TIMSS & PIRLS 2011 Curriculum Questionnaire

GENERAL MODULE

To be completed by all countries participating in TIMSS and/or PIRLS 1. What is your country's name for the grade(s) tested in TIMSS and/or PIRLS 2011, in English (e.g., grade 4, grade 8)?



2. In your country, what is the stated official policy or regulation on students' age of entry to primary school (ISCED Level 1)?

Examples: "Children begin school during the calendar year of their 6th *birthday"; "Children must be* 6 *years old by the end of June to begin school the following September".*

A. If the official policy allows some parental discretion or choice, please describe the usual practice.

Example: "Even though the official policy is that students can begin school in the year when they turn 6 years old, children typically begin primary school at age 7 because their parents feel they will benefit from being more mature".

B. Has the stated official policy changed in the last 10 years?

Yes	\bigcirc
No	\bigcirc

Check one circle only.

If Yes....

C. How did the policy change, and when was the change made?

Questions 3-5 ask about the years of schooling provided in your country, beginning with preprimary education.

3. Is preprimary education (ISCED Level 0) mandatory for children in your country?

Yes--- No---

Check one circle only.

If Yes....

A. How many years are students required to attend preprimary education?

1 year----- 0 2 years----- 0 3 years---- 0 More than 3 years---- 0

If No....

B. What types of preprimary education are available, but not mandatory?

Check one circle for each line.

	Yes	No
a) Public preprimary education	0_	
b) Licensed early childhood education providers	<u> </u>	_0
c) Other Please specify:	0-	
1 2		

Any other comments about preprimary education:

4. What are the ages and/or grades of compulsory education in your country?

Example: "Ages 6-16; Grades 1-9".



5. Beginning with ISCED Level 1, what grades of schooling are provided to students through ISCED Level 3 (upper secondary)?

Example: "Grades 1-12".



6. Does your country have a national curriculum for preprimary education (ISCED Level 0)?

Check one ci	ircle only.
Yes	\bigcirc
No	\bigcirc

If Yes....

A. Are language, reading, and writing skills part of the preprimary curriculum?

Check one circle only.

Yes	\bigcirc
No	\bigcirc

Please describe:

B. Is mathematics (e.g., counting, learning shapes) part of the preprimary curriculum?

Check one circle only.

Yes---- ()

Please describe:

6

C. Is science (e.g., nature study, weather) part of the preprimary curriculum?

	Check one circle only.	
	Yes	
	No	
Please describe:		

7. Does your country have a policy on the promotion and retention of students across grades 1-8?

Example: "Automatic promotion for grades 1-5, dependent on academic progress for grades 6-8".

Check one circle only.

Yes	\bigcirc
No	\bigcirc

Please describe:

8. Does your country have a nationally mandated number of school days per year?

Check one circle only.		
Yes	\bigcirc	
No	\bigcirc	

Please describe:

9. What is the **main** preparation route(s) for teachers of students in the **fourth** grade?

Example: "Most teachers receive their education through a university degree program. Some have attended a teacher college program, but that is becoming less common".

A. According to the **main** teacher preparation route, what are the current requirements for being a teacher of students in the **fourth grade**?

Check one circle for each line.

	Yes	No
 a) Supervised practicum during the teacher education program <i>If Yes</i> How long is this period? 	0-	
b) Passing a qualifying examination (e.g., licensing, certification)	0-	
c) Completion of a probationary teaching period <i>If Yes</i> How long is this period?	0-	
 d) Completion of a mentoring or induction program (e.g., experienced teachers work with novice teachers to provide instructional guidance) 	0-	
e) Other Please specify:	0-	

B. If the main preparation route(s) for teachers of students in the **eighth grade** is different, what is their **main** preparation route?

C. If the requirements are different than the fourth grade, what are the current requirements for being a teacher of students in the **eighth grade**?

Check one circle for each line.

	Yes	No
 a) Supervised practicum during the teacher education program <i>If Yes</i> How long is this period? 	0-	
b) Passing a qualifying examination (e.g., licensing, certification)	0-	
c) Completion of a probationary teaching period <i>If Yes</i> How long is this period?	0-	
 d) Completion of a mentoring or induction program (e.g., experienced teachers work with novice teachers to provide instructional guidance) 	0—	
e) Other Please specify:	0-	

10. A. Does an educational authority in your country (e.g., National Ministry of Education) administer examinations in the following subjects that have consequences for individual students, such as entry to a higher school system, entry to a university, and/or exiting or graduating from secondary school?

