

# Webinar series on FRAMEWORK FOR REOPENING SCHOOLS

## Webinar #9: Learning assessments and school reopening

24 November 2020 (15:00-16:30 GMT+1)



### Background

Building on the [Framework for reopening of schools](#), issued by UNESCO, UNICEF, the World Bank and WFP, a webinar series has been developed to focus on support to national governments for re-opening schools amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. Bringing to light the latest [Supplement](#) to the Framework for Reopening Schools, UNICEF, UNESCO and the World Bank continues its series of webinars on the implementation of safe school operations.

In the following weeks, the upcoming webinars of the joint UNICEF-UNESCO-World Bank series will address, among others, technical issues such as resurgence; academic and pedagogical considerations such as curriculum prioritization and remote assessment; school leadership and management; hybrid learning; and the use of technological platforms for remote learning.

## Questions the webinar will address

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The next webinar on *November 24* will focus on learning assessments in the process of reopening schools, taking a closer look at diverse experiences in assessing students' potential learning loss as they return to school. In a recent survey by UNESCO, UNICEF and the World Bank, at least three quarters of countries reported having assessed or planning to assess students upon reopening following long periods of closures. Following on the results from that survey, this will be an opportunity to listen to countries around the world that are planning or already implementing different learning assessment strategies (including classroom assessment, large-scale assessment, and examinations) as part of their school reopening process as we seek to build knowledge and share experiences and solutions in order to meet the evolving needs of learners.

During school closures, some students continued to learn through various modalities, such as online learning platforms, television and radio, and paper packets, while others stopped learning altogether. When schools do reopen for in-person instruction, students will return with very different levels of knowledge and skills, with disadvantaged students most likely to exhibit the greatest learning losses. This context makes it essential for key stakeholders in the education process – policymakers, teachers, and school principals – to determine where students are in their learning trajectory relative to what had been expected prior to the pandemic, so they can adjust instruction and allocate resources accordingly. To collect this information, stakeholders can rely on learning assessment, which is an essential feedback mechanism in the education system.

The webinar will address the following questions:

- What are countries doing to assess students' learning level when schools reopen to ensure that instruction is appropriately adjusted?
- What are countries planning to do in order to ensure that teachers continuously track students' learning and facilitate learning recovery?
- What are countries planning to do in order to monitor system-wide learning losses and use assessment results to facilitate evidence-based decision making?
- How are teachers, schools and governments planning to use the assessment findings to support learning recovery during and after the pandemic?
- For countries planning to implement large-scale assessments, how contextual information from different stakeholders will be used to explain learning losses?

## Format

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This 90-minute webinar will include panelists from selected countries around the world. A moderator will facilitate the discussion between the panelists on the three main themes. A Q&A session will follow the discussion.

## Audience

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The webinar is primarily directed to ministry of education officials, staff from national assessment agencies, education practitioners, and other interested partners and stakeholders.

## Technical platform and interpretation

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The webinar will be held in English with simultaneous interpretation to French and Spanish, conducted through the Zoom webinar platform. The link will be provided on the following websites:

<https://en.unesco.org/covid19/educationresponse/webinars>

<https://en.unesco.org/events/joint-unesco-unicef-world-bank-webinar-series-reopening-schools>

## Agenda

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Tuesday, 24 November, 2020 15:00 to 16:30 PM GMT+1	
15:00-15:10	<b>Opening of session and welcoming remarks</b> <b>Jaime Saavedra</b> , Global Director of Education, World Bank
15:10-16:10	<b>Panel discussion</b> <b>Moderator: Diego Luna-Bazaldúa</b> , Education Specialist, World Bank <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Chile. Daniel Rodríguez Morales</b>, Agencia de Calidad de la Educación.</li><li>• <b>Kenya. Asumpta Matei</b>, Kenya National Examinations Council.</li><li>• <b>Republic of Korea. Kyungsuk Chang</b>, Korea Institute for Curriculum and Evaluation</li></ul>
16:10-16:20	<b>Discussant: Manuel Cardoso</b> , Education Specialist, UNICEF <b>Questions &amp; Answers</b>
16:20-16:30	<b>Synthesis of the discussion and conclusions</b> <b>Sobhi Tawil</b> , Director of Future of Learning and Innovation, UNESCO