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(IBE)
UNESCO

Work Plan in 2007

Background: The Creation of COP

Within the mandate of providing support to UNESCO Member States in the management of curriculum change, the IBE has created in 2005 the Community of Practice (COP) in Curriculum Development as a tool for empowering the national capacity of constructing and implementing a better curriculum linked to EFA goals.

Challenge I

continue to foster a conception of curriculum as the hub of educational change encompassing processes (the how) and results (the what) aimed at progressively attaining an improved educational quality within an holistic approach of Education For All (EFA) goals

SOME QUESTIONS TO RAISE

What are main advances, pending issues and challenges around the role of the COP as both an intra and inter-regional space for knowledge construction and sharing? Examples to share? Initiatives to implement?

After this brief period of carrying out the COP, which is or can be its value added as a way of improving the quality of the educational and curriculum debate as well as strengthening the collective action around curriculum design and implementation?

Which can be the role of the COP in contributing to implement the Basic Education agenda around the six EFA goals?

Can the COP be a sort of a clearinghouse around conceptualization of approaches and good practices on the links between curriculum change in Basic Education and teacher professional development?

How can we continue to foster spaces and opportunities of inter-regional horizontal technical cooperation among COP members?

How can we enlarge the Institutional support for the COP involving different types of partners in order to mobilize additional human and financial resources as well as to move forward on the implementation of intra and inter-regional projects?

Challenge II

contribute to the development of EFA Global Action Plan assuming i) the

idea that all six EFA goals taken as a whole form the Basic Education Agenda and ii) working towards one of UNESCO strategic direction - from access to success based on a constant emphasis on developing contextually effective strategies and improving the quality of education among other things-.

Challenge III

consolidate a developmental perspective in implementing the COP through a combination of intra- and inter-regional approaches, projects and activities.- Strengthen the horizontal cooperation among COP members.

In overall terms

the IBE wants to continue advancing in animating and in facilitating conditions, opportunities, settings, instruments and resources to really generate processes of collective thinking and doing around the improvement of curriculum change linked to EFA goals.

Goal (overall objective)

To strengthen the capacities of national curriculum-making bodies - curriculum specialists and developers at different levels - in designing and implementing processes of reform of school curricula mostly focused on Educational Quality linked to EFA goals, by sharing their visions, experiences, practices, research findings and expertise through the COP in Curriculum Development under both an intra- and inter-regional perspective

Specific Objectives

- To formalise relationships with 11 Focal Points covering the five UNESCO regions (2 in Africa, 1 in Gulf Arab States, 2 in Asia, 3 in Europe/North America and 3 in Latin America and the Caribbean) centred on developing working plans that mainly consist of preparatory activities for the CIE 2008.
- To develop an inter-regional (cover at least three regions) comparative study related to curriculum policies, frameworks and experiences on Inclusive Education related to Basic Education.
- To enhance IBE databanks by incorporating experiences and practices related to the design and application of the approaches by competencies in Basic Education and Teachers Education coming from different traditions and regions.
- To discuss, establish and implement, within the spirit and the content of UNESCO Education Sector Reform, working plans with UNESCO Regional Offices in Africa (Breda, Dakar), in Asia (Bangkok) and in Latin America and the Caribbean (OREALC, Santiago de Chile) on issues related to the curriculum development of Basic Education within EFA Global Action Plan and to the CIE 2008.
- To finalize the revised version of the Asia-Pacific resource pack for capacity building (enhance the worldwide approach) as well as carry out training activities (face to face and on-line) applying the resource pack in coordination with Universities and other tertiary institutions.
- To implement the cooperation agreement signed between IBE and the Educational

and Cultural Council of Central America (CECC) through the development of a regional project focused on supporting the processes of curricula transformation in Basic Education.

- To continue the implementation of an Ibero-American Observatory of Equity in Basic Education with the support of the Autonomous University of Barcelona and Latin American Universities, focused on generating an arena of analysis and interpretation of outcomes as well of discussion and construction of educational and curriculum policies around equity issues.
- To organise a series of worldwide and regional e-forums as well as the second COP Forum as preparatory activities for the CIE 2008, mainly by producing documents and generating discussions around the theme selected.
- To continue enhancing the COP section within IBE website, by adding regional pages as well as implementing a weekly animation activity and providing online resources and online alert.