

# Assessing Learning Outcomes in Developing Countries

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# Overview

- Role of education in development
- Role of assessment in development
- Examples of Bank work/activity
- Perceived issues, needs



# Role of Education in Development

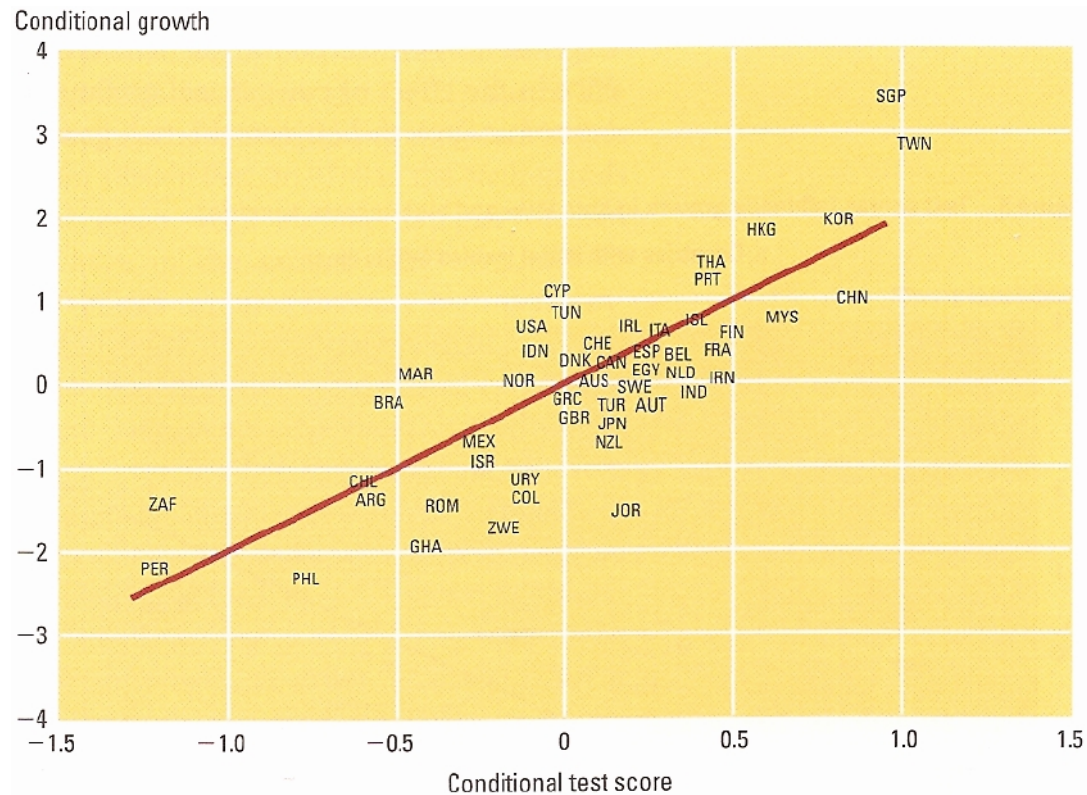


# Key Role

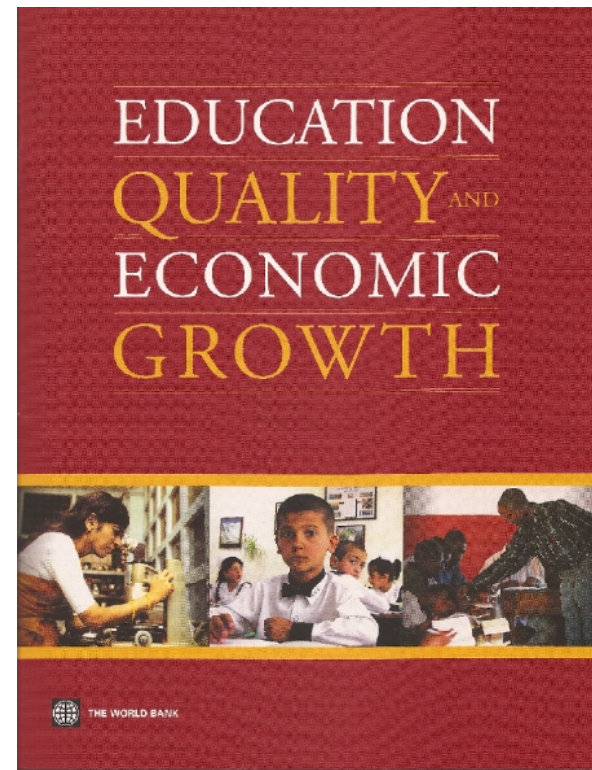
- “Education is central to development and a key to attaining the **Millennium Development Goals**. It is one of the most powerful instruments