



National Curriculum Development Cycle For New and Existing Subjects

	Action	Comments
PREPARATION PHASE		
1.	Consult principals, teachers and others to establish the need for revision.	Consultations should include principals and teachers from rural and urban, large, medium and small schools in all regions.
2.	Establish an advisory curriculum working group, if required.	Composition to vary depending on subject and needs. For new subjects, stakeholders will be included. Note the working group does not make final decisions.
3	Conduct a desk review, including existing curriculum documents from Belize and other countries and relevant national commitments, policies, strategies and so on.	The desk review is likely to require consultations with subject area specialists.
4	Conduct stakeholder consultations	<p>These should be more extensive for new subjects or if major changes to curriculum content are envisaged. Consultations will vary according to the situation, but may include including, as appropriate, members of the community, leaders of recognized cultural groups, government technical officers, non-governmental organizations, employers, school administrators, teachers, students and so on.</p> <p>The literature review and the stakeholder consultations will help establish the role of the proposed program in meeting national educational and non-educational goals.</p>
COMPOSITION PHASE		
Note items 5,6 and 7 are iterative: drafting and redrafting will occur as consultations continue		
5	Draft curriculum framework and learning outcomes.	This is technical work best done by QADS education officers in consultation with the relevant curriculum working group and district education officers.

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6	Conduct validation testing of the proposed learning outcomes	Validation testing is designed to ensure learning outcomes are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - valid - meaningful and relevant - clear - unambiguous - useful, especially in regards to definition and scope of content - developmentally appropriate for the specified grade levels - coherently sequenced so that skills and concepts are introduced in a logical order - organisable into coherent instructional units - deliverable in the available instructional time
7	Submit draft documentation for review by MoE senior management team, subject area specialists, school leaders and teachers.	This is conducted through both face to face focus group meetings and interviews and via electronic circulation.
IMPLEMENTATION PHASE		
8	Draft Implementation Plan	Implementation can be to all grade levels simultaneously or incrementally by level. Piloting can be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - whole system mandatory - whole system voluntary - selected schools voluntary <p>The implementation plan should outline proposals for orientation meetings, teacher training and ongoing support. This can include the production of teachers guides, advisory unit plans, textbooks and so on. The district education centres are key to successful implementation so training on the new documents should be provided for this group.</p>
9	Submit draft national curriculum framework and learning outcomes and implementation plan to the senior	This could be via email and may be a simple “no objection”.

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	management team for approval to proceed.	
10	Publish the national curriculum framework and learning outcomes in various formats, and distribute to all education officers, school managers, school leaders and teachers.	
11	Implement as per the implementation plan.	
MONITORING, EVALUATION OF PILOT		
12	Conduct follow up visits to a stratified sample of schools within two months of implementation.	
13	Conduct focus group meetings with teachers at each grade level and in each district within six months of implementation.	
14	Collect system wide data on implementation, for example via questionnaires.	
REVIEW AND FINALIZATION		
15	Revise the national curriculum framework and learning outcomes based on information from the pilot phase.	
16	Submit final documents for review to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Senior Management Team - National Education Council 	
17	Submit final documents to Chief Education Officer and the Minister of Education	
18	Publish final, approved documents for use in all schools and the official national curriculum document in the subject.	