Regional Workshop on National Learning Assessment Systems in Sub-Saharan
6-8 December 2017
SEACMEQ

- Southern and Eastern Africa Consortium for Monitoring Education Quality
- An independent developmental network of 16 Ministries of Education
- One additional Ministry of Education participating as an observer.

Governance and management
- Coordinating Center (SCC) which is housed at University of Botswana
- SEACMEQ Managing Committee
- SEACMEQ Scientific Committee
- SEACMEQ National Steering Committees
SEACMEQ Conceptual Model

- **School Characteristics**
  - type, location, enrolment, resources, principal’s qualification, parental involvement etc.

- **Learner Characteristics**
  - Age, Sex, Attendance, Repetition, SES, Nutrition, Siblings, Home help, etc.

- **Teacher Characteristics**
  - Age, Sex, Qualifications, Subjects, Classroom resources, Behaviour, In-service training, etc.

**Learner Achievement**
- Reading
- Maths
- Health Knowledge
Examples of

• SEACMEQ Research Questions

1. Is the quality of education improving, remained the same, or declining?
2. What are the characteristics of Grade 6 pupils?
3. What actions do these characteristics require the Ministry of Education (MoE) to take?
4. How do these characteristics influence achievement?
5. What can the Ministry of Education do?
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SACMEQ I Project</th>
<th>SACMEQ II Project</th>
<th>SACMEQ III Project</th>
<th>SACMEQ IV Project</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Seven MoE;</td>
<td>Fourteen MoE;</td>
<td>Fifteen MoE</td>
<td>Fourteen MoE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20,133 pupils</td>
<td>41,686 pupils</td>
<td>69,888 pupils</td>
<td>62,000 pupils</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2,014 teachers</td>
<td>5,313 teachers</td>
<td>7,614 teachers</td>
<td>7,000 teachers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,086 schools</td>
<td>2,282 schools</td>
<td>2,785 schools</td>
<td>2,500 schools</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Questionnaires Reading Test for Pupils.
- Questionnaires Reading & Maths Tests for Pupils and Teachers
- Questionnaires Reading, Maths & Health Knowledge Tests for Pupils and Teachers

- Target population: learners in Grade 6
- Language of test: English, Portuguese, and Kiswahili

**Completed SEACMEQ Projects**
SEACMEQ Assessments and Quality of Education

- Use of SEACMEQ (national)
  - Curriculum reforms
  - Evidence-based planning,
  - Addressing inequalities in the distribution of both human and material resources.
  - To track the quality of education over time (Is it remaining the same, improving or declining?)
  - To develop capacity and technical-know-how on educational evaluation
  - To provide a platform for the public to engage, from an informed position, with education systems and thus hold them accountable.
SEACMEQ Assessments and Quality of Education

- Use of SEACMEQ (international)
  - To inform the formulation of regional and global strategies for the development of education systems in Africa and elsewhere:
    - SADC Human Resource Development Sector’s programmes,
    - Use of SEACMEQ Data Archive to contribute to the advancement of knowledge
SEACMEQ Impact on Policy

• Education policy reforms in a number of SEACMEQ countries:
  o Development of National numeracy plan (Seychelles)
  o Action plan to 2014 – improving schooling (South Africa)
  o Education and Training Sector Plan 2005 -2015 (Namibia)
  o Improvement of textbook distribution in primary education (Mozambique)

• Contributed to policy/prog. changes, & guided development partners;

• Informed sector reviews, presidential commissions, curriculum development, teacher training
Benefits of Participating in SEACMEQ’s Research Programmes

Short term

• Research products and tools in the form of research reports, indicators, and information systems
• Trained educational planners and researchers
• Improved and expanded dissemination systems for SEACMEQ information resources

Long term

• A long-term information base on education quality
• Improved and expanded evidence-based policy procedures
Challenges or issues of large scale learning assessments

• Contexts vary
  o curriculum,
  o conditions, etc.

• Translation and Interpretation of items may
  o language proficiency
  o Shades of meanings

• Funding
  o Gaps in study circles
  o Delayed processes
Concluding remarks

- SEACMEQ serves its member countries through research at primary education level to assist them to monitor and evaluate education with the aim of providing continual quality education.
- Methodology of research employed can be summarised into three themes: policy development, evaluation and research.
Thank you