Presentation to

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and

Department of Science and Technology (DST)

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ATEE

Assessment technology and Education Evaluation

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Information and support for improving the education system

CONTACT DETAILS

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ATEE Background

- Provide information and support to decision makers improve education policy and practice

- 5 Research Units:
  - Policy Analysis and School Reform
  - Science, Maths and Technology Education
  - Languages and Literacies Studies
  - Methodology, Modeling and Analysis
  - Psychological Assessment

- Priority: Primary and Secondary sector

Goal of project

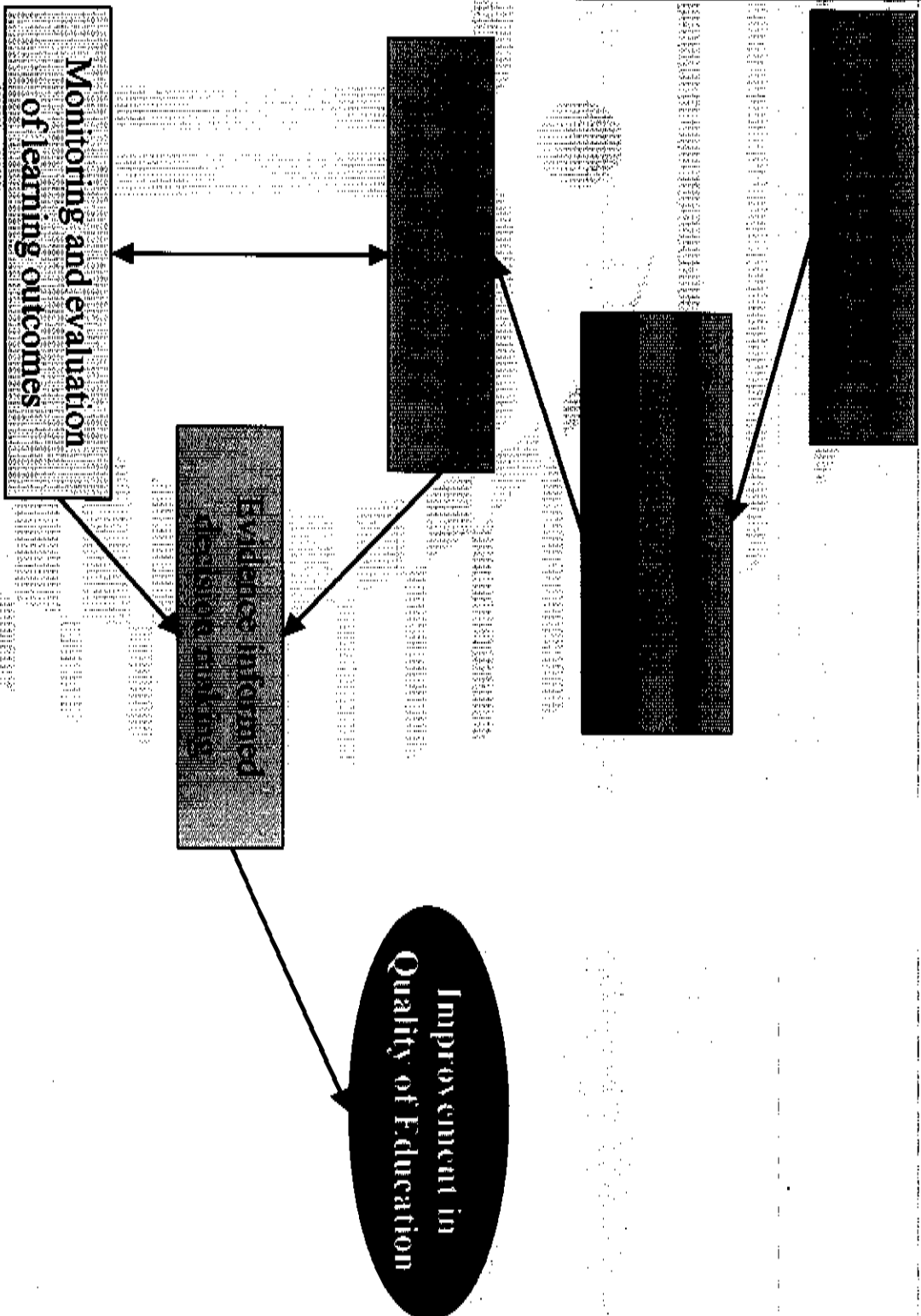- To improve the quality of education in over crowded, remote and other difficult delivery contexts.

