

Appendix A

Organizations and Individuals Responsible for TIMSS Advanced 2008

Introduction

TIMSS Advanced 2008 was a collaborative effort involving many individuals around the world. This appendix recognizes the individuals and organizations for their contributions. Given the work on TIMSS Advanced 2008 has spanned approximately four years and has involved so many people and organizations, this list may not include all who contributed. Any omission is inadvertent.

Of the first importance, TIMSS Advanced 2008 is deeply indebted to the students, teachers, and school principals who contributed their time and effort to the study.

Management and Coordination

TIMSS Advanced 2008 was conducted by the TIMSS & PIRLS International Study Center at Boston College, which has responsibility for the overall direction and management of IEA's TIMSS and PIRLS projects. Headed by Ina V.S. Mullis and Michael O. Martin, the study center is located in the Lynch School of Education. In carrying out

the project, the TIMSS & PIRLS International Study Center worked closely with the IEA Secretariat in Amsterdam, which provided guidance overall and was responsible for verification of all translations produced by the participating countries. The IEA Data Processing and Research Center in Hamburg was responsible for processing and verifying the internal consistency and accuracy of the data submitted by the participants. Statistics Canada in Ottawa was responsible for school and student sampling activities. Educational Testing Service (ETS) in Princeton, New Jersey provided psychometric methodology recommendations addressing calibration and scaling, and also made available software for scaling the achievement data.

The Project Management Team, comprised of the Directors and Senior Management from the TIMSS & PIRLS International Study Center, the IEA Secretariat, the IEA Data Processing and Research Center, Statistics Canada, and ETS, met twice a year throughout the study to discuss progress, procedures, and schedule. In addition, the Directors of the TIMSS & PIRLS International Study Center met with members of IEA's Technical Executive Group twice yearly to review technical issues.

Dr. Robert Garden from New Zealand was the TIMSS Advanced 2008 Mathematics Coordinator and Dr. Svein Lie, from the University of Oslo, was the TIMSS Advanced 2008 Physics Coordinator. Together with the Physics and Mathematics task force, a panel of internationally recognized experts in mathematics and physics research, curriculum, instruction, and assessment, they provided excellent guidance throughout TIMSS Advanced 2008.

To work with the international team and coordinate within-country activities, each participating country designated one or two individuals to be the TIMSS National Research Coordinator or Co-Coordinators, known as the NRCs. The NRCs had the complicated

and challenging task of implementing the TIMSS Advanced 2008 study in their countries in accordance with TIMSS guidelines and procedures. The quality of the TIMSS Advanced 2008 assessment and data depends on the work of the NRCs and their colleagues in carrying out the very complex sampling, data collection, and scoring tasks involved.

Continuing the tradition of truly exemplary work established in other TIMSS assessments, the TIMSS Advanced 2008 NRCs performed their many tasks with dedication, competence, energy, and goodwill, and have been commended by the IEA Secretariat, the TIMSS & PIRLS International Study Center, the IEA Data Processing and Research Center, and Statistics Canada for their commitment to the project and the high quality of their work.

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