	Check one circle for each line.		
a) Language(s)		Yes	No
b) Mathematics		0—	
c) Science		0—	

B. Please describe the grades at which the exams are given and the purpose of each exam.

Example: "There is an exam including language and mathematics given at the end of grade 8 to determine placement for entry to secondary school."

C. Does your country have a national or regional policy to make accommodations for students with special needs taking national or regional tests?

Examples: "Providing materials in Braille for visually impaired students"; "Providing instructions in sign language for hearing impaired students".

Check one circle only.

Yes	\bigcirc
No	\bigcirc

If Yes... What is the policy?

D. If there are not exams, is there a similar process that has consequences for individual students?

Example: "Teacher recommendations"

11. Is there a national/regional policy to encourage parental involvement in the schools attended by **fourth-grade** students?

Example: "Parents must be included in school governing bodies".

Check one circle only.

Yes	\bigcirc
No	\bigcirc

If Yes... What is the policy?

If No... Comments:

12. Is there a national/regional policy to encourage parental involvement in the schools attended by **eighth-grade** students?

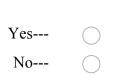
Check one circle only.

Yes, same as fourth grade	\bigcirc
Yes, but different than fourth grade	\bigcirc
No	\bigcirc

If different from fourth grade... What is the policy?

MATHEMATICS MODULE GRADE 4 (TIMSS Grade 4 Module, Part 1)

To be completed by all countries participating in TIMSS at the fourth grade 1. Does your country have a national curriculum that covers mathematics instruction at the fourth grade of primary/elementary school?



Check one circle only.

If Yes... Comments:

If No...

What is the highest level of decision-making authority (e.g., state or province) that provides a curriculum that covers mathematics instruction at the fourth grade of primary/elementary school?

Question 2 pertains to the mathematics curriculum that was in effect for the students assessed in TIMSS 2010/2011.

2. A. In what year was the current mathematics curriculum introduced?



Refers to the national curriculum that covers mathematics instruction at the fourth grade of primary/elementary school for the majority of students. If you do not have a national curriculum, please summarize for your state or provincial curricula.

Comments:

B. Is the mathematics curriculum being revised?

Check one circle only.



If Yes... Please explain:

If No... Comments:

3. For the primary/elementary school mathematics curriculum, what is the grade structure?

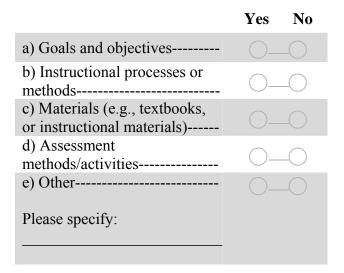
Refers to the national curriculum that covers mathematics instruction at the fourth grade of primary/elementary school for the majority of students. If you do not have a national curriculum, please summarize for your state or provincial curricula.

Examples: "Grades 1-5"; "Grades 1-3, 4-5"; "Grade 1, 2-4"

4. What does the mathematics curriculum prescribe?

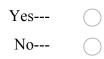
Refers to the national curriculum that covers mathematics instruction at the fourth grade of primary/elementary school for the majority of students. If you do not have a national curriculum, please summarize for your state or provincial curricula.

Check one circle for each line.



5. Is there a process for approving the textbooks used for mathematics instruction?

Check one circle only.



If Yes... Please describe the process: 6. A. Does the national curriculum contain statements/policies about the use of calculators in grade 4 mathematics instruction?

Refers to the national curriculum that covers mathematics instruction at the fourth grade of primary/elementary school for the majority of students. If you do not have a national curriculum, please summarize for your state or provincial curricula.

Check or	ie circle only
Yes	\bigcirc
No	\bigcirc

If Yes... What are the statements/policies?

B. Does the national curriculum contain statements/policies about the use of calculators in grade 4 mathematics tests or examinations?

Refers to the national curriculum that covers mathematics instruction at the fourth grade of primary/elementary school for the majority of students. If you do not have a national curriculum, please summarize for your state or provincial curricula.

Check	one circle only.
Yes	\bigcirc
No	\bigcirc

If Yes... What are the statements/policies?

7. Does the national curriculum contain statements/policies about the use of computers in grade 4 mathematics?

Refers to the national curriculum that covers mathematics instruction at the fourth grade of primary/elementary school for the majority of students. If you do not have a national curriculum, please summarize for your state or provincial curricula.

