


# Improving the Relevance and Quality of Education in the OECS

Summary: Day 1


# Improving skills

- ▶ Correlation between growth and performance
- ▶ STEPS
- ▶ Improve quality by
  1. Standards
  2. Teachers
  3. Resources
  4. 3 As
  5. Regulation
  - On the job training
  - Encourage entrep. and innovaton

# Singapore experience

- ▶ Moved from 45% literacy rate in 1965 to 97%
  - ▶ Studied education systems in depth
  - ▶ Began with strongly managed, top down approach
  - ▶ Encouraged teaching of thinking in schools
  - ▶ Teach less, learn more
  - ▶ Focus on ICT
  - ▶ Community involvement programmes
  - ▶ Regularity framework 3 Cs and you are out
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# Curriculum development and harmonization

- ▶ Huge reforms attempted
  - ▶ Need to implement these reforms
  - ▶ Focus more on the classroom
  - ▶ Harmonized framework
  - ▶ KISS – common attainment targets/LOs
  - ▶ Look at networking, on line publishing
  - ▶ Support for schools
  - ▶ Assessment for learning
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# Take away messages

- ▶ Focus on teacher quality
  - ▶ Focus on mastery –teach less, learn more
  - ▶ Focus on process skills
  - ▶ Importance of teacher training
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- ▶ Rebrand curriculum, not reinvent curriculum
  - ▶ Focus on growth and values
  - ▶ Include innovation and skills within curriculum


# Curriculum challenges for OECS

- Lack of common framework – what subjects, how much time and when etc.
  - Gaps between national aspirations and what is measured by CXC
  - Effects of political changes on continuity
  - Implementation issues with
    - (i) supervision
    - (ii) quality of teaching
    - (iii) assessment
    - (iv) resources
    - (v) monitoring and evaluation
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# OECS Policy responses

- ▶ Simplify/clarify the curriculum
  - ▶ Simple framework, ATs, PoS
  - ▶ Regional targets
  - ▶ Develop standards for schools, school supervision, etc.
  - ▶ Assist in networking through meetings, websites etc.
  - ▶ Facilitate technical assistance
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# Priorities and strategies

- ▶ Reassess prior interventions FFF, PPP etc.
  - ▶ Use teachers as agents of change/empower
  - ▶ Monitor & evaluate teacher performance
  - ▶ Supervision and mentoring
  - ▶ Increase accountability
  - ▶ Create rewards and career paths for teachers
  - ▶ Focus on teacher education/training
  - ▶ Assessment of attitudes and values
  - ▶ External benchmarking e.g. PISA
  - ▶ Improve networking and PR
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# Harmonized vision & strategies

- ▶ Create adaptable, lifelong learners
  - ▶ ATs, LOs, etc.
  - ▶ Broad consultative process
  - ▶ Instructional leadership and guidance
  - ▶ Support for teachers and monitoring
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