



SEA-PLM 2019 Code of Practice



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The Australian Council for Educational Research Ltd (ACER) has been contracted to design and implement the first round of SEA-PLM assessment, SEA-PLM 2019. This consultation has been led by experts from ACER in 2018.



Preamble

We, Ministers of Education of Brunei Darussalam, the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, the Union of Myanmar, the Republic of the Philippines, and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam as Country Members of the Southeast Asia Primary Learning Metrics (CMoSEA-PLM) program are,

Guided by the Vision of '*The ASEAN Community Statistical System (ACSS) Code of Practice*', and will provide relevant, timely and comparable statistics for the Southeast Asia Primary Learning Metrics program in support of evidence based policy and decision making and enhance the assessment capacity of the CMoSEA-PLM.

Recognising the partnership between and among the CMoSEA-PLM in the development, production, dissemination and communication of SEA-PLM statistics,

Do hereby commit to adhere to the Southeast Asia Primary Learning Metrics Code of Practice for SEA-PLM 2019.

Background

The Southeast Asian Primary Learning Metrics Code of Practice is based on the ASEAN Community Statistical System (ACSS) Code of Practice which is consistent with the Fundamental Principles of the Official Statistics adopted by the United Nations Statistical Commission in 1994. The SEA-PLM Code of Practice for SEA-PLM 2019 is an important means of ensuring trust, accountability and the highest professional standards in the development, production, dissemination and communication of SEA-PLM statistics.

The SEA-PLM Code of Practice is based on 8 principles of the ASEAN ACSS, covering the institutional environment, the statistical production process and the output of statistics. Adherence to the SEA-PLM Code of Practice will improve levels of user satisfaction, transparency and accessibility.

One scientific consortium of experts are contracted before the beginning of each SEA-PLM round to implement specific scientific tasks and technical assistance to countries relative to SEA-PLM statistics. This body is here called "Designated Data Authority" DDA in the framework of SEA-PLM 2019.

The SEA-PLM Code of Practice can be subject for review when new cycle of SEA-PLM assessment or in the statistical community take place.

Key Principles of the Code of practice for SEA-PLM 2019

Institutional Environment

Key Principle 1: Mandate for Data Collection

The National Ministries of Education of SEA-PLM participating countries have clear legal mandate to collect information, which are shared with the Designated Data Authority (DDA) for the compilation of SEA-PLM statistics.

Indicators

- 1.1 The mandate of the National Ministries of Education of SEA-PLM participating countries to collect information for the production and dissemination of SEA-PLM statistics is stipulated in national laws and/or national legal frameworks;
- 1.2 Country level statistics produced by the National Ministries of Education of SEA-PLM participating countries is provided to the DDA for the compilation of SEA-PLM regional statistics; and
- 1.3 The SEA-PLM Secretariat, disseminates, and communicates SEA-PLM statistics, with the guidance of the SEA-PLM Regional Steering Committee, the SEA-PLM Technical Advisory Group and the DDA.

Key Principle 2: Professionalism and Integrity

National Ministries of Education of SEA-PLM participating countries, in partnership with the SEA-PLM Regional Steering Committee, the SEA-PLM Technical Advisory Group under the recommendation of the DDA, decide to strictly professional consideration on methods and procedures in various stages of SEA-PLM statistical activities from data collection to data dissemination.

Indicators

- 1.4 Decisions are based on professional considerations of responsibility, competence and expert knowledge;
- 1.5 The National Ministries of Education of SEA-PLM participating countries apply the SEA-PLM Technical Standards guidelines and good practices in the overall methodology framework validated for the one SEA-PLM round,
- 1.6 The National Ministries of Education of SEA-PLM participating countries ensure that the local staff avails of relevant training courses and conference that will allow them to improve their knowledge and skills in large scale student assessment; and
- 1.7 The SEA-PLM Regional Steering Committee, the SEA-PLM Technical and Advisory Group and the SEA-PLM Secretariat and the DDA, are responsible for setting policies, frameworks, and guidelines on the production of timely and comparable statistics from SEA-PLM.

Key Principle 3: Confidentiality

The confidentiality of the information provided by schools, teachers, students and parents and other respondents for SEA-PLM statistical purposes is safeguarded by national statistical authorities, by the Regional SEA-PLM Steering Committee, by the SEA-PLM Technical Advisory Group, by the SEA-PLM Secretariat and by the DDA.

