



Bangkok Office
Asia and Pacific
Regional Bureau
for Education



Network on Education Quality Monitoring in the Asia-Pacific (NEQMAP)

OLO Regional Workshop
Siem Riep, 19-21 August 2014

Ramya Vivekanandan Rodrigues
Programme Specialist, UNESCO Bangkok



Outline

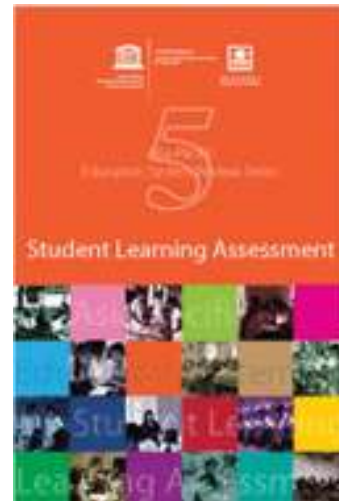
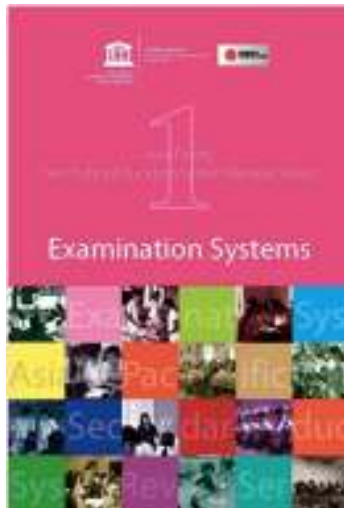
- Rationale & background
- What is NEQMAP?
- Who is NEQMAP?
- What do we do?
- Linkages between NEQMAP and OLO

Rationale & background:

Why a network on education quality monitoring in the Asia-Pacific region?



- Increasing interest in the issue of quality of education in general and monitoring of quality specifically



- Expanding participation in international assessments, as well as more frequent organization of national assessments for diagnostic and monitoring purposes
- Emphasis on learning outcomes in the post-2015 education agenda

Rationale & background (cont'd):

Why a network on education quality monitoring in the Asia-Pacific region?



- Global initiatives to define common learning domains and measures (e.g. Learning Metrics Task Force)
- Strong tradition of public examinations, yet much concern about these examinations
- Concern over whether countries have the policies, structures, practices and tools needed to constitute an effective student assessment system
- Expressed need to understand and monitor other kinds of learning beyond the cognitive domain



Rationale & background (cont'd): *Why a network on education quality monitoring in the Asia-Pacific region?*

- Increasing regionalization and cooperation within and among sub-regions (e.g. Southeast Asia via ASEAN and SEAMEO, South Asia via SAARC, Pacific via SPBEA)
- Expressed desire for knowledge sharing and capitalizing on the rich expertise which exists in the region
- UNESCO mandate (research, knowledge sharing, capacity building)
- Existence of similar initiatives/platforms in other regions (e.g. SACMEQ, PASEC, LLECE)

Rationale & background (cont'd):

Inaugural Meeting – 27-28 March 2013





NEQMAP
Network on Education Quality
Monitoring in the Asia-Pacific

Inaugural Statement Network on Education Quality Monitoring in the Asia-Pacific (NEQMAP)

With more children enrolled in school, the issues of quality and equity, together with the subsequent question of whether and how well students are learning have become increasingly pertinent, with several global and regional initiatives focussing on this issue.

Countries are looking to improve the way education systems evaluate the performance of students in an effort to closely monitor how well students are learning.

At the same time, policymakers, researchers and practitioners are concerned with the suitability of assessment systems, to ensure that they meet the needs of learners. In some cases, this includes concerns that excessive testing may cause education provision to be skewed towards undesirable side effects including "teaching to the test".

Monitoring of learning outcomes can facilitate changes to the education system to improve learning, and is also important for accountability and for governments to justify investments in education.

Comprehensive monitoring of learning requires effective and contextualised policies, structures, practices and tools in order to produce a valid and reliable evidence base for improving the quality of learning.

In considering assessment as the key tool used in monitoring learning, it is also critical to maintain strong linkages with curriculum and pedagogy as the main enablers of learning in the classroom.

Countries/jurisdictions of the Asia-Pacific region, with diverse experiences from a wide range of perspectives, have tremendous potential to learn from each other and synergize efforts in improving the way learning is monitored and in using assessments to improve learning across the region.

