

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

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Main facts:

GEORGIA



- Population: 4,4 million (2002)

General education:

- 630,000 pupils/70,000 teachers/2,500 schools

Higher education:

- 150 000 students/43 HEIs

Educational reform

New

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

Educational reform

- Reform Indicators
- monitoring the process

International surveys as a good set of the indicators:

PIRLS,
TIMSS, TEDS_M

PIRLS - 2006

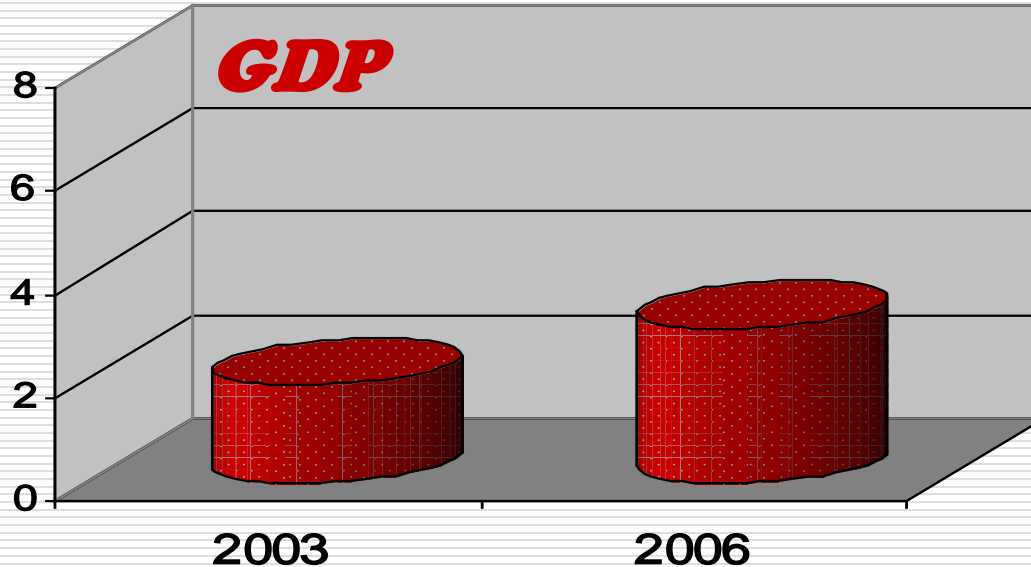
Why was it so important for Georgia to take part in this survey?

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

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**

PIRLS – Reform Catalyst

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



PIRLS, TIMSS, TEDS-M in Georgia