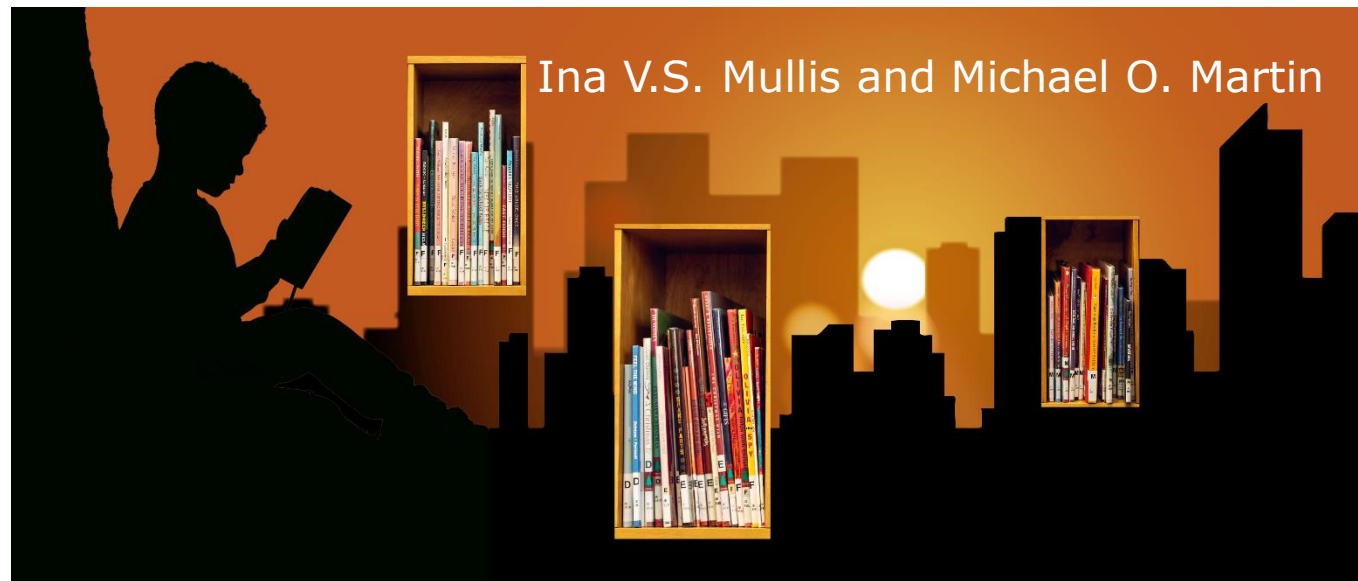


PIRLS 2021

20 Years of PIRLS

Conducting the Field Test Finalizing the Assessment



61st IEA General Assembly – Online
September 2020

PIRLS – a Great Success Story

- International “gold standard” for reading comprehension at 4th grade
 - Assessing reading comprehension every 5 years since 2001
 - 20 years of trends
 - 60+ countries in 2021
 - Inaugurated ePIRLS in 2016
- Transitioning to digital assessment in 2021
- Conducted field test March-April 2020
- Ready for data collection in southern hemisphere countries



Developed 12 Visually Attractive and Engaging Reading Passages – Field Test

- Matching digitalPIRLS and paperPIRLS versions
- 3 difficulty levels (easy, medium, difficult)
- Literary passages (6) – variety of stories
 - Contemporary, fables, historical events, biography
- Informational passages (6) – variety of content and ideas
 - Science, environmental issues, personal experiences



Also in Field Test

- 2 ePIRLS online reading tasks (digital countries only)
- Context Questionnaires
 - Home
 - School
 - Teacher
 - Student



New PIRLS 2021 Group Adaptive Design for digital and paper

- Three levels of passage difficulty
 - Difficult (6) – Medium (6) – Easy (6)
- Passages combined into two levels of booklet difficulty
 - More difficult booklets (9)
 - Composed of difficult and medium passages
 - Less difficult booklets (9)
 - Composed of medium and easy passages