Countries have been showing increasing interest in sharing of experiences and expertise, and also the desire to learn from others in issues related to assessment, including the use of assessment data to improve policy and learning.

Recognizing this demand, UNESCO's Asia-Pacific Regional Bureau for Education (UNESCO Bangkok), has the mandate to facilitate a regional platform for networking and information exchange on monitoring learning to raise the quality of education in Member States. This regional platform, NEQMAP, is hereby established on 28 March 2013, in Bangkok, Thailand.

Rajendra Singh - India

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T-R. Khanna
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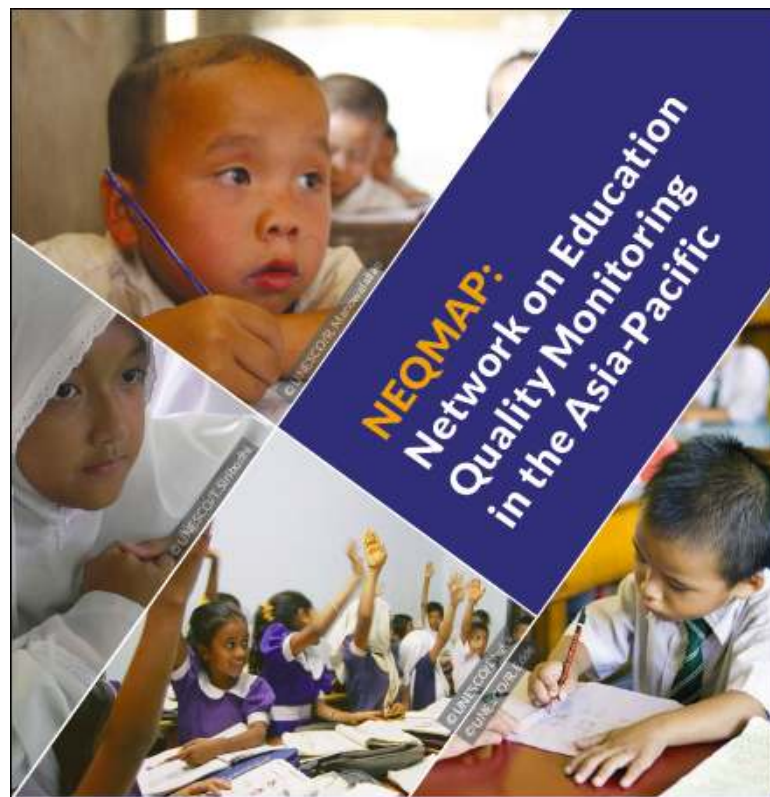
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What is NEQMAP?



NEQMAP:
Network on Education
Quality Monitoring
in the Asia-Pacific

NEQMAP aims to improve the quality of learning in the Asia-Pacific by enhancing the use of student learning assessment to strengthen education systems.

