Learning Assessment in the Asia-Pacific

The Network on Education Quality Monitoring in the Asia-Pacific (NEQMAP) Secretariat at UNESCO Bangkok surveyed 13 countries in the region in order to learn more about their participation in national, regional and international assessments, the nature of these assessments, analysis of assessment data, and the policy environment. This infographic reflects the survey responses on matters of particular interest. The NEQMAP Secretariat is now working to collect this information for all countries in the region.

What is measured by national assessment?

- Knowledge of curriculum: 95%
- Application of knowledge in practice: 76%
- Knowledge beyond curriculum: 33%
- Student interest & attitudes towards subject area: 52%
- Non-cognitive abilities of students: 5%

How assessment results are shared

- Reports are distributed to stakeholders: 12/13
- Seminar/conferences for policy-makers: 12/13
- Feedback to students/teachers/parents, etc.: 7/13
- There is a report available online: 6/13
- Seminars for unions and professional bodies: 6/13
- Results are issued in a press release: 4/13
- Other activities: 2/13

Is funding available for the national assessment programmes?

- 2/13 countries answered: Yes, there is regular government funding
- 9/13 countries answered: Yes, there is regular funding allocated by the government
- 1/13 countries answered: Yes, there is irregular funding from non-government sources

National assessment background survey responses by category

- 80% administered background surveys to teachers
- 70% administered background surveys to schools
- 25% administered background surveys to students
- 10% conducted no background surveys

Purpose of quantitative analysis on national assessment

- To identify the factors affecting student performance
- To understand the variations among students’ cognitive abilities with regard to literacy and numeracy from socio-economic, regional, and gender dimensions
- To provide recommendations for improving the design/development of curriculum
- To support education policy development
- To monitor progress of implementation of policies/programmes related to student outcomes and education quality
- To provide recommendations for improving the teaching-learning environment