PIRLS – Indicator and Catalyst of Reforms in General Education System of Georgia

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Main facts:

**GEORGIA**


**General education:**
- 630,000 pupils/70,000 teachers/2,500 schools

**Higher education:**
- 150,000 students/43 HEIs

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Educational reform

New

- Curricula, syllabi
- Textbooks
- Assessment and evaluation methods
- School management
- Teacher certification
- Teacher training system . . .
Educational reform

Reform Indicators
monitoring the process

International surveys as a good set of the indicators:

PIRLS,
TIMSS, TEDS_M

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PIRLS - 2006

Why was it so important for Georgia to take part in this survey?

Reading - the main comprehension processes of effective learning process on next stages of general education system

- To Develop the new curriculum
- To share experience of successful educational systems
- To reveal disadvantages of existing educational systems
- To make decision on what should be changed or revised and why
Other factors

- low HDI index
- Government spending to education – 3.0% of GDP
PIRLS and Educational reform

PIRLS (2006) - Base line study
PIRLS (2006) - Catalyst of future changes
PIRLS (2011) - Reform Indicator

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PIRLS – Reform Catalyst

1. Special reading curriculum
2. Changes reflected in textbooks
3. Reform of teachers’ preparation programs
4. Teaching methodology of “teach to read”
5. Special trainings and supplementary materials for teachers
6. Emphasis on reading and comprehending informational texts

7. Emphasis on reforming pre-school education system, analyzing, and developing programs for kindergartens’ teachers

8. Emphasis on developing school library system

9. Standardized tests introduced at the early stage of general education
Future steps

• Preparation of a detailed national report
• Setting up the group of experts for elaborating recommendations for primary teachers
• Publishing the report and recommendations and making it accessible for every primary school teacher
• Carrying out workshops and meetings with primary school teachers in different regions of Georgia
• Sharing experience of successful countries in PIRLS 2006
• Carrying out workshops and meetings with the university representatives, who prepare future primary school teachers
• PR activities – promotion of developing reading skills among students, different publications, special TV programs, etc
Thank you for your attention!

PIRLS, TIMSS, TEDS-M in Georgia