for reducing poverty and inequality.... The World Bank is committed to help countries achieve **Education For All** and, through **Education for the Knowledge Economy**, build dynamic knowledge societies.”



# The Importance of Quality



coef = 1.9804387, se = .21707105,  $t = 9.12$



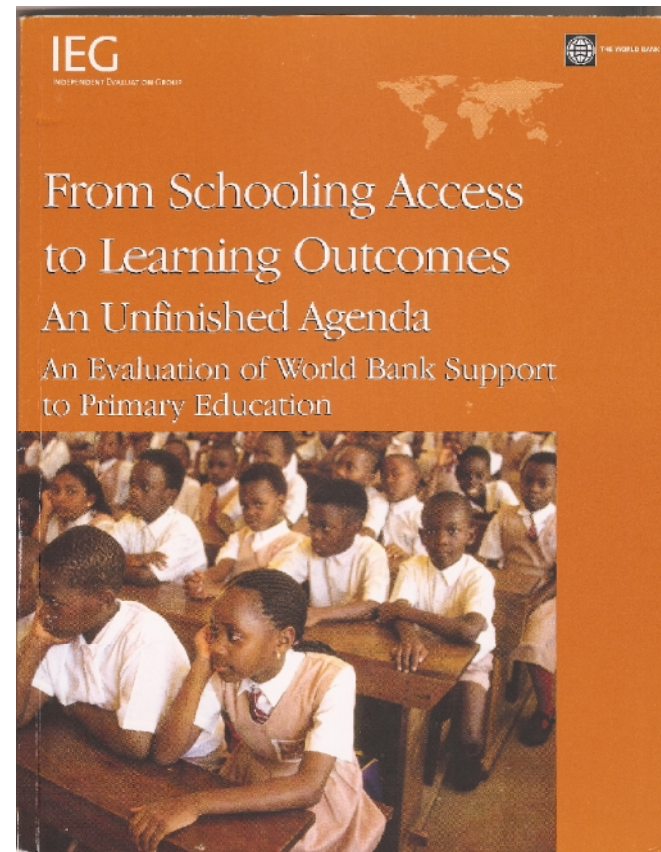
# Role of Assessment in Development





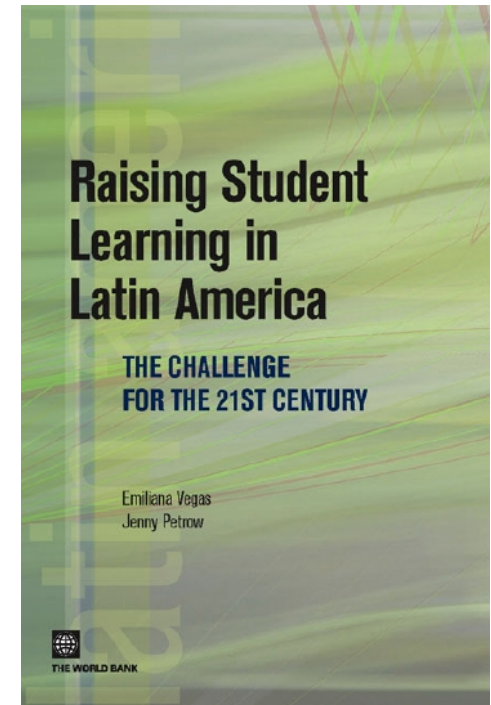
# Key Role

Quality of education is key.  
To know how students are  
performing is key to  
improving quality.



