

APPENDIX

**E**

Acknowledgments





TIMSS 1999 and the TIMSS Benchmarking Study were collaborative efforts among hundreds of individuals around the world. Staff from the national research centers in each participating country and from each Benchmarking jurisdiction, the International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA), the International Study Center (ISC) at Boston College, advisors, and funding agencies worked closely to develop and implement the projects. They would not have been possible without the tireless efforts of all involved. Below, the individuals and organizations are acknowledged for their contributions. Given that implementing the studies has spanned approximately four years and involved so many people and organizations, this list may not pay heed to all who contributed throughout the life of the project. Any omission is inadvertent. TIMSS 1999 and the Benchmarking Study also acknowledge the students, teachers, and school principals who contributed their time and effort to the study. This report would not be possible without them.

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## Management and Operations

TIMSS 1999 was conducted under the auspices of the IEA. TIMSS 1999 was co-directed by Michael O. Martin and Ina V.S. Mullis, and managed centrally by the staff of the International Study Center in the Lynch School of Education at Boston College. Although the study was directed by the International Study Center and its staff members implemented various parts of TIMSS 1999, important activities also were carried out in centers around the world. In the IEA Secretariat in Amsterdam, Hans Wagemaker, Executive Director, was responsible for overseeing fundraising and country participation. The IEA Secretariat also coordinated translation verification and recruiting of international quality control monitors. The data were processed centrally by the IEA Data Processing Center in Hamburg. Statistics Canada in Ottawa was responsible for collecting and evaluating the sampling documentation from each country and for calculating the sampling weights. Educational Testing Service (ETS) in Princeton, New Jersey, conducted the scaling of the achievement data.

For the Benchmarking Study, Westat in Rockville, Maryland, was responsible for sampling, data collection activities, and preliminary data processing. National Computer Systems (NCS) in Iowa City, Iowa, conducted the scoring for Benchmarking jurisdictions along with the national scoring effort. All data were processed in accordance with international standards at the IEA Data Processing Center. Scaling of the achievement data was conducted by Educational Testing Service.

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## National Research Coordinators

The TIMSS 1999 National Research Coordinators and their staff had the enormous task of implementing the TIMSS 1999 design. This required obtaining funding for the project; participating in the development of the instruments and procedures; conducting field tests; participating in and conducting training sessions; translating the instruments and procedural manuals into the local language; selecting the sample of schools and students; working with the schools to arrange for the testing; arranging for data collection, coding, and data entry; preparing the data files for submission to the IEA Data Processing Center; contributing to the development of the international reports; and preparing national reports. The way in which the national centers operated and the resources that were available varied considerably across the TIMSS 1999 countries. In some countries, the tasks were conducted centrally, while in others, various components were subcontracted to other organizations. In some countries, resources were more than adequate, while in some cases, the national centers were operating with limited resources. Of course, across the life of the project, some NRCs have changed. This list attempts to include all past NRCs who served for a significant period of time as well as all the present NRCs. All of the TIMSS 1999 National Research Coordinators and their staff members are to be commended for their professionalism and their dedication in conducting all aspects of TIMSS.

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