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Mexican context
- Mexico is a large country (1,960,189 km²)
- Almost 120 million inhabitants (2015 national census)
- Official language: Spanish
- 68 national indigenous languages
  - Spoken by 6.5% of the national population.
  - Pluriculturality was recognized in 1992 at a constitutional level.
- Half of Mexico’s population lives in poverty (CONEVAL, 2017).
- Mexico established itself as a democratic country in its 1917 Constitution.

In 2016 67% of students agreed or strongly agreed that dictatorial rule maybe justified when it brings order and safety.
Citizenship education in Mexico and LSA
- Mexico has a large and fluctuating tradition in civic and citizenship education.
  - Formal education of civic matters started in 1908.
  - For 21 years the subject Civics was included in the social sciences programme (1971-1992).

**Milestones**

01  At the end of the 20th century a significant change occurred: ethics were incorporated explicitly to the subject matter of civics (1999) = *Civic and Ethic Education*

02  Seven years later: focus on teaching of civic competencies.

- In the new educative model (2018), *Civic and Ethic Education* will be imparted in: 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th grades.
We can attribute this improvement to the reform of 2011: More clarity of the civic and ethic competencies, emphasis of civics and ethics topics in other subject matters and work by proyects (INEE, 2018).

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*Table 1. Civic Knowledge 2009-2016*
Large-scale Assessments related with Citizenship Education


- Mexico has participated in ICCS cycles: 2009, 2016. We are preparing for the next cycle (2022)
The importance of ICCS for Mexico
At the beginning of the 20th century assessments of Math, Science and language were insufficient.

Profound understanding of the educational system was needed.

- Educational reforms underway.
- Compulsory education was broadened (secondary).
- Social and political problems were rising (e.g. inequality, poverty, violence, impunity).

In the two applications of ICCS, 49% of Mexican students endorsed disobedience of the law (Schulz, Ainley, Cox & Friedman, 2018). In 2015 a national survey reported that 36% of Mexican adults agreed that the citizen can disobey a law if it seems unfair (De la Barreda, 2015)
ICCS provides information about the importance of the elements that have to be addressed through citizenship education.

- Expected knowledge explicitly stated in civic education curriculum corresponds with levels B and C of the ICCS framework (INEE, 2018)
- Understanding and comprehensive of concepts
- Fundamental principles related to citizenship
- Non-critical thinking
- Citizenship curriculum changes have been made without sufficient evidence about how the educational system is working.

- These changes should be oriented in a more systematic way by evidence-based assessments.

- ICCS provides the opportunity for policy makers to make better decisions.
Information usage
- The information obtained from ICCS is not restricted to the knowledge of students’ results. The framework and the methodology also is used.

- Researchers, Government agencies, Independent consultants, educational system (decision makers).

**Relevant identified cases:**

- **Independent consultants (CIDES, 2018)**
  - The framework is being exploited as an important element in *The evaluation of the design of our national compulsory citizenship education curriculum (K-12)*
  - Secondary analyses to determine which variables influence attitudes towards different topics (i.e. corruption, violence, equality, use of social media).
  - Comparative studies on countries' citizenship curricula and the elements that may influence students' outcomes.
- **Secretariat of public education (SEP)**
  - Reformulate the ways in which contents such as human rights, democracy and civic engagement are taught in order to develop competencies for today’s society.

  From 2009-2016: We improve in civic knowledge; In the students’ perceptions of public institutions and government, coexistence, social cohesion and diversity, we are the country from LA than less move its averages.

- **National Institute for the evaluation of education (INEE)**
  - Framework for the National Plan of Learnings and Assessment (PLANEA), specifically for the subject regarding Civic and Ethic Education (CEE).

  - Coherence with what and how is assessed (We are going to have results from the 6th grade evaluation at the end of 2018).
- Signed agreement of collaboration with the National Electoral Institute (INE).
- Implementation of a widespread media campaign and communication strategy.

- Webpage with infographics and brochures about the Study
- Press conference for the release of the national results
- Formal presentation with specialists as speakers
- Presentation at the Latin American results launch
- Secondary analyses
- Virtual forums
- National report
Final considerations
- The information that ICCS provides is highly regarded by policy makers (i.e. INEE and Secretariat of Public Education).

- Our most important (and immediate) challenge is to implement a more functional, systematic and widespread media campaign and intervention strategy in order to strengthen schools, teachers and students develop skills to help them understand how to make the best use of the information.
- We need to establish institutional and scholar network
  
  - Institutional (INEE, INE, Human rights, institutions that have the grade of Secondary Education with the speciality on Civic and Ethic Education, politic parties)
  - Curricular Autonomy (workshops of dialogue and discussion with teachers and students)

- ICCS must work as a decisive element for a big national dialogue in order to consolidate a National Politic for Citizenship Education. Because of the diversity of the country we need to explore more about it (maybe by ICCS 2022).

- The information that ICCS provides involves all members of society. It covers meaningful aspects of our way of life: human rights, respect for laws, democracy as a way of life, peaceful co-existence and deeply contributes to the notion a global citizenship.