Check one circle only.

Yes	\bigcirc
No	\bigcirc

If Yes... What are the statements/policies?

8. How much emphasis does the national mathematics curriculum place on the following?

Refers to the national curriculum that covers mathematics instruction at the fourth grade of primary/elementary school for the majority of students. If you do not have a national curriculum, please summarize for your state or provincial curricula.

Check one circle for each line.

	None	Very Little	Some	A lot
a) Mastering basic skills and procedures				
b) Applying mathematics in real-life contexts	<u> </u>			
c) Reasoning mathematically				

9. (i) According to the national mathematics curriculum, what proportion of grade 4 students should have been taught each of the following topics or skills by the end of grade 4?

Be sure to include curriculum expectations for all grades up to and including grade 4. Grades represent years of formal schooling. For example, if "Year 5" in your country corresponds to the fourth year of formal schooling, please choose grade 4.

(ii) Across grades from preprimary to upper secondary education, at what grade(s) are the topics primarily intended to be taught?

If there are not any specifications to this detail, please indicate national expectations to the best of your ability. If part of a topic does not apply (e.g., finding missing terms in part A topic (h)), please explain in the comment field.

Refers to the national curriculum that covers mathematics instruction at the fourth grade of primary/elementary school for the majority of students. If you do not have a national curriculum, please summarize for your state or provincial curricula.

		(i) Proportion of grade 4 students expected to be taught topic Check one circle for each line.			(ii) Grade(s) topic is expected to be taught preprimary (PP) through the end of upper secondary (G12)					
A. Number	All or almost all students	Only the more able students	Not included in the curriculum through grade 4							
a) Concepts of whole numbers, including place value and ordering				РР 	G1	G2	G3 G10	G4 G11	G5 G12	G6
b) Adding, subtracting, multiplying, and/or dividing with whole numbers	0			PP □ G7 □	G1	G2 □ G9 □	G3 □ G10 □	G4 □ G11 □	G5 G12	G6

c) Concepts of fractions (fractions as parts of a whole or of a collection, or as a location on a number line; comparing and ordering fractions)		рр □ G7	G1	G2 G9	G3 □ G10 □	G4 □ G11 □	G5 □ G12 □	G6
d) Adding and subtracting with fractions	00	PP □ G7 □	G1 □ G8 □	G2 □ G9 □	G3 □ G10 □	G4 □ G11 □	G5 □ G12 □	G6
e) Concepts of decimals, including place value and ordering		PP G7	G1	G2	G3 □ G10 □	G4 □ G11 □	G5 G12 G12	G6
f) Adding and subtracting with decimals	00	PP G7	G1 G8	G2 □ G9 □	G3 □ G10 □	G4 □ G11 □	G5 □ G12 □	G6
g) Number sentences (finding the missing number, modeling simple situations with number sentences)		РР — G7 —	G1	G2	G3	G4	G5 G12	G6
h) Number patterns (extending number patterns and finding missing terms)	00	РР G7 	G1	G2 □ G9 □	G3 □ G10 □	G4 □ G11 □	G5 □ G12 □	G6
Comments:								

	Chec	grade expected t	portion of 4 students to be taught copic for each line.	(ii) Grade(s) topic is expected to be taught preprimary (PP) through the end of upper secondary (G12)						
B. Geometric Shapes and	All or almost all students	Only the more able students	Not included in the curriculum through grade 4							
Measures a) Lines: measuring, estimating length of; parallel and perpendicular lines				PP G7	G1	G2	G3 □ G10 □	G4	G5 G12	G6
b) Comparing and drawing angles	0	O		PP G7	G1 G8 G8	G2 G9 G9	G3 G10	G4 G11	G5 G12 G12	G6
c) Using informal coordinate systems to locate points in a plane (e.g., in square B4)				PP G7	G1	G2 G9 D	G3 G10 G10	G4 G11 □	G5 G12 □	G6
d) Elementary properties of common geometric shapes-	0	()	O	PP G7	G1	G2 □ G9 □	G3 □ G10 □	G4 □ G11 □	G5 □ G12 □	G6
e) Reflections and rotations				PP G7	G1 G8 G8	G2 G9 G9	G3 □ G10 □	G4 □ G11 □	G5 G12 G12	G6
f) Relationships between two- dimensional and three-dimensional shapes	0		()	PP G7	G1	G2 □ G9 □	G3 □ G10 □	G4 □ G11 □	G5 □ G12 □	G6

g) Finding and		PP	G1	G2	G3	G4	G5	G6
estimating areas,	\bigcirc \bigcirc \bigcirc							
perimeters and	0(G7	G8	G9	G10	G11	G12	
volumes								



