Development of National Education Assessment Framework (NEAF) for Bhutan

Client:	Bhutan Council for School Examinations and Assessment (BCSEA), Royal Government of Bhutan
Timeline:	2018 – 21
Aim:	The project aims to develop Bhutan's National Education Assessment Framework (NEAF) to measure the quality of student learning at key stages of learning − Classes III, VI, and X.
Summary:	Under this assignment, ACER India will work in three areas: • Development of high-quality NEAF in consultation with Bhutan's education stakeholders. • Capacity development of BCSEA in robust assessments. • Implementation of the National Education Assessment (NEA) that students will take at the end of Class III in English, Mathematics, and Science.
Significant Challenges:	The existing capacity level of BCSEA specialists is unknown both in terms of technical expertise (understanding of statistics and psychometrics) and field operation. Moreover, if field implementation is not conducted in a standardised manner, it will be difficult to analyse the data and draw meaningful implications.

Activities:	• Review relevant education policies and existing learning outcomes, conduct four capacity development workshops, and develop NEAF with high-quality technical standards in consultation with BCSEA.
	• Support the development of test instruments for assessing English, mathematics, and science learning.
	• Support BCSEA to build processes and systems for sampling, data entry, coding and management, data analysis, interpretation, and reporting.
	• Other areas of support to the BCSEA include:
	  ◦ Development of pilot test materials based on the newly developed NEAF in NEA to be taken at the end of Class III (2020-2021).
	  ◦ Analysis of pilot data and revision of the assessment material.
	  ◦ Support in test administration.
	  ◦ Oversight of data collection, entry, and analysis.
	• Assist BCSEA in the development of reports for different groups of stakeholders and data files for secondary analysis.

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