



Introduction

EDC believes that assessment is best when it improves instruction. Building on an established literacy tool, EDC has developed an electronic Early Grade Reading Assessment (eEGRA) that enables educators to regularly assess their students and modify their teaching.

USAID's Early Grade Reading Assessment (EGRA) is an oral assessment designed to diagnose

students' performance on the basic skills required for literacy acquisition: recognizing letters of the alphabet, reading simple words, understanding sentences and paragraphs, and listening with comprehension.

eEGRA changes the purpose of assessment: in addition to collecting data to monitor progress at the national level, schools and individual teachers can use the interface to

identify skill gaps themselves and then create remedial programs to address those gaps.

Developed using Microsoft® Excel spreadsheet software, eEGRA links assessment to instruction—at the school or classroom level—allowing for targeted interventions and immediate remediation.

eEGRA Benefits vs. Paper EGRA

Time Savings. The time needed to administer the assessment and obtain results is significantly reduced.

Fast Results. The analysis is instantaneous with Excel. Teachers, schools, or ministries of education can immediately obtain a basic student, classroom, or national report summarizing progress with respect to the different skill areas. The data can also be exported to statistical programs like SPSS or STATA for more detailed analysis.

Greater Accuracy. eEGRA has these features:

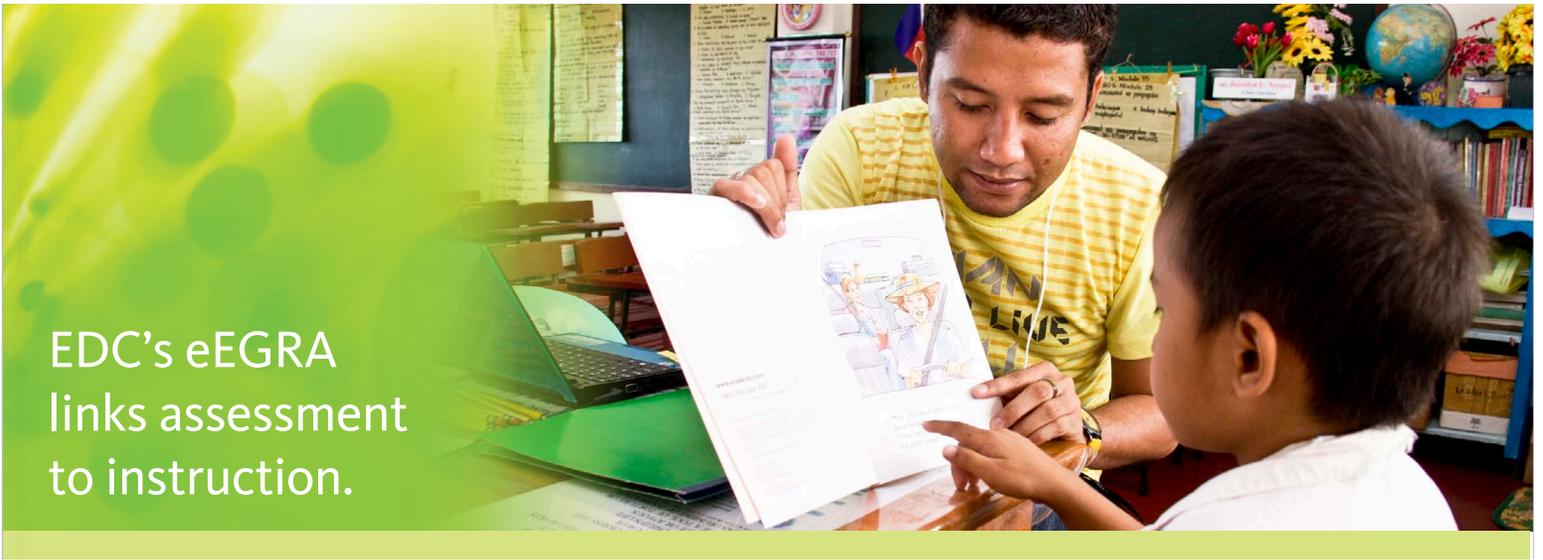
- A built-in timer that automatically calculates the time the student took to complete a task, eliminating human error.

- Built-in recordings that read passages to the student, ensuring consistency of pronunciation, speed, and intonation.
- Capacity to record individual student answers and summarize the results electronically. Administrators do not manually interpret or summarize results.

Ease of Use. eEGRA eliminates the intimidation factor that often comes with national assessments that hide the statistical analysis “behind the curtain”. Ministries, schools and teachers can administer eEGRA and get valid results without being statisticians. Data is displayed an Excel spreadsheet.

Environmental Benefits. eEGRA eliminates the need for paper, thereby reducing environmental impact and cost and simplifying logistics.

EDC's eEGRA links assessment to instruction.



An Open Source Tool

eEGRA was built in Microsoft Excel using macros in order to maximize its useability worldwide. These macros are open source, and EDC encourages users to enhance the interface by adding custom features and greater usability. Through an online community, all improvements will be consolidated and made freely available on the website.

Many computer users are comfortable using Excel, and even without serious programming experience practitioners can adapt eEGRA to suit their particular needs.

Test Validity



In July 2011 EDC tested eEGRA in the Philippines and established that it measures literacy as accurately as its paper based counterpart.

Download eEGRA

eEGRA is free and can be downloaded at eegra.edc.org. It is available to the public under a Creative Commons license. Registered users will be notified as new versions are released.

The website also provides basic instructions and training materials for the use of eEGRA in the field.

		correct	incorrect	no response
10.	map /m/	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11.	say /s/	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12.	up /u/	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13.	go /g/	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14.	now /n/	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15.	can /k/	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16.	fish /f/	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17.	pot /p/	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18.	run /r/	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19.	look /l/	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Component 3b Status: Discontinued Not attempted

Component 4 Status: Discontinued Not attempted