

## FACILITATORS

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**Ursula Schwantner (Dr)**

Research Fellow

Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER)

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Ursula Schwantner is a Research Fellow at the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER). She is mainly involved in projects related to ACER's Centre for Global Education Monitoring (GEM), which supports the monitoring of educational outcomes worldwide. It is a central view of the GEM Centre that the systematic collection and analysis of data on education outcomes, and factors related to those outcomes, is required to inform the development of high quality policy aimed at improving educational progress for all learners.

Ursula has 14 years' experience as an educational researcher, specialising in large scale assessments. Prior to joining ACER in 2014, Ursula was the National Project Manager for OECD/PISA in Austria, and has conducted research on PISA, IEA/PIRLS and TIMSS. Ursula is highly experienced in assessment methodology, quantitative and qualitative research methods, research project management, data analysis and reporting, and public relations.

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**Sally Robertson**

Research Fellow

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Sally Robertson is a Research Fellow at the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER). She works on large-scale assessment projects, contributing to the work of ACER's Centre for Global Education Monitoring (GEM), which supports the monitoring of educational outcomes worldwide. Her recent projects include:

- the Monitoring Trends in Educational Growth program in Afghanistan. This program has been implemented to assess students' reading, writing and mathematical literacy, and the background factors associated with achievement.
- working with India's National Council for Educational Research and Training to develop a high quality national assessment survey at Grade 10.
- supporting Indonesia's national assessment centre, Puspendik as they work towards their goal of developing a world class assessment system.

Sally has a Master of Arts in Education and has worked as an educational researcher for eight years. Prior to joining ACER, she worked on research, evaluation and assessment projects at the New Zealand Council for Educational Research.

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**Kathleen Sullivan**

Communications Consultant

UNESCO Bangkok

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Kathleen Sullivan is a Communications Consultant for the UNESCO Asia-Pacific Regional Bureau for Education, based in Bangkok. She works with the NEQMAP Secretariat on digital strategy, communication and design for projects related to education quality and learning assessment in the Asia-Pacific region. Prior to joining UNESCO, Kathleen worked at the International Energy Agency in Paris as an online communications specialist. Having started her career as an editor and multimedia journalist in Washington, D.C., Kathleen has more than ten years of experience in digital and print communications. Kathleen has a Master's degree from Georgetown University in Communication, Culture and Technology, with a focus on international communications from the Graduate Institute in Geneva, and a Bachelor's degree in journalism.

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