International Conference on National Qualifications Framework

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

INESM
The Interagency Network on Education Simulation Models (INESM) website is an inter-agency portal established to facilitate the exchange of experiences and relevant expertise in the field of education simulation models (ESM). » click here

UNESCO E-MAP
E-MAP is E-Network on Educational Planning and Management which 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
Readers 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

Networks
UNESCO encourages you to keep connected and strengthen global partnership through our online social networks:

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“To review, the previous issue of EPR E-Newsletter” » click here