Purpose of project

- Improve systems and processes of decision making for the effective allocation and use of financial and human resources in difficult delivery contexts

- Enhance South - South collaboration, knowledge generation and institutional capacity

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Monitoring and evaluation of learning outcomes

Evidence informed decisions

Improvement in Quality of Education

Regional/International Co-operation

- **Experience and Expertise from Southern Africa:**
  - **South Africa**
  - **Malawi**
  - **Mozambique**
- **and Asia**
  - **India**
  - **Sri Lanka**
  - **Japan**

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Project Outputs

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- Profiles of education quality policy development in selected countries

- New knowledge about conditions for success and failure for education quality improvement programs

- Development of a systems model for relevant and timely decision making to improve the quality of education

- Comprehensive database of education improvement programmes in Southern Africa and South Asia

- Proposal and strategic plan for the establishment of an Africa-Asia Network for Democratisation and Quality in Education

Impact on poverty reduction

- "Education matters because it is a fundamental human right, and because it is ... one of the most powerful catalysts for poverty reduction. Viewed from a different perspective, educational deprivation is an equally powerful cause of poverty" (Watkins, 2000, Oxfam Report).

- Poverty

- Primary education

- Improved teaching and learning

- Sexual equality

- Reduce child-death rates

- Combat HIV/AIDS + infectious diseases

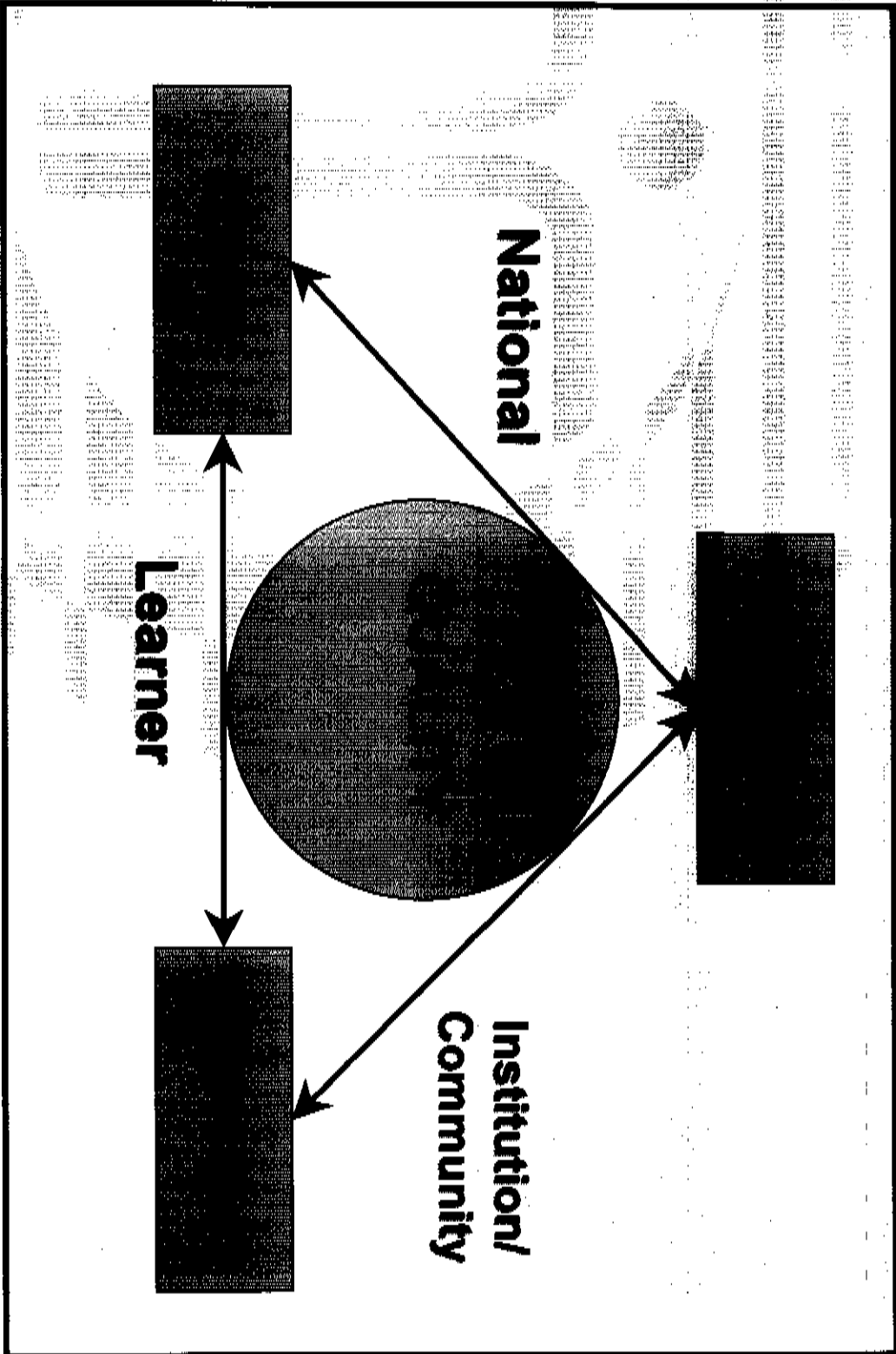- Environmental protection

- Global partnership

Research Questions

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- To understand the conditions for success for improving the quality of education in Sub Saharan Africa and South Asia.

  - What are the underlying logic and assumptions of the nature of quality and thus quality improvement initiatives across the study counties?
  - What political, social and economic conditions facilitate or impede the improvement of educational quality?
  - What factors relating to gender, ethnicity and HIV/AIDS mediate the attainment of quality of education?

- To develop measures of quality improvement for policy makers at the system and school levels

  - What indicators are required to capture and measure quality over time?
  - How to monitor and track dynamics of change in quality that impacts on the system, school/communities and learning outcomes?