	Ch	(i) Proportion of grade 4 students expected to be taught topic Check one circle for each line.			(ii) Grade(s) topic is expected to be taught preprimary (PP) through the end o upper secondary (G12)					
C. Data Display	All or almost all students	Only the more able students	Not included in the curriculum through grade 4							
a) Reading data from tables, pictographs, bar graphs, or pie charts				PP G7	G1	G2 G9	G3 G10	G4	G5 G12	G6
b) Drawing conclusions from data displays	0	O	O	PP □ G7 □	G1 G8 G8	G2 □ G9 □	G3 □ G10 □	G4 □ G11 □	G5 □ G12 □	G6
c) Displaying data using tables, pictographs, and bar graphs				PP G7	G1	G2 □ G9	G3 □ G10 □	G4 □ G11 □	G5 G12	G6

10. In what form is the mathematics curriculum made available?

Refers to the national curriculum that covers mathematics instruction at the fourth grade of primary/elementary school for the majority of students. If you do not have a national curriculum, please summarize for your state or provincial curricula.

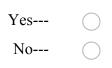
Check one circle for each line.

	Yes	No
a) Official publication containing the curriculum		
b) Ministry notes and directives	0—	
c) Mandated or recommended textbooks		
d) Instructional or pedagogical guide	0—	
e) Specifically developed or recommended instructional activities		
f) Other	0—	
Please specify:		

11. Does the curriculum prescribe the percentage of **total** instructional time to be devoted to **mathematics** instruction at the fourth grade of primary/elementary school?

Refers to the national curriculum that covers mathematics instruction at the fourth grade of primary/elementary school for the majority of students. If you do not have a national curriculum, please summarize for your state or provincial curricula.

Check one circle only.



If Yes... Please specify the percentage.

12. How is the mathematics curriculum implementation evaluated?

Refers to the national curriculum that covers mathematics instruction at the fourth grade of primary/elementary school for the majority of students. If you do not have a national curriculum, please summarize for your state or provincial curricula.

Check one circle for each line.

	Yes	No
a) Visits by inspectors/supervisors		
b) Research programs	0-	
c) School self-evaluation		
d) National or regional assessments	0_	
e) Other		
Please specify:		



SCIENCE MODULE GRADE 4 (TIMSS Grade 4 Module, Part 2)

To be completed by all countries participating in TIMSS at the fourth grade 1. Does your country have a national curriculum that covers science instruction at the fourth grade of primary/elementary school?

Yes	\bigcirc
No	\bigcirc

Check one circle only.

If Yes... Comments:

If No...

What is the highest level of decision-making authority (e.g., state or province) that provides a curriculum that covers science instruction at the fourth grade of primary/elementary school?

Question 2 pertains to the science curriculum that was in effect for the students assessed in TIMSS 2010/2011.

2. A. In what year was the current science curriculum introduced?



Refers to the national curriculum that covers science instruction at the fourth grade of primary/elementary schooling for the majority of students. If you do not have a national curriculum, please summarize for your state or provincial curricula.

Comments:

B. Is the science curriculum currently being revised?

Check one circle only.



If Yes... Please explain:

If No... Comments:

3. For the primary/elementary school science curriculum, what is the grade structure?

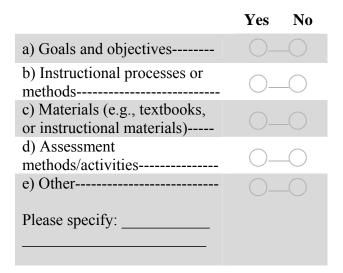
Refers to the national curriculum that covers science instruction at the fourth grade of primary/elementary schooling for the majority of students. If you do not have a national curriculum, please summarize for your state or provincial curricula.

Examples: "Grades 1-5"; "Grades 1-3, 4-5"; "Grade 1, 2-4"

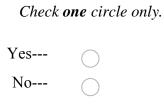
4. What does the science curriculum prescribe?

