

IMPLEMENTING AN EXTERNAL ASSESSMENT SYSTEM IN ANGOLA

National Exams - Pilot Implementation 2022

Background

Being aware of the constraints within the current model of provincial exams in the evaluation of curriculum development at national level, the Ministry of Education of Angola and the National Institute for Assessment and Educational Development (INADE) planned to carry out standardized national exams after an interregnum of almost five decades. The project started in 2022 with a pilot implementation involving about 2.100 students and benefitting from the expertise of the Institute for Educational Assessment (IAVE) and the Directorate-General for Education (DGE) in Portugal. These national exams aim not only at certifying learning (high stakes) but also at contributing to the evaluation of quality in education and the subsequent improvement of results in the Angolan educational system.

OPENING UP TO CHANGE → FROM PROVINCE BASED ASSESSMENT TO NATIONAL ASSESSMENT

Goals

- Defining the governance model: bodies and competences;
- Designing and validating assessment tools;
- Implementing exam administration and marking;
- Establishing conditions for external assessment that will encompass different subjects and different years of schooling.

1 Exam design

Training item writers, item consultants and specialised auditors
PRODUCT: 8 exams in 4 subjects

2 Exam administration procedures

Training leaders and technicians at central, provincial and local (school) levels
PRODUCT: Technical and administrative legal framework for exam administration ● Printing and distribution of exams
● Setup and management of the marking centre in Luanda

3 Exam marking

Training exam markers and supervisors; monitoring marking accuracy
PRODUCT: Database with the results of the 4.042 exams

4 Producing technical reports

Training technical staff in statistical analysis and exam writers in results analysis by item and by domain
PRODUCT: Qualitative analysis of results

5 Controlling process quality

Face-to-face and online meetings, monitoring HR in context, confidentiality agreements, calendars, daily checking of the marking platform, double marking, collection of testimonials, checklists, satisfaction questionnaires, intermediate reports

Subjects

Portuguese
Mathematics
6th and 12th years

Sample

1338 students
6th year

759 students
12th year

Total: 2,097 students

18 provinces

Sustainability of education policies and investment

Challenges from a paradigm shift of external assessment in Angola

- Extending external assessment to other subjects
- Increasing the student sample each year
- Debugging the management of key processes, according to the goals
- Improving the technological infrastructure as well as the information and communication systems
- Investing in e-marking

Improving curriculum development based on the analysis of external assessment results

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