The IEA-ETS Research Institute (IERI, http://www.ierinstitute.org) is organizing a three-day Summer Academy on Sampling, Variance Estimation and Significance Testing in Large Scale Assessments.

**September 7th**
Sampling theory and underlying concepts: sampling methods, defining target population, defining sample size, stratification, clustering, calculating coverage and participation rates, replacement of units
Computing sampling weights: calculating probabilities of selection, weighting components, post-stratification, rescaling of weights

**September 8th**
Variance estimation in simple and complex samples: definition, working with simple random samples, calculating replicate weights, clustering effects and intra-class correlations, effect of stratification on sampling variance, design effect.
The jackknife (JK1 and JK2) and balanced repeated replication techniques in large scale assessments

**September 9th**
Calculating statistical significance in large scale assessments: evaluating differences between independent or dependent samples; selecting directionality and significance level; dummy coding and regression techniques.
Using the IDB Analyzer for variance estimation in large scale assessments.

Participation in the Academy is limited to 25 attendees. Participants are expected to have knowledge of statistical analysis techniques, and bring their own laptop computer with Excel and SPSS or SAS installed. Demonstration versions of the software for the hands-on training will be distributed to the participants during the Academy.

The general day to day schedule will consist of a mixture of presentations and hands-on practical assignments. Sessions will start promptly at 9:00 in the morning and finish at 17:15. On Friday September 9th sessions will finish at 13:00.

Registration fee is 300 Euros if received by August 15th, 350 Euros after August 15th (Registration for students is 250 Euros). Participants are expected to cover their own travel and accommodation costs. A list with hotels, course requirements and final agenda will be sent to you upon receipt of your registration and payment.

To register please complete the registration form available at: http://www.ierinstitute.org/html/training_area.html. For more information on the Academy or IERI, please write to us (ierinstitute@iea-dpc.de) or visit us at www.IERInstitute.org.