



**Teacher Education
Research Group**
مجموعة باحثين في اعداد المعلمين

What is Teacher Education Research Group (TERG) and Why?



Beirut Office

United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



Centre for
Lebanese Studies
مركز الدراسات اللبنانية

What is TERG

- The Teacher Education Research Group (TERG) is a network of researchers and academics affiliated with the Centre for Lebanese Studies (CLS), Haigazian University, The Lebanese American University (LAU), the Lebanese University (LU) and the UNESCO Office in Beirut, Regional Bureau for Education in the Arab States (UNESCO Beirut).
- **Aims** to promote research on teacher professional development/TPD (www.arabtpd.org).

TERG Objectives

- Promote research on initial and continuous Teacher Professional Development (TPD) in Arab countries
- To share/exchange information and experiences on TPD
- Make informed policy recommendations concerning TPD in Arab countries
- Provide a reflective learning community for researchers working on TPD.
- Share information on research on Teacher Professional Development (TPD)

Why TERG?

A recent study for CLS and IFI of education reforms in Lebanon revealed:

- A haphazard relation between policy makers and researchers
- A fragmentation in the relationships between policy making, knowledge production, and *knowledge translation* in the Arab world.
- A condescending attitude toward public- and policy-oriented social science research persists among some professional scientists (positivist view).
- Policy makers prefer to call on individual support of experts.
- A weak research culture amongst policy makers.
- Weak professional groups and professional identity

Burawoy's research typology

That distinguishes four types of sociology:

- *professional and critical* sociology both relevant to academic audiences,
- *public* and *policy* sociology pertaining to a wider audience, (Burawoy, 2005: 8)

Hanafi and Arvanitis (2016) argue that there is no connection between these four types of research in the Arab East

A weakness of public research in all of the Arab world, but particularly in the Arab East

Role of TERG

- Compilation of research that address existing gaps
- Promote a local research agenda
- Encourage research groups and collaborations
- Linking research to practitioners
- Donors responding to a locally developed research agenda
- Address and work with policy makers

TERG Strategies

- Establish research groups on Initial Teacher Education and Continuous Professional Development (CPD)
- Conduct conferences on ITT and CPD
- Encourage schools and teachers to reflect and write about their Teacher Professional Development (TPD)
- Organise writing workshops for teachers to develop their academic writing skills
- Establish research collaborations with regional and international research organisations focusing on TPD
- Dialogue with policy makers