Refers to the national curriculum that covers science instruction at the fourth grade of primary/elementary schooling for the majority of students. If you do not have a national curriculum, please summarize for your state or provincial curricula.

Check one circle for each line.



5. Is there a process for approving the textbooks used for science instruction?



If Yes... Please describe the process: 6. Does the national curriculum contain statements/policies about the use of computers in grade 4 science?

Refers to the national curriculum that covers science instruction at the fourth grade of primary/elementary schooling for the majority of students. If you do not have a national curriculum, please summarize for your state or provincial curricula.

Check one circle only.



If Yes... What are the statements/policies?

7. How much emphasis does the national science curriculum place on the following?

Refers to the national curriculum that covers science instruction at the fourth grade of primary/elementary schooling for the majority of students. If you do not have a national curriculum, please summarize for your state or provincial curricula.

Check one circle for each line.

	None	Very Little	Some	A lot
a) Knowing basic science facts and principles				
b) Applying science in real-life contexts	\bigcirc			
c) Providing explanations or justifications about what is being studied				
d) Designing and planning experiments or investigations	\bigcirc			
e) Conducting experiments or investigations				

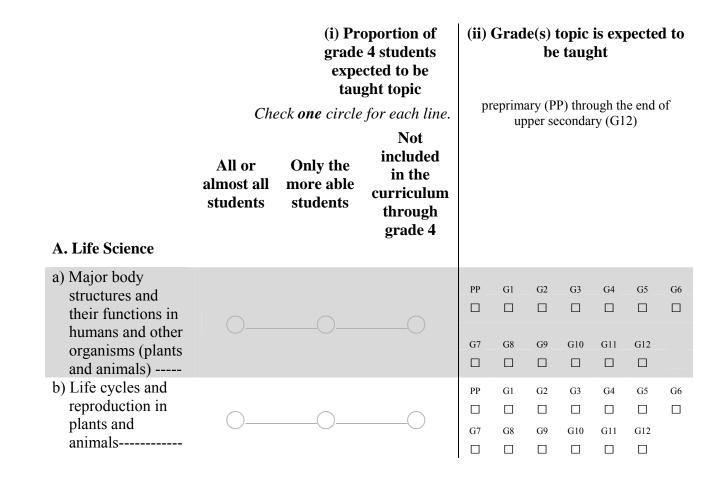
8. (i) According to the national science curriculum, what proportion of grade 4 students should have been taught each of the following topics or skills by the end of grade 4?

Be sure to include curriculum expectations for all grades up to and including grade 4. Grades represent years of formal schooling. For example, if "Year 5" in your country corresponds to the fourth year of formal schooling, please choose grade 4.

Across grades from preprimary through upper secondary, at what grade(s) are the topics primarily intended to be taught?

If there are not any specifications to this detail, please indicate national expectations to the best of your ability. If part of a topic does not apply (e.g., pollution in part A topic (e)), please explain in the comment field.

Refers to the national curriculum that covers science instruction at the fourth grade of primary/elementary schooling for the majority of students. If you do not have a national curriculum, please summarize for your state or provincial curricula.



c) Physical features, behavior, and survival of organisms living in different environments		РР — G7 —	G1	G2 □ G9 □	G3 □ G10 □	G4 □ G11 □	G5 □ G12 □	G6
d) Relationships in a given community (e.g., simple food chains, predator- prey relationships)	00	PP	G1	G2 □ G9 □	G3 □ G10 □	G4 □ G11 □	G5 □ G12 □	G6
e) Changes in environments (effects of human activity, pollution and its prevention)		РР — G7 —	G1	G2	G3 □ G10 □	G4 □ G11 □	G5 □ G12 □	G6
f) Human health (e.g., transmission/prev ention of communicable diseases, signs of health/illness, diet, exercise)	00	PP	G1	G2	G3 □ G10 □	G4	G5 □ G12 □	G6



