Updates on Southeast Asia Primary Learning Metrics (SEA-PLM)

Dr Ethel Agnes Pascua Valenzuela

Director, SEAMEO Secretariat

Background

SEA-PLM (Southeast Asia Primary Learning Metrics) **=** a regional programme to assess learning outcomes of Grade 5 students to inform basic education policy and ensure all children achieve meaningful learning.

Characteristics:

- Positioned as the first large-scale learning assessment in Southeast Asia

- Target grade 5 students

- Report on common metrics: reading, writing and mathematics

- Monitor values of teachers and children on global citizenship

- Collect contextual data from students, parents and school principals

Rationale: SEA-PLM 2019

SEAMEO Priority 7: Adopting a 21st Century Curriculum

ASEAN Community 2025 agenda

SDG targets 4.1 and 4.7

Progress of SEA-PLM 2019 (1/3)

SEA-PLM 2019 underwent endorsement process, technical operations and mobilisation of financial resources as follows.

Institutional commitment and programme governance
Six SEAMEO Member Countries committed to participating in SEA-PLM 2019 and new governance structure of SEA-PLM, including the creation of a Technical Advisory Group confirmed in March 2019.

Development of methodological framework and survey instruments.
From 2014 to 2016, national and international experts conducted a comprehensive review of national curricula from eleven countries to ensure that SEA-PLM tests were suited to the Southeast Asian context.

SEA-PLM

Progress of SEA-PLM 2019 (2/3)

Field Trial implementation
In 2017-2018, Field trial activities were successfully conducted in seven countries to experiment and validate test instruments and procedures for main survey.

Main Survey implementation.
Between January and October 2019, SEA-PLM first round of data collection was implemented in six countries, with the analysis and reporting processes planned for 2020.

Capacity building.
Training activities were undertaken at the regional and national level supporting national level teams at different key stages of the assessment implementation.

SEA-PLM

Progress of SEA-PLM 2019 (3/3)

Final phases of SEA-PLM 2019 are underway, as captured in 3 components:
Database and main regional report are to be publicly available on December 1

Data processing, analysis and reporting

Launch and dissemination of results on 1-2 December 2020

Ongoing utilisation of data and results in 2021

SDG 4.1.1 reporting

- SEA-PLM 2019 new proficiency descriptors are qualitatively align with the SDG expanded statement definition of indicators SDG 4.1.1a and 4.1.1b (GAML, 2019).

- Domain experts, from ACER, are in charge of developing the SEA-PLM proficiency scales to match between the posteriori content of the scale and the expanded definition.

- SEA-PLM 2019 Main Regional Report will report national percentages of children at grade 5 below, meet and exceed the minimum proficiency level in consideration with the indicator SDG 4.1.1b.

- Grade 5 implies the end of primary education in some countries in Southeast Asia while it is grade 6 in others.

SEA-PLM

Way Forward: SEA-PLM 2023

In parallel to finalising SEA-PLM 2019, the second assessment round of SEA-PLM allowing for comparison over time and region is being prepared.

o Development a concept note for SEA-PLM 2023 (SEA-PLM Strategic Plan 2021-2025)

o Invitation for Core Country Membership for SEA-PLM 2023

o Identification of new model for long-term sustainable costing and staffing

o Timeline setting as 2021-2022 for technical preparations and 2023 for the main survey implementation and 2025 for the release of report

THANK YOU

For more information and updates,
please visit the official website of SEA-PLM SEA-PLM at
www.seaplm.org

The Southeast Asia Primary Learning Metrics (SEA-PLM) is a regional programme to assess learning outcomes of Grade 5 students to inform policy-making and ensure all children achieve meaningful learning.