

Amsterdam, 25 June 2024

Formal Invitation to participate in IEA's Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study 2027

Dear colleagues,

I am pleased to extend a formal invitation to participate in TIMSS 2027; the ninth cycle of the Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study at the fourth and eighth grades, providing over three decades of trend data on student achievement in mathematics and science. By participating, your country gains access to invaluable data allowing you to monitor progress, identify potential areas of improvement, and make informed policy decisions.

TIMSS 2027 is a digital assessment that employs state-of-the-art methods to create engaging assessments in mathematics and science. The digital format of the TIMSS 2027 assessments will stimulate student interest and motivation in the assessment and in turn, provide better information about what students know and can do. Furthermore, the all-digital format also allows for improved scoring procedures that leverage cutting-edge advancements in educational assessment, including automated scoring and machine-supported human scoring of extended responses. TIMSS 2027 also introduces a more adaptive assessment design, catering to a wider range of student populations.

One of the flagship studies of IEA, TIMSS has been at the forefront of monitoring global trends in student achievement and reflects the latest research and best practices based on decades of experience in international large-scale student assessment. TIMSS 2027 intends to expand coverage in mathematics and science by improving how skills are measured at different levels of achievement, ensuring a comprehensive view of student achievement across populations and over time.

Like the previous TIMSS assessments, TIMSS 2027 will collect detailed information about curriculum and curriculum implementation, instructional practices, and school resources. This information helps to paint a picture of what happens in schools and classrooms and what might influence student learning. Understanding the context in which students learn, and how that may affect achievement, can better inform decisions about curriculum and educational policy.

The first TIMSS 2027 National Research Coordinators (NRC) meeting will take place between 13-14 February 2025 in Hamburg, Germany. For countries that participated in TIMSS 2023, this will be back-to-back with the final NRC meeting, taking place between 9-12 February. The meetings will be hosted by IEA in close collaboration with the TIMSS & PIRLS International Study Center at Boston College. National Research Coordinators play an important role in helping to develop the assessment questions and questionnaires, and it is strongly encouraged for all interested countries to send a representative to this meeting, even if participation in TIMSS 2027 is not yet fully confirmed. More detailed information about the meeting will follow in due course.

For additional information, please find attached to this letter the TIMSS 2027 Information Package containing the study brochure, an explanation of the participation fees, an overview of estimated national costs, information sheets outlining National Study Center tasks and job descriptions, as well as a provisional timeline for TIMSS 2027. More information can also be found on our website [here](#).

If you have any questions about participating in TIMSS 2027 or if you would like to receive the draft participation agreement, please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Andrea Netten, Director of IEA Amsterdam at a.netten@iea.nl. We look forward to hearing from you and to welcoming you to the next cycle of this unique study.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Hastedt', written in a cursive style.

Dr. Dirk Hastedt
IEA Executive Director