International Civic and Citizenship Education Study (ICCS2009)

Asian Regional Module

Dr. Fou-Lai Lin
Dr. Mei-Hui Liu
National Taiwan Normal University

October 2011, Dublin
Introduction

• Regional cultural contexts are important for civic and citizenship education because they shape how people undertake their roles as citizens.

• Asian Regional Module (ARM) focuses on the aspects of particular issues for this geographic region that are not represented in the international framework but have specific meanings in Asia.

• The purpose of Asian Regional Module is to investigate specific Asia-related issues that derive from the framework of the ICCS study and enable regional issues to be addressed in greater detail.
Participating Countries

- Republic of Korea
- Taiwan
- Hong Kong
- Thailand
- Indonesia
## Participating Students

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Number of Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Taiwan</td>
<td>5167</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Korea</td>
<td>5252</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hong Kong</td>
<td>2739</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>5263</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>5048</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>23469</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Fundamental Concerns

• How does cultural tradition/heritage shape the understanding of the feature of citizenship and the related concepts/values in Asian societies?

• How does historical and socio-political context shape the development of civic/citizenship education in Asian societies?

• To what extent do Asian societies share the common grounds of citizenship education?

• How do Asian people perceive the notion of ‘Asia’ and ‘Asian identity’?
Key Questions

- Is there any content domain to be added to the ICCS Assessment Framework?
- What are those key concepts that should be included in the content domain but are not identified yet?
- What are those key concepts identified explicitly or implicitly in the ICCS Assessment Framework, yet not developed as test items?
- What are those key concepts that Asian societies might have different interpretations
### Asian Regional Questionnaire Constructs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Content Domain</th>
<th>1 Civic Society and System</th>
<th>2 Civic Principles</th>
<th>3 Civic Participation</th>
<th>4 Civic Identities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Knowing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analyzing / Reasoning</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value Beliefs</td>
<td>V1</td>
<td>V2</td>
<td></td>
<td>V4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attitudes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Behavioral Intentions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Behavior</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Civic Society and System

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value Beliefs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Strong (big) government versus weak (limited) government (scope/range of government responsibility and role of government in individual spirituality)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Status and authority (obedience to authority versus individual will)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Asian Regional Questionnaire Constructs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>V2</th>
<th>Civic Principles</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Value Beliefs</td>
<td>• The role of relationship (Guanxi) when considering people in elections and public affairs.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Asian Regional Questionnaire Constructs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>V4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value Beliefs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• <strong>Asian identity (pride)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• The “good citizen” (Personal morality as citizenship identity)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Social harmony versus saving face (as a social convention)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Civic Identities**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Asian Regional Questionnaire Constructs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>A2</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Attitudes</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Acceptance of “undemocratic” government behavior (previously listed as “acceptance of authoritarian rule”)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- The legal system in own country</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Asian Regional Questionnaire Constructs

A3

Attitudes

3 Civic Participation

• Corruption

• Necessary attributes/qualifications of politicians
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A4</th>
<th>4 Civic Identities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Attitudes**

- Relationships between Asian countries
- Traditional culture (in own country)
Concepts for ARM

- Strong (big) government versus weak (limited) government
- Status and authority (obedience to authority versus individual will)
- The role of relationships (Guanxi) when considering people in elections and public affairs.
- Acceptance of “undemocratic” governmental behavior
- The legal system in own country
- Corruption
- Necessary attributes/qualifications of politicians
- The “good citizen” (Personal morality as citizenship identity)
- Social harmony versus saving face (as a social convention)
- Asian identity
- Relations between Asian countries
- Traditional culture (in own country)
The measured characteristics of the five ICCS Asian countries highlights their heterogeneity.

The average international civic knowledge achievement scale scores for students in Hong Kong, Taiwan and Korea were in the highest five of all 38 participating ICCS countries and the average scale scores for Indonesia and Thailand were in the lowest five of all participating ICCS countries.
Context from international results
Civic knowledge * Trust in civic institutions
Results

- The ARM results show that there are two clusters among five participating Asian countries in some aspects. One cluster includes Taiwan and Korea, while the other includes Thailand and Indonesia. The following are some examples.
Trust in civic institutions*Integrity of the legal system
Status and authority* Guanxi

Use of connections to hold public office (Guanxi)

Obedience to status and authority
ARM results

Personal morality of politicians

*Corruption
Asian identity* Traditional culture
Personal morality of politicians* Good citizen
The Added Value of ARM of ICCS

• The ARM identified 12 key concepts based on the notions of traditional Asian cultural values and concepts of Asian citizenship.

• The ARM developed the student questionnaire to gather data on region-specific aspects of civics and citizenship that were related to the general assessment framework for ICCS but were not included in the international instrument.

• The ARM balanced with the reality of the larger cultural and historical diversity that exits across the five Asian participating countries.
The Added Value of ARM of ICCS

- Distinguishing the ARM from the European and Latin American regional modules which focus on issues of particular importance in those regions and implicitly assume a generally Western liberal democratic context.

- The ARM provided the cultural factors to explain Asian students’ performance in the international results. For example, Asian students had lower average for expected participation in legal protection activities in the international questionnaire but had higher average of the concept of social harmony in ARM questionnaire.
How do ARM contribute to the framework for the next ICCS study?

• Reconceptualizing the definition of citizenship

Western concept of citizenship emphasizes democracy and government by law. However, Asian context of citizenship stress more on moral and spiritual aspects. This difference related to the conceptualization of the notions of the citizenship. The ARM results help to reconceptualize the definition of citizenship.
How do ARM contributes to the framework for the next ICCS study?

- The ARM results show the implication for the design of the ICCS study to find out the cultural structure influenced the learning performance.

Both TIMSS and ICCS study, some of the Asian countries had higher scores on cognitive dimension but lower scores on attitude dimension. This tendency is different from some of the western countries. This implication can contribute to the variables design for the next ICCS study.
Positive Attitudes toward Learning

Thailand
Philippines
Malaysia
Indonesia

Achievement in Math/Science/Civic

Japan
Taiwan
Korea
Hong Kong

National Taiwan Normal University
Thank you for your attention!