# Assessment as a Quality Tool

- “As focus shifts away from educational expansion, information on policies and programs that can contribute to achieving student learning will be vital...This report brings to light recent advances in our understanding of the policies and programs that affect student learning in order to provide policy makers ... with tools for effective education policy making.”





# Examples of Bank Work/Activity



# Examples of Bank Activity: Country-Level

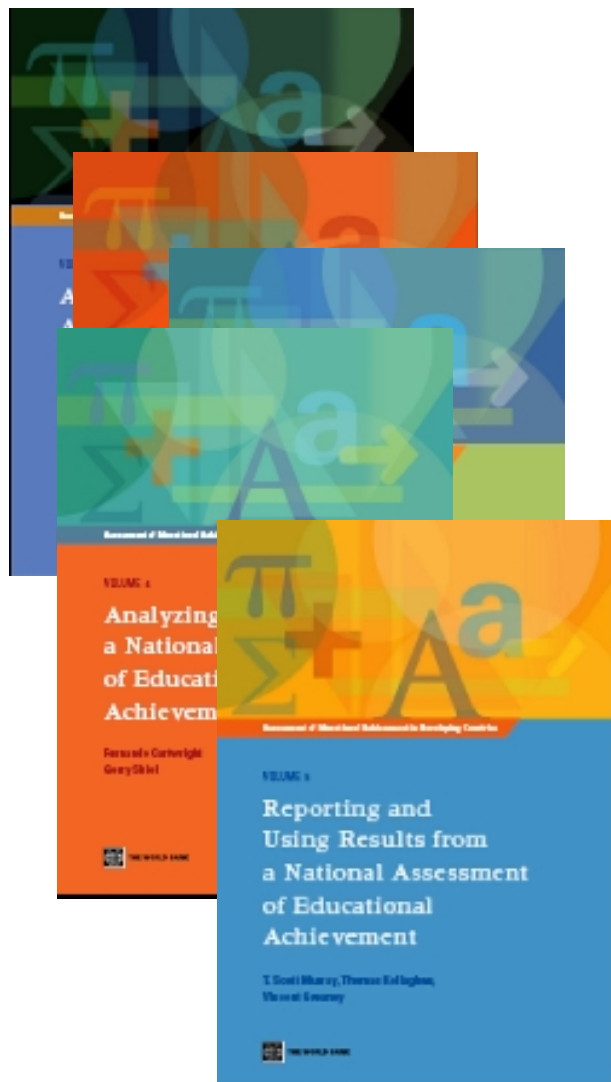
- National assessment
- Early-grade reading



# Tool Kit for National Assessment of Educational Achievement



# Tool Kit Overview



Volume 1: Assessing National Achievement Levels in Education

Volume 2: Developing Tests and Questionnaires

Volume 3: Implementing a National Assessment

Volume 4: Analysing Data from a National Assessment

Volume 5: Reporting and Using Results



# Examples of Bank Activity: Cross-National

- Support for client-country participation in international assessment (TIMSS and PIRLS)
- Program for the Assessment of Student Achievement (aka Global Partnership Program)
- “Quality” rankings/world-class universities





# TIMSS and PIRLS

- Growth in participation
  - Africa
  - Asia/Middle East
- Use/impact
- Capacity



# Perceived Issues, Needs



# Issues/Needs

- National
  - Sustainability
  - Coordination and integration
  - Technical capacity building
  - Quality
- Cross-national
  - Assessment lite (PIRLS and TIMSS 2011)
  - Faster turn-around to help timely policy decision-making
  - Training
  - Costs, financial support
  - Lack of information on lower end of the distribution?