  - How to design evidence based action strategies for improving quality, especially in remote and difficult delivery contexts?

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"AQEE (a-key) TO-IMPROVE LEARNING" MODEL

- National
- Learner
- Institution/Community

Research Questions

- To apply and evaluate the effectiveness of a systems model for improving the quality of education through improved and evidence informed decision making

  - What local context specific information is needed for the effective implementation/adaptation of the AQEE model to enhance evidence informed decision making?

  - What are the systems, tools and capacity necessary to support the implementation of the AQEE model in the various contexts?

  - Has the application of the AQEE model enhanced decision making and has this led to an improvement in education quality?

- To understand and promote changes in governance systems at the local level particularly in overcrowded, remote and other difficult delivery contexts

  - How does community participation contribute to improving educational quality?

  - How does the nature of school management and classroom practices contribute to the improvement of educational quality?

  - How does the nature of classroom processes contribute to the improvement of educational quality?

Research Questions

- To develop context-linked designs for measuring and monitoring change in learning outcomes

  - How to enhance learning outcomes in schools in difficulty delivery contexts, e.g. remote, multigrade, minority dominated schools?

  - What factors would facilitate or impede sustainable improvement in learning outcomes in varying contexts?

- To identify processes for improving South-South collaboration and dissemination and utilisation of information for improving education quality

  - What kind of networks best enhance regional cooperation?

  - How should information be disseminated to ensure greater utilisation in systems characterised by difficult delivery contexts?

  - What are the obstacles and challenges for establishing and maintaining a Southern African – South Asian education quality network?

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Activities

- Development of project plan
- Consultation with partners
- Framework for country profiles
- Identification of best practices
- Develop & Pilot systems decision making model
- Develop database
- Develop proposal and strategic plan

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Questions
Comments
Suggestions

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- **Professor Eiji Muraki**

- **Tohoku University Graduate School of Educational Informatics Research Division, Education Division**