TIMSS 2019 and PIRLS 2021 in the Western Balkans

8th Ministerial Meeting of the Western Balkans Platform on Education and Training
June 4, 2019 in Belgrade, Serbia
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IEA
www.iea.nl
Brief Introduction to IEA, TIMSS 2019 & PIRLS 2021

International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement

Independent, international cooperative of national research institutions and governmental research agencies, founded in 1958

Conducts large-scale comparative (TREND) studies of educational achievement and other aspects of education

IEA studies are recognized by UNESCO as data source for monitoring SDG 2030

IEA studies are grade-based and curriculum rooted

- PIRLS (established in 2001, now preparing for 2021) – reading in 4th Grade
- TIMSS (established in 1995, now collecting data in 2019) – mathematics and science in 4th and 8th Grade(s)
Time and Task Flow – Northern Hemisphere

2017
• FEBRUARY - Review Frameworks at 1st National Research Coordinators’ Meeting
• MARCH & APRIL – Item development, set up procedure
• MAY - Administer eTIMSS pilot in participating countries
• SEPTEMBER - Publish *TIMSS 2019 Frameworks* online
  - Preparing field test instruments and logistics

2018
• MARCH - Field test of the assessment instruments
• OCTOBER - Preparing field test instruments and logistics

2019
• APRIL - Data collection across Western Balkans

2020
• DECEMBER - Release of International Results in Mathematics and Science
Accomplishments & Challenges

- Framework and instrument development
- Translation, adaptation and verification of materials
- Study design, sampling and drafting of procedures and guidelines
- Field testing of instruments and procedures
- Data entry, processing and coding
- Data analysis
- Finalizing study framework, instruments and procedures
- Data collection for main study

IEA works closely with National Research Coordinators (NRCs) at every stage in the study cycle. Without having them present at the meetings, the collaborative nature of IEA studies cannot be realized.

In addition, NRCs need to be supported at the national level (by recognizing the workload related to the study implementation, providing the necessary budget as well as timely decisions of major stakeholders).
Data analysis and reporting (upcoming task)

Collaborative project on **regional reporting from TIMSS 2019** joined by Croatia in order to:

*Support national reporting from TIMSS 2019 in December 2020*

*Support researchers working on TIMSS data and encourage additional in-depth analysis*

(The research report will be published by Springer as part of the open access, **IEA Research for Education Series**)
Time and Tasks FLOW

2018
• FEBRUARY — 1st National Research Coordinators Meeting — Project planning
• DECEMBER — 2nd National Research Coordinators Meeting — Item writing workshop

2019
• APRIL — Publish the *PIRLS 2021 Framework* online
• JUNE — 3rd National Research Coordinators Meeting — Finalize field test instruments

2020
• MARCH-APRIL — Conduct field test

2021
• MARCH-JUNE — Data collection in Northern Hemisphere

2022
• DECEMBER — Release of International Results in Reading and Online Informational Reading
1st Regional meeting organized in Bratislava, Slovakia, in order to:

• Connect colleagues from Western Balkan working on PIRLS to colleagues from Visegrad group (V4) countries; and

• Brief NRCs and Data Managers from Western Balkan countries on ongoing and upcoming tasks
Old Challenges & New Opportunities

• Challenges are the same as experienced in TIMSS (*lack of money, timely decisions and dedicated personnel*)

As a team, we can benefit from our experience in TIMSS, particularly in the following steps of PIRLS 2021:

- Adaptation and translation of instruments;
- National and regional additions (for more customized reporting ability);
- Sharing workload in preparing manuals, guidelines and training
- Thinking about how to connect sampling and reporting
- Reviewing and discussing new ideas for advancing basic education
Invitation to ask for more information

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Thank you!