

## **Understanding the Ecologies of Education Reforms: Comparing the Perceptions of Secondary Teachers and Students in Five Countries**

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### **Abstract**

The objective of this study was to examine how and to what extent teachers have implemented educational reforms in China. This session will focus on results from data obtained recently in SW and NE China). Major sources of data for this study were separate anonymous surveys for teachers, parents and students in eight sample schools (data analyzed so far). The study concluded that teachers and parents were satisfied with the reform initiatives. Most teachers were able to make changes that include curriculum, teaching strategies, and student evaluation. Special education is not a major concern for teachers. Teachers had enough resources and in-service training (not sure about the rural areas). However, they are beginning to experience classroom management problems and difficulties that arose from the conflict between activity-based learning and exam-oriented systems. Chinese educators are at the crossroads of whether the 'quality' education reform is needed at this time or change the high stakes examination system.