Workshop 10

The Impact of Large-Scale Datasets on Evidence-Based Educational Policymaking and Reform in the Gulf States

Schedule

Directors:

Dr. Naif H. Alromi
Deputy Minister- Educational Development, Policy & Planning
Ministry of Education
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Dr. Alexander W. Wiseman
Associate Professor of Comparative & International Education
Lehigh University
United States of America

Dr. Saleh A. Alshumrani
Assistant Professor of Measurement, Evaluation, & Statistics
King Saud University
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Thursday 12 July
Sub-Theme 1: Education Quality and Large-Scale Assessment

09:00-10:00 Welcome and Introduction to Workshop
Naif Alromi, Alexander W. Wiseman and Saleh Alshumrani

10:00-11:00 The Quality of Secondary Education in the Middle East and North Africa: An Empirical Analysis using TIMSS 2007 Data
Donia Smaali Bouhlila

Discussant: Azza Shafei

11:00-11:30 Coffee Break

11:30-12:30 From a National to an International Policy Reform Shift: A 'Positivist' Critical Discourse Analysis of the Tatweer Educational Policy in Saudi Arabia
Tariq Elyas
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12:30-14:30</td>
<td>Lunch Break</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 14:30-15:30  | **School Inspection and International Assessment in Dubai:** Evidence-based Approaches for Improving the Quality of Education in Private Schools  
*Rabaa Alsumaiti*  
Discussant: Jennifer DeBoer |
| 15:30-17:00  | **An Omani National Remedial Program in Response to Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS) 2007 Poor Results: Cognitive Knowledge Development Program for Students in Science Mathematics and Concepts of Environmental Geography: Impact and Challenges**  
*Munira Al-Wahaibi and Asila Al-Maawali*  
Discussant: Tariq Elyas |
| 16:00-16:30  | Coffee Break                                                         |
| 16:30-17:00  | Discussion continues                                                |
| 17:00-17:30  | **Sub-Theme Wrap-up**                                               |
|              | *Naif Alromi, Alexander W. Wiseman and Saleh Alshumrani*            |

**Friday 13 July**

**Sub-Theme 2: Using Large-Scale Data to Identify & Understand Educational Equality Issues**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 09:00-10:00  | **The Relationship Between School Resources and Grade 8 Mathematics Achievement: A Comparison of Israeli Hebrew Israeli Arab and Palestinian Authority Schools in TIMSS 2007**  
*Yasin Afana*  
Discussant: Emily Anderson |
| 10:00-11:00  | **The Quality of Higher Education in the Arab Region: Which Tools of Assessment to Use**  
*Azza Shafei*  
Discussant: Rabaa Alsumaiti |
| 11:00-11:30  | Coffee Break                                                         |
11:30-12:30 Socioeconomic Versus Linguistic Factors Affecting Low Attainment in Reading Literacy in Arabic-Speaking Countries: Lessons That Can Be Learned from Using Data Obtained from Large-Scale Educational Studies
   Ruth Zuzovsky

   Discussant: Mariam Orkodashvili

12:30-14:30 Lunch Break

14:30-15:30 Secondary Science Teachers’ Gender, Training and Expectations for Student Learning in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)
   Emily Anderson

   Discussant: Munira Al-Wahaibi and Asila Al-Maawali

15:30-16:00 Higher Education Databases and International Branch Campuses: Lessons and Opportunities in the GCC
   Sajida Shroff

   Discussant: Daniel Kirk

16:00-16:30 Coffee Break

16:30-17:00 Discussion continues

17:00-17:30 Sub-Theme Wrap Up
   Naif Alromi, Alexander W. Wiseman and Saleh Alshumrani

Saturday 14 July

Sub-Theme 3: Bridging Theory-to-Practice for Evidence-based Policymaking

09:00-10:00 Why the Fireworks?: Theoretical Perspectives on the Explosion in International Assessments and Implications for the Gulf
   Jennifer DeBoer

   Discussant: Alexander W. Wiseman

10:00-11:00 Policymaking Global Data and Achievement Gaps in Education in Gulf Countries: How Much Data for Which Policy?
   Mariam Orkodashvili

   Discussant: Emily Anderson

11:00-12:00 The “Singapore of the Middle East”: The Role and Attractiveness of the Singapore Model and TIMSS on Education Policy and Borrowing in the Kingdom of Bahrain
   Daniel Kirk
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12:00-13:00</td>
<td>Sub-Theme and Session Round-up; Draft Planning for Further Analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Naif Alromi, Alexander W. Wiseman and Saleh Alshumrani</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13:00-14:00</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>