www.unescobkk.org/education/neqmap



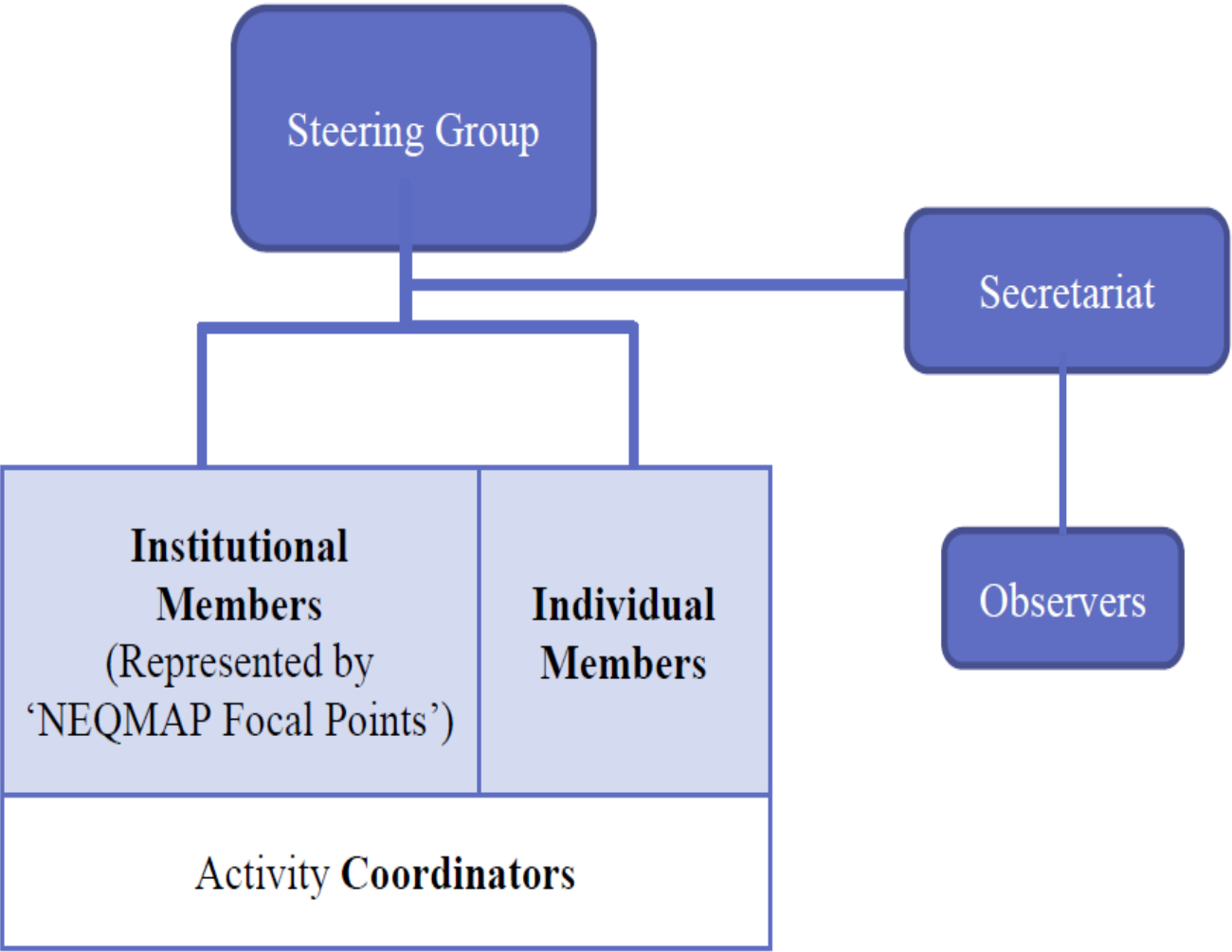
NEQMAP
Network on Education Quality
Monitoring in the Asia-Pacific



What is NEQMAP?

- A network which aims to improve the quality of learning in the Asia-Pacific by enhancing the use of student learning assessment to strengthen education systems
- Focused on three modalities:
 1. Knowledge sharing
 2. Research
 3. Capacity development

Who is NEQMAP?



Who is NEQMAP? (cont'd)



Membership is open to all institutions/
organizations/associations based on the following criteria:

- Mandate of the unit/department/institution/
organization/ association is strongly linked to
monitoring the quality of education,
- Track record of activities linked to monitoring the
quality of education
- Submission of membership form and endorsement
letter by head of organization
- Approval by a simple majority of the Steering Group

Membership form available on website

Who is NEQMAP? (cont'd)



Other (1): GL Education

Central Asia (3):

- EAOKO (Eurasia)
- EEC, MoES (Mongolia)
- Mongolian Academy of Educational Sciences

South and West Asia (8):

- ASER Centre (India)
- CCLP Worldwide (India)
- EDSC (Nepal)
- EQFI (India)
- IIE (India)
- ITA (Pakistan)
- EMIS, MoE (Afghanistan)
- CAER (India)

North East Asia (3):

- Graduate School of Education, University of Tokyo (Japan)
- HKPISA Centre (Hong Kong, China)
- KICE (Republic of Korea)

South East Asia (5):

- NIE (Singapore)
- NIETS (Thailand)
- VNIES (Vietnam)
- Education Quality Assurance Center, EQAC, MoE (Lao PDR)
- Paul Chua (Singapore)

Pacific (2):

- ACER (Australia)
- SPBEA (South Pacific)

As of August 2014, NEQMAP has 22 members, including 21 institutions and 1 individual.



Who is NEQMAP? (cont'd)

Steering Group

- [Ana Raivoce](#)
Director, Secretariat of the Pacific Board for Educational Assessment (SPBEA) - Fiji
- [Ho Sui Chu Esther](#)
Director, Hong Kong Centre for International Student Assessment - Hong Kong SAR (China)
- [Ivan Nikitin](#)
Executive Secretary, Eurasian Association for Educational Assessment (EAOKO) - Russia
- [Jimin Cho](#)
Head, Office of Global Cooperation, Korea Institute for Curriculum & Evaluation (KICE) - Republic of Korea
- [Suman Bhattacharjea](#)
Research Director, ASER Centre/Pratham - India

What do we do?

