



OECD Directorate for Education

Education Policy Implementation: Mexico

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OECD-MEXICO AGREEMENT TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION IN MEXICAN SCHOOLS

UPDATE No. 4: June 2010

Background: OECD Supporting Mexican Education Reforms

The OECD is collaborating with Mexico on the design and implementation of education reforms to improve the quality of education in schools. During this two-year project, the OECD Directorate for Education supports the Government of Mexico, through the Ministry of Education (*Secretaría de Educación Pública, SEP*), providing analysis, advice and communication on school leadership, teacher policy, evaluation and incentives to assist in implementing reforms. The background to this joint effort is the *Alianza por la Calidad de la Educación*, the 2008 agreement between the Mexican Federal Government and the National Union of Educational Workers (*Sindicato Nacional de Trabajadores de la Educación, SNTE*).

Recent developments (March-June 2010)

OECD-SEP Meeting on teacher career paths, teacher evaluation and school management, 22-23 March, 2010. The main objective of these meetings was to meet with the Secretary of Education, Mr Lujambio, SEP Deputy Ministers and Undersecretaries to present and discuss the OECD preliminary recommendations.

OECD Education Policy Committee (EDPC), Making Education Reform Happen: Improving the Quality of Education in Schools in Mexico, 14 April, 2010, A session of the OECD Education Policy Committee meeting was devoted to presenting the OECD Mexico project to OECD country representatives. The presentation focused on the recommendations, on implementation and on the methodology of the project. Discussion developed on the lessons learned for OECD and member countries: Much evidence has been gained on the challenges of developing and implementing teacher and school leadership policies and on the process of developing common understanding by key actors and stakeholders. In addition, the OECD has gained more understanding on the importance of political and social context for the design of policy recommendations and reforms that are feasible.

OECD-Harvard Seminar for Leaders in Education Reform: Module 2 - School Leadership & Management; Toronto, Ontario 3-7 May 2010. The second module of the OECD-Harvard Seminar, held in Toronto, Ontario in May, 3-7, 2010, focused on school leadership and school management practices within a school improvement framework. Thirty high level policy makers from Mexico (SEP, SNTE, States, Civil Society, Parliamentarians) participated actively. General presentations by key Ontario policy makers including the education minister, several deputy ministers and heads of departments, Ken Leithwood (University of Toronto), prof. Ben Levin (Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, OISE), analysts and academics followed by team study visits to school districts, boards and schools. Prof. Ines Aguerrondo (UNESCO IIEP), prof. Fernando Reimers (Harvard GSE), and OECD analysts led the academic work at OISE to: a) analyse elements in school leadership and management that have been positive for school improvement in Ontario; and b) based on the experiences studied in Ontario, define the elements which can be relevant to Mexico's current education policy reforms to improve the quality of education.

New Publications and Reports

- The report “International Approaches to Teacher Selection and Recruitment” by Andrew J Hobson, Patricia Ashby, Joanna McIntyre & Angi Malderez, August 2009. Directorate for Education was published as OECD working paper n° 47.

Upcoming Events, June – September 2010

OECD-Harvard Seminar for Leaders in Educational Reform: *Module 3 - Implementing Reforms in Mexico*, Mexico 28-29 June 2010. More than 40 participants from Mexico, who participated in the Chile and the Ontario modules, will come together to work on this final module focused on implementation. Professor Fernando Reimers from the Harvard Graduate School of Education, together with Ines Aguerrondo, OECD staff and the members of the OECD Steering Group on school management and teacher policy will provide academic support. Participants will work to design and develop their own implementation strategies, using the OECD recommendations and lessons learned from the OECD-Harvard Chile and Ontario modules.

OECD Steering Group on School Leadership and Teacher Policy in Mexico meeting, Mexico City, 30 June and 2 July 2010. This final meeting of the Steering Group will focus on the preliminary recommendations, reviewing and identifying implementation stages, preparing the process of ‘knowledge transfer’ to Mexican stakeholders and developing key messages.

OECD Steering Group on Evaluation and Teacher Incentives Policies meeting Mexico City, 30 June – 2 July, to review recent reports and to identify the key elements to develop for the OECD’s advice to Mexico regarding establishing and in-service teacher evaluation and incentives framework.

Meeting of OECD Steering Groups – SEP high level working group, Mexico City, 1 July 2010. The Steering Groups and the OECD Secretariat will make a presentation of the preliminary recommendations to SEP, and discuss with the group about their findings and preliminary proposals on the following steps.

Meetings organised by SEP regarding specific recommendations on the definition of the development of teacher standards and on the use of portfolios. Mexico City, 7-8 September 2010 (venue to be confirmed)

Members of the OECD Steering Groups

OECD Steering Group on School Leadership and Teacher Policy in Mexico	OECD Steering Group on Evaluation and Teacher Incentives Policies in Mexico
Sylvia Schmelkes (Chair, Mexico)	Carlos Mancera (Chair, Mexico)
Inés Aguerrondo (Argentina)	José Luis Gaviria (Spain)
Cristián Cox (Chile)	Jorge Juárez (Mexico)
Ulf Fredriksson (Sweden)	Enrique Roca Cobo (Spain)
Ben Levin (Canada)	Halsey Rogers (The World Bank)
Peter Matthews (United Kingdom)	Lucrecia Santibáñez (Mexico)
Robert Schwartz (United States)	Susan Sclafani (United States)
Margarita Zorrilla (Mexico)	Margarita Zorrilla (Mexico)

Project Staff, OECD Directorate for Education

Bernard Hugonnier, Deputy Director, Project Leader
 Beatriz Pont, Coordination

<p>Education and Training Policy Division <i>Team working on school leadership, teacher selection and professionalisation</i></p> <p>Deborah Roseveare, Head Beatriz Pont, Senior Analyst Francisco Benavides, Analyst Diana Toledo Figueroa, Analyst, Mexico Elvira Berrueta Imaz, Support</p>	<p>Indicators and Analysis Division <i>Team working on evaluation and teacher incentives</i></p> <p>Andreas Schleicher, Head Michael Davidson, Senior Analyst Alejandro Gómez Palma, Analyst Marlene Gras Marin, Analyst, Mexico Isabelle Moulherat, Support</p>
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