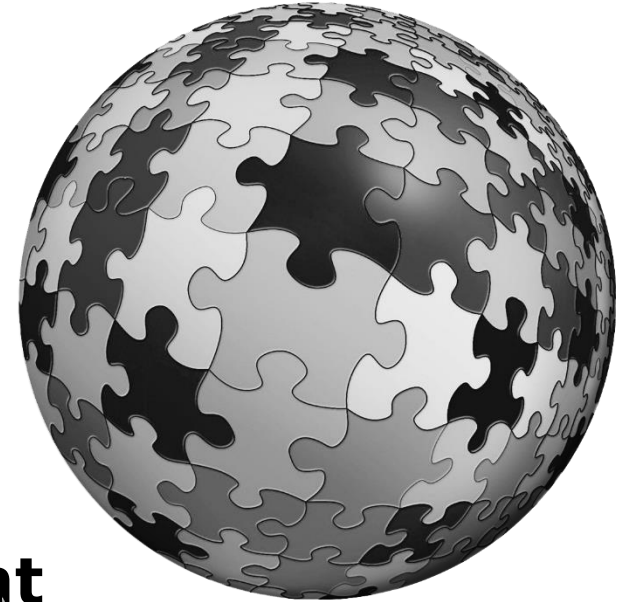


Design Essentials

All countries administer all 18 booklets

- Higher performing countries:
 - Proportionally more of the more difficult booklets
- Lower performing countries:
 - Proportionally more of the less difficult booklets

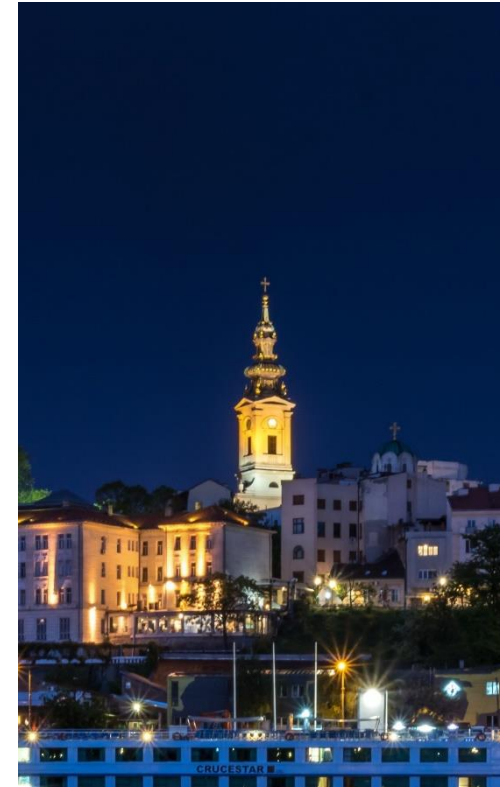
Goal is a better match between assessment difficulty and student achievement in each country



Training for Field Test Scoring

- Belgrade, Serbia, March 1-6, 2020

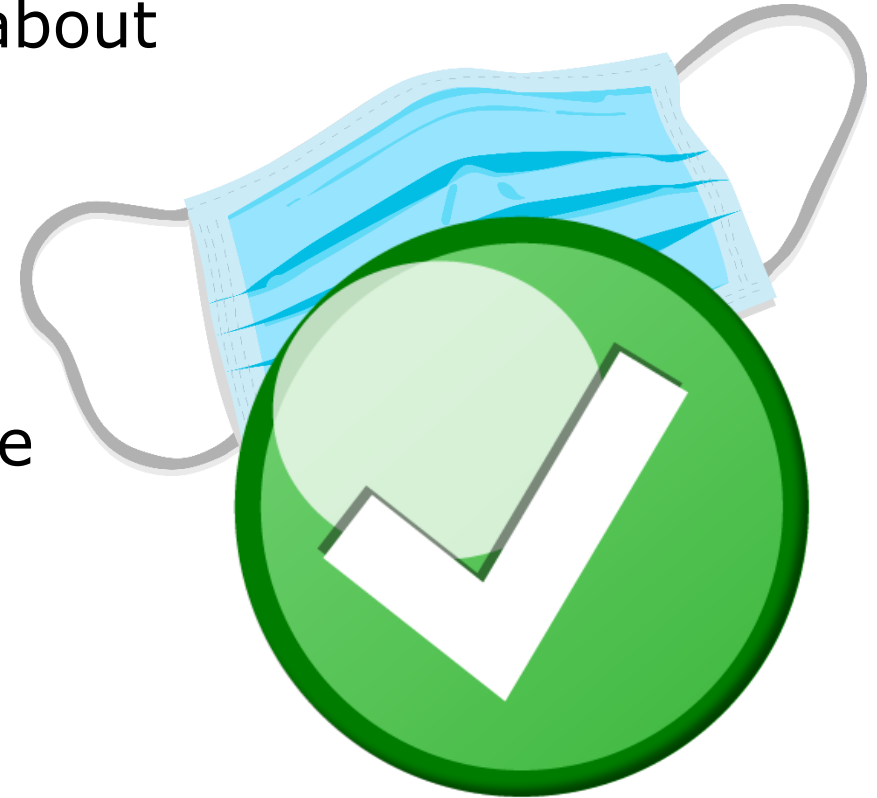
- Last PIRLS 2021 in-person meeting due to pandemic
- Most NRCs attended the scoring training in person, but it also was video recorded
- Revised and posted final field test scoring guides and training materials for constructed-response scoring