Current/upcoming activities...



- Research on how the results of learning assessments are used and their impact on policy and practice
 - Systematic review conducted by ACER
 - Policy brief
 - National case studies
- Organization of a regional capacity development workshop on large-scale assessments of learning (23-26 September 2014, Bangkok) – first in a series!
- Regional mapping study on existing policies and research on monitoring learning outcomes
- Establishment of a knowledge portal on student learning assessment in the region
- Research on assessment of transversal or 21st century skills

Capacity Development Workshop

INTRODUCTION TO LARGE-SCALE ASSESSMENTS OF LEARNING

23 – 26 September 2014, Bangkok, Thailand

To support countries of the Asia-Pacific region in strengthening their capacity in the area of assessment or monitoring quality of learning, UNESCO Bangkok (NEQMAP Secretariat), with generous support from the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) and Malaysian Funds-in-Trust (M-FIT), is organizing a four-day workshop from 23 to 26 September 2014 in Bangkok, Thailand.

The workshop aims to present an overview of large-scale learning assessments by introducing selected, well-known models and practices at national, regional and international levels, while focusing on the practical parameters of each model's implementation (e.g. what, why, who, when, where and how). The workshop will emphasize the use of assessment in particular.

The main target audience shall be government officials with responsibility for conducting large-scale assessments in their respective countries of the Asia-Pacific region, while also welcoming participants from other organizations who are interested in the workshop.

Venue and Date:

The four-day workshop will be held at the [Bangkok Marriott Hotel Sukhumburi](#) in Bangkok, Thailand. The course will commence on Tuesday 23 September 2014 and conclude on Friday 26 September 2014. Participants are expected to stay for the full duration of the course and attend all sessions.

Registration date and fee*:

	Early bird registration by 1 September 2014	Regular registration by 15 September 2014
Government officials from <i>Alghanistan, Bhutan, Cambodia, Kyrgyzstan, Lao PDR, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Tajikistan, Timor-Leste, Uzbekistan and Vietnam</i>	No registration fee required	
Government officials from countries <i>other than those mentioned above</i>	No registration fee required but participants (or their sponsors) will be responsible for covering the cost of travel between their country and Bangkok, airport transfer, accommodation, breakfast, dinner and incidentals.	
Non-government representatives <i>(from NEQMAP member institutions)</i>	70 USD	120 USD
Other organizations	100 USD	150 USD

*The fee includes workshop materials, lunch, coffee breaks and a reception dinner.



UNESCO Bangkok
Risk and Pacific Regional Office
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NEQMAP
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Monitoring in the Asia-Pacific



Registration:

Please fill out the registration form and email or fax it to:

E-mail: neqmap@unesco.org

Fax: +66 2 391 0866

Visa requirement:

Participants are responsible for obtaining their own visas at the Thai Embassy or Consulate near them. A formal letter of invitation can be provided by UNESCO Bangkok to facilitate this process.

Contact:

Ramya Vivekanandan (+66 2 391 0577 Ext. 380)

Email: r.vivekanandan@unesco.org

Tserennadmid Nyamkhuu (+66 2 391 0577 Ext. 214)

Email: t.nyamkhuu@unesco.org

For further information about NEQMAP and the workshop, please visit our website at: <http://www.unescobkk.org/index.php?site=15788>



What do we do? (cont'd)

In the pipeline...



- More targeted capacity building workshops on specific topics, targeted at LDCs
- Technical assistance activities
- Annual network meetings and e-discussions
- Newsletter
- Study visits & exchanges
- National case studies

- *And what else? Your ideas welcome!*

Linkages: NEQMAP and OLO



- Knowledge portal (complementary information and linkage to OLO)
- Capacity development (identification of gaps and needs which can provide parameters for workshops and technical assistance)
- Research (e.g. on use of assessment results, alignment of curriculum and assessment) assessment of 21st century skills

For more information...



Please contact the NEQMAP Secretariat:

Education Policy and Reform (EPR) Unit, UNESCO Bangkok
Science Center for Education (Building 4)
928 Sukhumvit 40 Road
Prakanong, Klongtoey
Bangkok 10110, Thailand

Website: <http://www.unescobkk.org/education/neqmap>

Email: neqmap@unesco.org

Phone: +66-2-3910577, +66-2-3910880 ext. 301

Fax: +66-2-3910866