Key messages from UNESCO in the context of the COVID-19 crisis

- Safeguard learning for all age groups, with an emphasis on equity and inclusion
- Minimize the negative impact of the crisis on students, educational staff and families, on the academic, health and socioemotional dimensions
- Ensure support for the most vulnerable, low-income and crisisaffected countries
- Ensure that students, educational staff, and educational institutions are prepared for the reopening and effective operation of schools as soon as COVID-19 is under control
- Take advantage of the lessons learned from the crisis to transform education (SDG4 — Education 2030) towards resilient and flexible education systems, with focus on preparedness and towards interdisciplinarity and intersectorality

UNESCO's regional strategy in Latin America and the Caribbean

- <u>Pillar 1:</u> Support global dialogue and coalition for COVID-19; and facilitate representation, participation and contribution of LAC in relevant regional and global coordination mechanisms
- <u>Pillar 2:</u> Provide specific support and expertise relevant to regional and national needs; and contribute knowledge and capacity to inform global support
- <u>Pillar 3:</u> Manage, generate and disseminate **knowledge relevant to the regional and national context**; and inform technical and political dialogue.



Our 'flagship' initiative: 'Leave no one behind' Seminars





- A weekly series **of knowledge and information exchanges** to respond to the pandemic, focusing on the four pillars of SDG-Education 2030: 1) equity, 2) inclusion, 3) quality, and 4) lifelong learning.
- Support the Ministries of Education and the different educational actors for the development, management and dissemination of relevant evidence that informs the immediate response to COVID-19, as well as the medium and long-term strategies and actions.



Regional monitoring

There are various **regional and sub-regional monitoring initiatives**, which use the following sources of information:

- 1. Statistics and educational indicators produced by the countries (MoE/NSI), systematized by UIS OECD Regional and subregional organizations
- 2. Censuses and Household Surveys (including MICS-DHS) administered by the NSI and systematized by UNICEF, UIS, ECLAC, IIEP (SITEAL), IDB and others.
- 3. Latin-American Laboratory for Assessment of the Quality of Education (LLECE)
- 4. International learning assessments



Dilemmas in a changing social and educational context

Monitoring vs.

Management needs

Immediate response vs.

Medium and long-term planning



Relationship between education information systems and planning

Example: Conditions for the reopening of schools

- Adequate infrastructure
- Availability and training of teachers and education personnel
- Pedagogical approaches (curriculum delivery, learning assessment)
- Learners, families and community's readiness to return (health and well-being in particular)



Information needs



Key information for reopening schools: Infrastructure

- Availability of toilets
- Access to water
- Number of spaces: classrooms and others
- Size of the spaces: square meters per student

Education financing: Tension between the impact of the crisis on the education budget and emerging needs

- Costing of emerging needs: connectivity, personal hygiene supplies, security measures for students and teachers, infrastructure adjustments
- Teacher absenteeism
- Mechanisms for allocating resources to schools
- Budget allocation and monitoring

Challenges of education information systems

- Addressing the needs of emergency planning and return to schools
- Maintaining data collection systems and statistical operations in the context of COVID-19.
- Ensuring the monitoring of regional and global agendas
- Putting in place educational information systems that inform post-COVID-19 education systems
 - Ensure regular monitoring
 - Anticipate and ensure readiness for new emergencies (resilience)
 - Link with information on nutrition, health and social protection
 - Focus on the most vulnerable population groups