Indicators

- 3.1 The mandate of the National Ministries of Education of SEA-PLM participating countries to safeguard the confidentiality of the information provided for statistical purposes at each steps of the process. Database will remain anonymous for all participants;
- 3.2 The National Ministries of Education of SEA-PLM participating countries apply the policies, guidelines, terms and conditions/protocol defined in the SEA-PLM to safeguard statistical confidentiality in the production and dissemination processes at national, regional and international levels; and
- 3.3 Physical and technological infrastructures are in place to protect the security and integrity of SEA PLM statistical databases and archives.

Key Principle 4: Accountability

SEA-PLM statistics are presented in a clear and understandable form with sources and methodology, and disseminated in a suitable and convenient manner with clear mention of their limitations.

Indicators

- 4.1 SEA-PLM statistics are presented in a form that facilitates proper and easy interpretation and meaningful comparisons;
- 4.2 Data sources, methodologies, and limitations are provided;
- 4.3 Errors discovered in published statistics are corrected at the earliest possible date and appropriately communicated; and
- 4.4 The National Ministries of Education of SEA-PLM participating countries are entitled to comment on erroneous interpretation and misuse of statistics; and

Key Principle 5: Statistical Cooperation and Coordination

Cooperation and coordination in learning outcome statistics contributes to improvements in SEA-PLM member countries national education system.

Indicators

- 5.1 National coordination mechanisms exists for coordinating the development, production and dissemination of SEA-PLM national statistics and ensuring their quality;
- 5.2 National coordination mechanisms exist for the country focal point, to coordinate the development, harmonisation and provision of SEA-PLM statistics required for compilation of regional level SEA-PLM statistics;

- 5.3 Close cooperation and coordination between and among the SEA-PLM member countries, the SEA-PLM Secretariat and the DDA are in place to produce comparable SEA-PLM statistics;
 - 5.4 The DDA and the SEA-PLM secretariat is equipped with proper mechanisms for data exchange between SEA-PLM member countries to enable the development, production, dissemination and communication of SEA-PLM statistics satisfactorily meeting the increasing demand; and
 - 5.5 Cooperation with the international statistical and student assessment community is organised to improve methodology, effectiveness of the methods and tools implemented, where feasible.
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Statistical Process

Key Principle 6: Cost Effectiveness and Adequacy of Resources

Resources are available adequately and used effectively.

Indicators

- 6.1 The production and dissemination of SEA-PLM statistics ensure the most efficient use of available resources and technology;
 - 6.2 Demands for new SEA-PLM statistics are assessed against their cost to assess if any SEA-PLM statistics can be discontinued;
 - 6.3 Productivity potential of information and communications technology is being optimised for data collection, production and dissemination; and
 - 6.4 Staff, financial, and technological resources are made available where ever possible both in magnitude and in quality to meet the needs for SEA-PLM statistics.
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Key Principle 7: Reduce Respondent Burden

The reporting burden should be proportionate to the needs of the users and should not be excessive for respondents.

Indicators

- 7.1 The range and detail of demands on SEA-PLM statistics is limited to what is required to meet the needs of the users; and
 - 7.2 All data collection will follow strict ethical standards related to international best practice of research involving children.
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Statistical Output

Key Principle 8: Commitment to Quality

SEA-PLM member countries, the SEA-PLM Technical Advisory Group, the SEA-PLM Secretariat and the DDA are committed to quality and to regularly review and improve the quality of statistical processes and products according to their roles and responsibilities. The quality dimensions for SEA- PLM statistics are Relevance, Reliability, Timeliness, Comparability and Accessibility.

Indicators

- 8.1 Relevance – SEA-PLM is guided by the data requirements outlined by the SEA-PLM Regional Steering Committee and the SEA-PLM Technical Advisory Group under the proposition of the DDA.
- 8.2 Reliability – Monitoring mechanisms are in place to regularly review and improve the quality of the statistical processes and products;
- 8.3 Timeliness – A release calendar is established for SEA-PLM results at both national and regional levels, and the periodicity of results released takes into account user requirements as much as possible;
- 8.4 Comparability – SEA-PLM statistics are comparable across countries and times, and detailed concordance as set by international standards exist between national systems and the corresponding SEA-PLM regional system; and
- 8.5 Accessibility – SEA-PLM member countries commit to making national level data readily available through dissemination mechanisms utilising modern information and communication technology, and where appropriate, traditional hard copy.



 **SEA-PLM 2019**
Southeast Asia Primary Learning Metrics



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