Curriculum Evaluation in the Gulf States

International workshop

Dubai/Sharjah, 26-28 September 2011

Curriculum evaluation
Curriculum evaluation as part of “curriculum cycles”

VISION

PLANNING

DESIGNING

WRITING

Monitoring & Evaluation (M+E)

Pilot testing

Implementation
Monitoring and evaluation

**Monitoring**
- Data gathering
- Process controlling

**Evaluation**
- Assessment based on value judgments
- Corrections & improvement
- Impact
Curriculum evaluation

- Written
- Intended
- Official
- Applied
- Realized
- Interactive
- Hidden
- Learned
- Effective
Why to evaluate?

…the evaluation of educational curricula refers to determining the merit or worth of a part or the whole of a curriculum. There are a number of reasons why evaluation is important, firsts...it informs and serves the needs of policy makers, administrators, and other members of the society. It also informs and helps in decision-making as it gives policy makers information. Secondly, it serves as a reference to teachers, curriculum specialists, school administrators and others involved in curriculum development.”

(Cf. UNESCO Bangkok, 2003)
What are ingredients to evaluate curricula effectively?

Comprehensive, well-thought & effective methodologies

VISION

Quality criteria

Appropriate methods & instruments

Personal and institutional capacities
Participatory approaches
Constructive approaches
Quality issues

- Is there a (shared & progressive) curriculum vision?
- Is the curriculum developed in a proper way?
- Is the curriculum well implemented?
- Does it foster quality learning?
- Does it contribute to individual and societal development?
Methods of curriculum evaluation

- Expert opinion
- Analyzing student results
- Classroom observation
- Inquiring stakeholder opinions
- Pilot & field testing
- Analyzing curriculum documents & materials
Evaluation instruments

- Analytical frameworks
- Analytical grids
- Questionnaires
- Interview & focus group protocols
- Class observation protocols

Focus group, Mauritius (Aug. 2007)
Who should evaluate?

- National/local committees/task forces
- Stakeholders
- Specialized international agencies and consultants
- All Involved
How to use evaluation results?

- Improve curriculum processes & products
- Capacity development
- Policy changes
Examples of curriculum evaluation