		grade expected	oportion of 4 students 1 to be taught topic	(ii) Grade(s) topic is expected to be taught			xpect	ed		
	Che	eck one circle	for each line.	pre					ne end 2)	of
B. Physical Science	All or almost all students	Only the more able students	Not included in the curriculum through grade 4		upper secondary (G12)					
a) States of matter (solids, liquids, gases) and differences in their physical properties (shape,	0	()	()	PP	G1	G2	G3	G4	G5	G6
volume), including changes in state of matter by heating and cooling				G7	G8	G9	G10	G11	G12	
b) Classification of objects/materials based on physical properties (e.g.,	<u> </u>		O	₽Р	G1	G2	G3	G4	G5	G6
weight/mass, volume, magnetic attraction)				G7	G8	G9	G10	G11	G12	
c) Forming and separating mixtures				PP G7	G1 G8 G8	G2 G9	G3 □ G10 □	G4 G11	G5 G12	G6
d) Familiar changes in materials (e.g., decaying,	\bigcirc			PP	G1	G2	G3	G4	G5	G6
burning, rusting, cooking)	\bigcirc $-$	\bigcirc	\bigcirc	G7	G8	G9	G10	G11	G12	

e) Common energy sources/forms and their practical uses (e.g., the Sun, electricity, water, wind)		рр □ G7	G1	G2 □ G9 □	G3 □ G10 □	G4 □ G11 □	G5 □ G12 □	G6
f) Light (e.g., sources, behavior)	00	PP □ G7 □	G1 □ G8 □	G2 □ G9 □	G3 □ G10 □	G4 □ G11 □	G5 □ G12 □	G6
g) Electrical circuits and properties of magnets		PP □ G7 □	G1 G8	G2 G9 G2	G3 G10 G1	G4 G11 G11	G5 G12 G12	G6
h) Forces that cause objects to move (e.g., gravity, push/pull forces) -	00	PP G7	G1 □ G8 □	G2 □ G9 □	G3 □ G10 □	G4 □ G11 □	G5 □ G12 □	G6

	Che	grade 4 students expected to be taught topicbe taughtCheck one circle for each line.preprimary (PP) through the upper secondary (GE)			(ii) Grade(s) topic is expected be taught preprimary (PP) through the end upper secondary (G12)					
	All or almost all students	Only the more able students	Not included in the curriculum through grade 4							
C. Earth Science										
a) Water on Earth (location, types, and movement) and air	0	O	O	PP	G1	G2	G3	G4	G5	G6
(composition, proof of its existence, uses)				G7	G8	G9	G10	G11	G12	
b) Common features of Earth's landscape (e.g., mountains, plains, rivers, deserts) and relationship to human use				PP	G1	G2	G3	G4	G5	G6
(e.g., farming, irrigation, land development)										
c) Weather conditions from day to day or over the seasons	0	O	O	PP G7	G1 G8 G8	G2 □ G9	G3 □ G10 □	G4 □ G11 □	G5 □ G12 □	G6
d) Fossils of animals and plants (age, location, formation)				PP G7	G1	G2	G3 □ G10	G4	G5 □ G12 □	G6
e) Earth's solar system (planets, Sun, moon)	0			PP G7 	G1 G8 □	G2 □ G9 □	G3 □ G10 □	G4 □ G11 □	G5 G12	G6

f) Day, night, and shadows due to Earth's rotation	PP	G1	G2	G3	G4	G5	G6	
and its relationship to the Sun	G7	G8	G9	G10	G11	G12		



9. In what form is the science curriculum made available?

Refers to the national curriculum that covers science instruction at the fourth grade of primary/elementary schooling for the majority of students. If you do not have a national curriculum, please summarize for your state or provincial curricula.

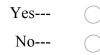
Check one circle for each line.

	Yes	No
a) Official publication containing the curriculum		
b) Ministry notes and directives	0—	
c) Mandated or recommended textbooks		
d) Instructional or pedagogical guide	0—	
e) Specifically developed or recommended instructional activities		
f) Other	0-	
Please specify:		

10. Does the curriculum prescribe the percentage of **total** instructional time to be devoted to **science** instruction at the fourth grade of primary/elementary school?

Refers to the national curriculum that covers science instruction at the fourth grade of primary/elementary schooling for the majority of students. If you do not have a national curriculum, please summarize for your state or provincial curricula.

Check one circle only.



If Yes... Please specify the percentage:

11. How is the science curriculum implementation evaluated?

Refers to the national curriculum that covers science instruction at the fourth grade of primary/elementary schooling for the majority of students. If you do not have a national curriculum, please summarize for your state or provincial curricula.

	Yes	No
a) Visits by inspectors/supervisors	<u> </u>	
b) Research programs	<u> </u>	
c) School self-evaluation	<u> </u>	_0
d) National or regional assessments	0-	
e) Other		
Please specify:		

Check one circle for each line.

