

*The IEA DPC
Research and Analysis Unit
(Randa)*

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What is RandA?

- Founded at the IEA DPC in Summer 2007
- Works with IEA DPC staff to organize, schedule and conduct research, training and analysis activities that make use of IEA data, and that drive innovation, improvement, support and promotion of IEA's projects, methods and its mission
- Works around three major areas
 - I. Research
 - II. Training
 - III. Analysis



I. Research Area

- Promotes, supports and oversees research that improves processes and procedures of IEA studies and complies with the IEA mission statements
 - Assists policy-makers in identifying the comparative strengths and weaknesses of their educational systems...
- Provides technical and analytical support to staff conducting such research



I. Research Area (cont.)

- Provides support for staff in countries participating in IEA studies on conducting and implementing research projects that make use of data collected through its projects
- Within the IEA DPC research proposals are accepted and reviewed once a year for possible support
 - Accepted proposals will receive guidance and support from RandA



I. Research Area: Papers

- Presented and currently under review
 - An International Comparison of Public and Private School Performance (D. Rutkowski & L. Rutkowski)
 - An Empirical Look at Globalization in Education: An Example with TIMSS Mathematics Data (L. Rutkowski & D. Rutkowski)
 - Towards an Understanding of Educational Indicators (D. Rutkowski)
 - Post-traumatic Stress Disorder and Test-taking Ability (L. Rutkowski)
 - Curriculum Coverage and Scale Correlation on TIMSS 2003 (J. Barth, L. Rutkowski, O. Neuschmidt, E. Gonzalez)



I. Research Area: Papers (cont.)

- Presented
 - Effective Schools in Arab Educational Systems: An Analysis of TIMSS 2003 (O. Neuschmidt, J. Hencke [b. Barth], L. Rutkowski, D. Rutkowski)



II. Training Area

- Coordinates and provides training in support of research activities
 - Conducts and provides support to International Database seminars
 - Organizes on-going seminars and colloquia around issues related to large-scale assessment
 - Coordinates training activities with IERI
- Plans and coordinates internships and fellowships



II. Training Area: Conference Activities

- IAEA – Azerbaijan, Sep 2007
 - Presentations
- NCME – USA, Mar 2008
 - Paper presentations
- IAEA – UK, Sep 2008
 - Presentation, exhibition stand
- IRC – Chinese Taipei, Sep 2008
 - Paper presentations, exhibition stand



II. Training Area: Training Activities

- The Arabic Seminar Series – Egypt, Jan 2008
 - Effective Schools
- PIRLS 2006 Database Training – Spain, Feb 2008
 - Categorical Data Analysis
- ABEGS Gulf Region Seminar – Bahrain, May 2008
 - Using IDB Analyzer; Developing and Validating Indices and Scales from Background Questionnaires; Model Analysis of Policy Questions
- TIMSS 2007 Database Training – Botswana, Jun 2008
 - Workshop on Analyzing National TIMSS 2007 Data



II. Training Area: Training Activities (cont.)

- Database Seminar – Slovenia, Jun/ Jul 2008
 - Overview of International Large-Scale Assessment Databases; Using IDB Analyzer; Developing and Validating Indices and Scales from Background Questionnaires
- 3rd IEA International Research Conference – Chinese Taipei, Sep 2008
 - Workshop I: Introduction to the IEA Databases and the IEA IDB Analyzer
 - Workshop II: Analysis of Categorical Data in IEA Databases
- IQB Training – Germany, Oct 2008
 - Working with Large-Scale Assessment Data



II. Training Area: Training Activities (cont.)

- Upcoming: SITES 2006 IDB Seminar – Germany, Jan 2009
 - Creating Indices; Categorical Data Analysis; Example Analysis



III. Analysis Area

- Provides analysis support to
 - Ongoing assessment and research projects within IEA
 - Countries participating in IEA studies
- Consultation, mentoring
- Improves or develops download and analysis tools
 - IEA Study Data Repository (IEA RMS)
<http://rms.iea-dpc.org/>
 - IEA IDB Analyzer
http://www.iea.nl/iea_studies_datasets.html
 - Web-based analysis tools,
e.g. IEA Online Data Analyzer (IEA ODA)
<http://www.ieadata.org>



IEA DPC Internal Activities

- “Brown bag” lunch seminars (bi-weekly)
 - Participants read and discuss a current research article surrounding empirical & theoretical issues of large-scale assessment
- Colloquium (every five weeks)
 - Forum for discussing and soliciting feedback on internal research and for presenting new topics in the field of large-scale assessment
- Research consulting
 - DPC staff who are currently conducting research or who are interested in conducting research can meet to discuss their topics and proposals with RandA staff.

