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# Cross-national Assessments (CNA) Technical Meeting: Agenda and Participants

21-22 September 2017  
IEA Hamburg  
Conference Center  
Uebersering 27  
22297 Hamburg – Germany

The meeting brings together technical experts from regional and international assessments to meet and work out a roadmap to eventual linking assessments and reporting the results along the same scale.

## Objectives

- 1) Discuss the reporting protocol and possible interim reporting until the UIS reporting scale is developed;
- 2) Develop a strategy to improve coverage;
- 3) Discuss options for linking cross-national learning assessments;
- 4) Explore the possibility to apply linking to national learning assessments;
- 5) Discuss options of benchmarking.

The meeting will include presentations and plenary discussions. The moderator in each session will summarize key discussion and decision points.


**Day 1: Thursday, 21 September 2017**

<b>08:30 – 09:00</b>	<b>Registration</b>
<b>09:00 – 09:30</b>	<b>1. Opening session</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Introduction of participants</li> <li>b. Objectives of the meeting</li> </ul> <p><i>Chair: Silvia Montoya, UIS</i></p>
<b>09:30 – 10:45</b>	<b>2. Reporting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Presentation of reporting protocol – UIS</li> <li>b. Presentation of coverage issues – UIS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Cross-national assessment mapping</li> <li>ii. National assessment mapping</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>References: UIS concept note on reporting protocol  UIS-IBE cross-national assessment mapping  UIS-IBE national assessment coverage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PRESENT the immediate issues and solution on reporting in 2017</li> <li>• REVIEW UIS reporting protocol</li> <li>• OUTLINE work of interim reporting</li> </ul> <p>DISCUSS and COMMENT</p> <p><i>Moderator: Jeff Davies and Dana Kelly, MSI</i></p>
<b>10:45 – 11:00</b>	<i>Coffee Break</i>
<b>11:00 – 12:30</b>	<b>3. Reporting (cont.)</b> <p>DISCUSSION</p> <p><i>Moderator: Jeff Davies and Dana Kelly, MSI</i></p>
<b>12:30 – 13:30</b>	<i>Lunch</i>


**Day 1: Thursday, 21 September 2017**

<b>13:30 – 15:00</b>	<p><b>4. Linking regional and international assessments</b></p> <p>a. Equating existing assessments and validating the UIS reporting scales– ACER  b. Presentation of perspectives from cross-national assessments</p> <p>References: Equating existing assessments and validating the UIS reporting scales  Monitoring the SDGs: an IEA’s perspective</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PRESENT the different options of linking cross-national assessments</li> <li>• IDENTIFY the technical requirements on cross-national assessments to enable linking</li> <li>• DECIDE on the best pragmatic option of linking</li> <li>• AGREE on way forward on equating cross-national assessments</li> <li>• DISCUSS item sourced from wide assessment programs (national and cross-national assessments) and item security</li> <li>• AGREE on the alignment to UIS Reporting Scale</li> <li>• AGREE on interim reporting</li> </ul> <p>DISCUSS and COMMENT</p> <p><i><b>Moderator:</b> Abdullah Ferdous and Jeff Davies, MSI</i></p>
<b>15:00 – 15:15</b>	<p><i>Coffee Break</i></p>
<b>15:15 – 16:45</b>	<p><b>5. Options for linking regional and international assessments (cont.)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• APPLICATION from linking to reporting</li> <li>• DECIDE on way forward</li> </ul> <p>DISCUSSION</p> <p><i><b>Moderator:</b> Abdullah Ferdous and Jeff Davies, MSI</i></p>
<b>16:45 -17:00</b>	<p><b>6. Summary of first day discussion</b></p> <p><i><b>Moderator:</b> Abdullah Ferdous and Jeff Davies, MSI</i></p>


**Day 2: Friday, 22 September 2017**

<b>09:00 – 09:15</b>	<b>7. Outline for Day 2</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SUMMARY of Day 2 agenda</li> </ul> <p><i>Moderator: Dana Kelly and Abdullah Ferdous, MSI</i></p>
<b>09:15 – 10:45</b>	<b>8. Extended discussion</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Issues on reporting – establishing benchmark and defining proficiency level</li> <li>Remaining extended issues on linkages</li> </ol> <p>References: ACER Benchmark concept note</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PRESENT different options of benchmarking to define proficiency levels</li> <li>IDENTIFY the best pragmatic option</li> <li>DISCUSS the way forward</li> </ul> <p>DISCUSSION</p> <p><i>Moderator: Dana Kelly and Abdullah Ferdous, MSI</i></p>
<b>10:45 – 11:00</b>	<i>Coffee Break</i>
<b>11:00 – 12:30</b>	<b>9. Extended discussion (cont.)</b> <p>DISCUSSION</p> <p><i>Moderator: Dana Kelly and Abdullah Ferdous, MSI</i></p>
<b>12:30 – 13:00</b>	<b>10. Action items and next steps</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Summary of the meeting</li> <li>Next action steps</li> </ol> <p><i>Moderator: Silvia Montoya, UIS</i></p>
<b>13:00</b>	<i>Lunch</i>

