Teaching and Learning

Our work in this area focuses on interventions into teaching and learning for improvement. It involves the formulation of teacher standards frameworks, appraisal instruments, data capture and data analysis protocols followed by using evidence from appraisals to inform teacher professional development activities. Interventions into learning focus specifically on literacy and numeracy skills and involve the development of intervention resources and training teachers on using these resources with students.

Qualifications Recognition

We provide services in accreditation, recognition of foreign qualifications and registration of skilled persons.We collaborate with national agencies to facilitate the recognition of Pacific qualifications and skills within the region and beyond.We support national and regional initiatives on labour and learner mobility by quality assuring and providing information on qualifications and skills.Information on skills, qualifications and its comparability across the region that is available on an online database we administer.

Information and Communication Technology

Our Information and Communication Technology support ranges from advising countries on educational measurement software to developing web-based applications dependent on their requirements and training. We are committed to developing effective, timely systems and delivering solutions that can assist countries' productivity and decision making.

Research

We aim to support the development of a body of research evidence that underpins countries' educational needs. We provide a wide variety of research services, from large, multi-country research projects such as the Pacific Island Literacy and Numeracy Assessment (PILNA) and Pacific Benchmarking for Education Results (PaBER), to working with individual researchers in local settings. We also provide advisory support for research, conduct workshops to raise capacity in conducting educational research, and professional research services at country, regional and international levels.

Contact

Visit our webpage: www.eqap.org.fj
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@PacificEd

Pacific Community
Communauté du Pacifique

EDUCATIONAL QUALITY & ASSESSMENT PROGRAMME (EQAP)

WHAT IS EQAP?

EQAP is a programme mandated to develop education quality in the Pacific. EQAP efforts are dedicated to literacy and numeracy, assessment, curriculum development, qualifications accreditation and research. EQAP works with the education ministries of 15 Pacific countries providing technical support or hands-on groundwork contributions. EQAPalso worksin close collaboration with the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER), New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA) and UNESCO.

Thanks to our funders, EQAP has been able to document and assess trends in literacy, numeracy and current school management and administrative systems;a ground breaking achievement in data collation for the Pacific.

ⓘ Quick Facts

The Australian Government, New Zealand Aid Programme and UNESCO are EQAP'sfunding partners.

EQAP is a programme within the Pacific Community (SPC),an international development organization owned and governed by its 26country and territory members.

WHAT WE DO

Leadership

We support countries in developing school leaders'competencies and an appraisal system that monitors and assessestheir effectiveness. Information drawn from the performance appraisal system has enabled countries to design intervention strategies aimed at improving school leaders' effectiveness in influencing quality teaching and better learning outcomes.

Policy

Our current initiatives provide education ministries with a systematic analysis of their systems based on reliable evidence benchmarked against high performing systems around the world. This provides policy-makers and stakeholders with the opportunity to judge the strengths and weaknesses of current policies and systems,see how it may influence learning then formulate appropriate reforms and action.

Curriculum

We support and advise countries on the alignment of the national curriculum to an outcomes-based format. The realignment considers the content scope, the linking of content strands and sub-strands, the different levels of learning outcomes and skill levels of specific learning outcomes.We also provide a training program to complement outcomes based curriculumdesigned and developed for curriculum officers, teachers, education officers, school leaders and teacher trainers. The training focuses on targeting good teaching assessment and enhancing learning achievement when using the outcomes-based approach in curriculum development. We also provide improvement in teaching and learning audits.

Assessment

We offer a high quality outcomes based senior secondary (Form 7/ Year 13) regional qualification – SouthPacific Form Seven Certificate (SPFSC). SPFSC is administered in 5 countries. It provides certification students can use to enter tertiary education across the region and internationally or for entry into the job market. In addition to this, we support countries in national examination paper development and paper production through training examiners and moderators, writing, moderating, printing and shipping examination papers.

We administer the regional assessment of Literacy and Numeracy (Years 4 and 6) – Pacific Island Literacy and Numeracy Assessment (PILNA). PILNA focuses on the skills that are essential for children to progress through school and life; reading and writing, numbers, operations, measurements and data. PILNA also collects contextual data fromYears 4 and 6 students, their teachers and head teachers. Information gathered, when used in conjunction with the assessment results, that helps explain differences in levels of student performance. We collect and analyse both the cognitive and contextual data which is then reported at various levels (by Region, Small Island States, Country). Our findings are presented to countries in workshops where we discuss intervention strategies.

We also support the administration and dissemination of the Early Grade Reading Assessment (EGRA) results in a number of Pacific Island countries.