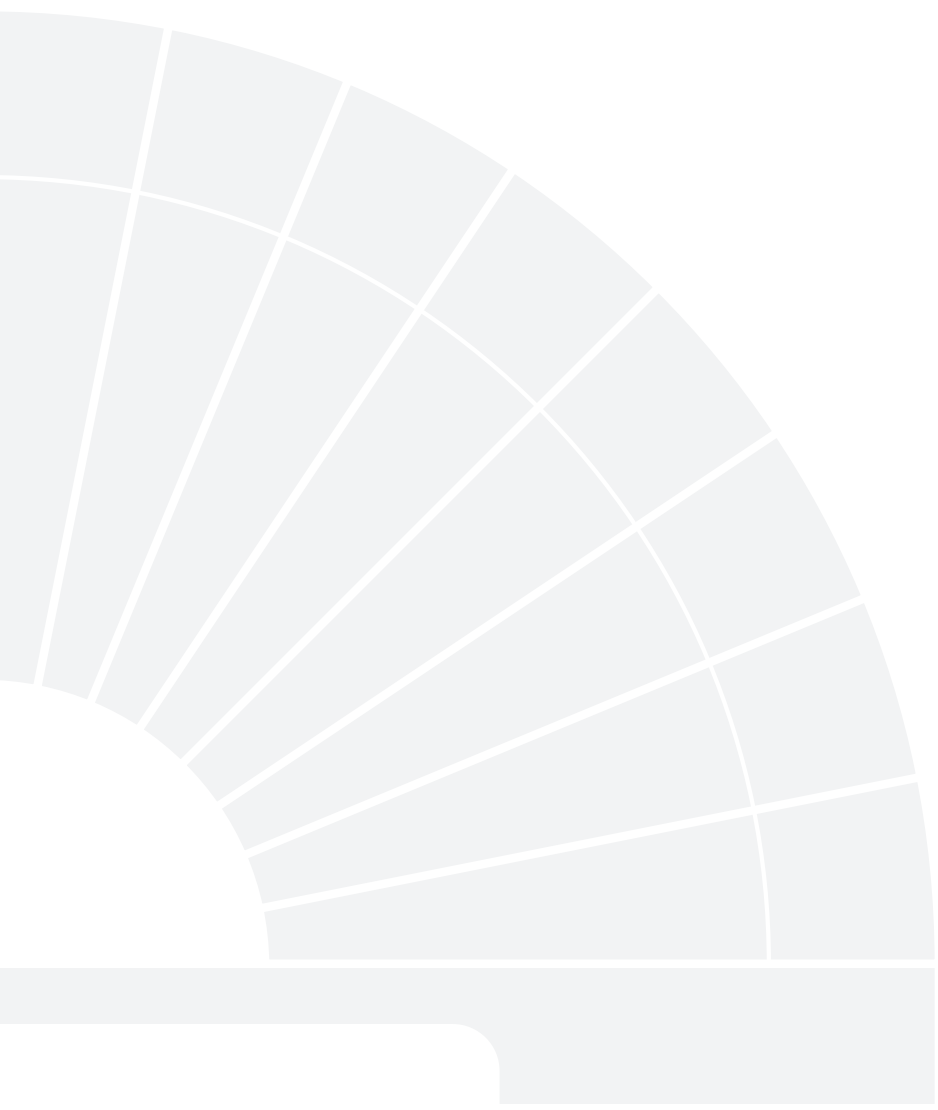


APPENDIX E

Acknowledgments

E





TIMSS 1999 was truly a collaborative effort among hundreds of individuals around the world. Staff from the national research centers in each participating country, the International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA), the International Study Center (ISC) at Boston College, advisors, and funding agencies worked closely to develop and implement TIMSS 1999. The project would not have been possible without the tireless efforts of all involved. Inside, the individuals and organizations are acknowledged for their contributions. Given that implementing TIMSS 1999 has spanned approximately four years and involved so many people and organizations, this list may not pay heed to all who contributed throughout the life of the project. Any omission is inadvertent. TIMSS 1999 also acknowledges the students, teachers, and school principals who contributed their time and effort to the study. This report would not be possible without them.

Funding Agencies

Funding for the international coordination of TIMSS 1999 was provided by the National Center for Education Statistics of the U.S. Department of Education, the U.S. National Science Foundation, the World Bank, and participating countries. Valena Plisko, Eugene Owen, and Patrick Gonzales of the National Center for Education Statistics; Larry Suter, Elizabeth VanderPutten, and Janice Earle of the National Science Foundation; and Marlaine Lockheed of the World Bank each played a crucial role in making TIMSS 1999 possible and for ensuring the quality of the study. Each participating country was responsible for funding national project costs and implementing TIMSS 1999 in accordance with the international procedures.

Management and Operations

TIMSS 1999 was conducted under the auspices of the IEA. The study was co-directed by Michael O. Martin and Ina V.S. Mullis, and managed centrally by the staff of the International Study Center at Boston College, Lynch School of Education. Although the study was directed by the International Study Center and its staff members implemented various parts of TIMSS 1999, important activities also were carried out in centers around the world. In the IEA Secretariat, Hans Wagemaker, Executive Director, was responsible for overseeing fundraising and country participation. The IEA Secretariat also coordinated translation verification and recruiting of quality control monitors. The data were processed centrally by the IEA Data Processing Center in Hamburg. Statistics Canada was responsible for collecting and evaluating the sampling documentation from each country and for calculating the sampling weights. Educational Testing Service in Princeton, New Jersey conducted the scaling of the achievement data.

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National Research Coordinators

The TIMSS 1999 National Research Coordinators and their staff had the enormous task of implementing the TIMSS 1999 design. This required obtaining funding for the project; participating in the development of the instruments and procedures; conducting field tests; participating in and conducting training sessions; translating the instruments and procedural manuals into the local language; selecting the sample of schools and students; working with the schools to arrange for the testing; arranging for data collection, coding, and data entry; preparing the data files for submission to the IEA Data Processing Center; contributing to the development of the international reports; and preparing national reports. The way in which the national centers operated

and the resources that were available varied considerably across the TIMSS 1999 countries. In some countries, the tasks were conducted centrally, while in others, various components were subcontracted to other organizations. In some countries, resources were more than adequate, while in some cases, the national centers were operating with limited resources. Of course, across the life of the project, some NRCS have changed. This list attempts to include all past NRCS who served for a significant period of time as well as all the present NRCS. All of the TIMSS 1999 National Research Coordinators and their staff members are to be commended for their professionalism and their dedication in conducting all aspects of TIMSS.

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