Meeting documents are available at: [Link \(google docs\)](#)



## Participants

Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER)	Maurice Walker	Principal Research Fellow, International Surveys
	Ursula Schwantner	Senior Research Fellow
	Dan Cloney	Research Fellow
GPE	Jean-Marc Bernard	Deputy Chief Technical Officer
IEA	Dirk Hastedt	Executive Director
	Andrea Netten	Director IEA Amsterdam
	Heiko Sibberns	Director IEA Hamburg
OECD	Francesco Avvisati	Analyst, PISA
Pacific Community/ Education Quality and Assessment Programme	Torika Taoi	Educational Assessment Officer
PASEC	Hilaire Hounkpodote	PASEC Coordinator
	Bassile Xavier Tankeu	Technical advisor
RTI International	Luis Crouch	VP
	Simon King	Research Statistician / Analyst
SEAMEO Secretariat	Ethel Agnes P Valenzuela	Deputy Director (Programme & Development)
	Pattama Punthawangkul	Programme Officer I
The World Bank	Marguerite Clarke	Senior Education Specialist
UNESCO/Santiago	Adriana Viteri	LLECE Technical Assistant (Statistics and sampling)
UNESCO Institute for Statistics	Silvia Montoya	Director
UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning	Margarete Sachs-Israel	Chief programme coordinator
	Rakhat Zholdoshalieva	Programme coordinator
UNICEF	Manuel Cardoso	Education Specialist
UNICEF East Asia & Pacific	Camilla Woeldike	Project Manager – Education
USAID	Ben Sylla	Evidence Team Lead - Office of Education



## Facilitators

The meeting is facilitated by the [Management Systems International \(MSI\)](#)

### Jeff Davis, EdD, PhD

Dr. Jeff Davis is an MSI Technical Director and Education Practice Area Lead with twenty-five years of experience in international education and five years of experience in U.S. domestic education. He has led technical activities in student assessment, program evaluation, policy analysis, and sector planning in over 30 countries in Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, and the Middle East. He has served as a panelist for developing the Early Grade Reading and Mathematics Assessments (EGRA/EGMA), a co-chair of the Evaluation Working Group of the Basic Education Coalition, a member of the Interagency Network for Education in Emergencies Working Group on Minimum Standards, a team lead for primary school standards on the Learning Metrics Task Force, and a member of the review panel for the Out-of-School Youth Literacy Assessment. Dr. Davis has an EdD in International Educational Development from Columbia University and a PhD in Quantitative Research Methods in Education from the University of Denver. He is fluent in English, French, and Sierra Leonean Creole.

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### Abdullah Ferdous, PhD

Dr. Abdullah Ferdous is an MSI Technical Director with twenty years of experience in assessment, evaluation, and research design. His specific areas of expertise are psychometrics and statistical analysis. He is currently supporting STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) schools in Egypt by leading the development of a high-stakes University Readiness Test (URT). He is the technical lead on the Research for Results (R4R) program's Student Assessment Study in Lebanon for generating new national evidence on student and teacher performance. He is also developing and implementing vertically-aligned early grade reading and mathematics assessments (EGRA) for Grades 1, 2, and 3 in Jordan for a national impact evaluation. Previously, he was a psychometrician on U.S. state-level student assessment programs for two private companies, Harcourt Assessment and Measured Progress. He provided technical support for large-scale assessments in Abu Dhabi, Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Honduras, Kyrgyzstan, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Tajikistan, and Zambia. He has served in the South-East Asia Performance Learning Metrics (SEA-PLM) Working Group and in the Measures and Methods Working Group of the Learning Metrics Task Force (LMTF). He has an MS in Statistics from Aligarh Muslim University and a PhD in Quantitative and Qualitative Methods in Education from the University of Nebraska. He is fluent in Bangla, English, Hindi, and Urdu.

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### Dana Kelly, PhD

Dr. Dana Kelly has over twenty years of experience in student assessment, program evaluation, and management, both internationally and on U.S. domestic programs. She has just joined the MSI as a Technical Director to lead the capacity building activities in student assessment for the USAID-funded Lebanon Quality Instruction Towards Access and Basic Education Improvement (QITABI) project and the technical reporting for the Pakistan Early Grade Reading Assessment (EGRA) midline, which is USAID's largest EGRA worldwide. Prior to the MSI, she was a Branch Chief for International Assessments in the U.S. Department of Education, where she directed and oversaw national implementation of PISA, TIMSS, and PIRLS. She was previously a Deputy Director of Global Initiatives and a Senior Research Analyst at the American Institutes for Research, working on student assessments on projects in Egypt, Malawi, Namibia, and Ukraine, managing two UNICEF-funded global evaluations, and supporting the U.S. National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) as a Program Area Manager. She has served as the U.S. representative to the IEA General Assembly, a Vice-Chair of the PISA Governing Board, and a member of the Basic Education Coalition (BEC). Dr. Kelly has a MA in Developmental and Educational Psychology and a PhD in Educational Research, Measurement, and Evaluation, both from Boston College.