PIRLS 2021 Field Test

– March 15 – April 30

- Many countries expressed concerns to us about the field test during the pandemic
 - Surveyed countries about their situations
- Decided to continue with field test
- Despite the Pandemic, Where Schools Were Open, Field Test Successful
- Data from 12,000 students for field test analysis



3-Step Field Test Review Process

1. Review of field test data by staff of TIMSS & PIRLS International Study Center – all passages, items, questionnaires – June
2. Review by expert committees – July (Online)
 - Reading Development Group (RDG) review of passages and items
 - Questionnaire Development Group (QDG) review of questionnaires
3. Final review by National Research Coordinators
 - 5th NRC meeting, Warsaw (Online)



Data Collection Contingency Plans

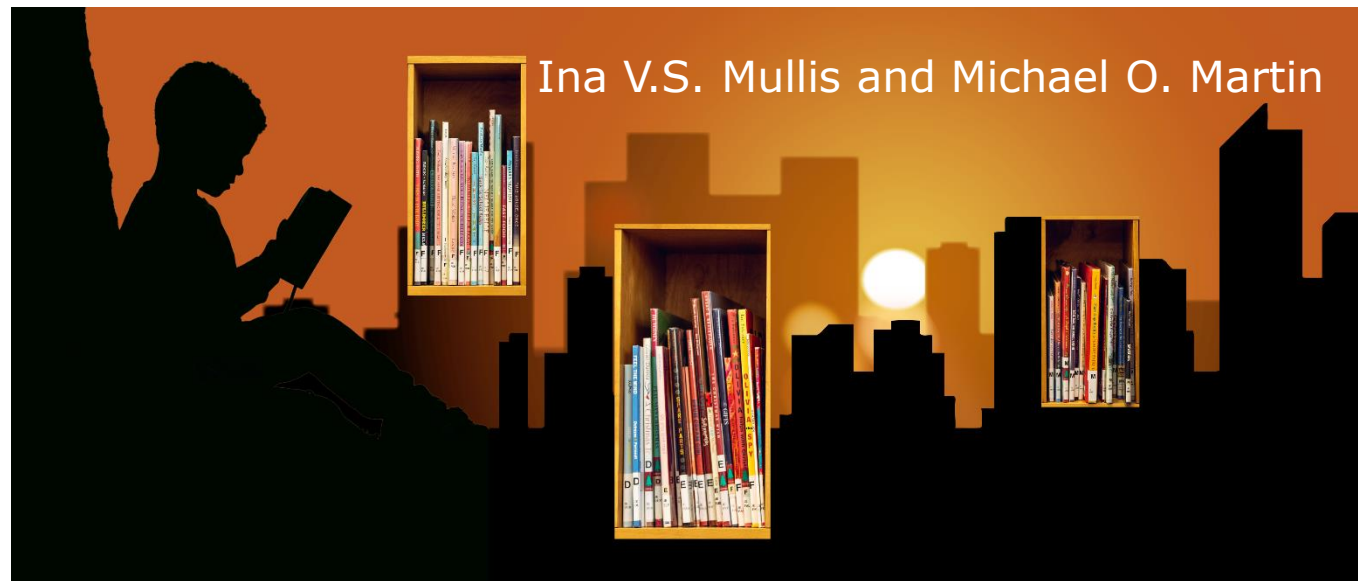
- Continue to monitor the situation in each country
 - Began one-by-one consultations following the 5th NRC meeting, will keep in continuous contact
- Goal is to maintain original schedule, but adapt as necessary
 - If countries have to interrupt data collection, will work to minimize disruption
 - Second wave: 4 southern hemisphere countries on 1-year delay and other countries may join, should be able to catch up
 - If some northern hemisphere countries have to delay into 2022, will consider extended publication plan
- Would be in 2nd edition, later in 2023



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