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Technical Cooperation Group on the Indicators for SDG4- Education 2030 (TCG): Sixth meeting

Concept note

29-30 August 2019
Yerevan, Armenia



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The UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS) in partnership with the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of the Republic of Armenia with the support of UNICEF/Armenia are pleased to announce the Sixth Meeting of the Technical Cooperation Group on the Indicators for SDG 4-Education 2030 (TCG). The meeting will bring together key stakeholders in the field of education statistics to continue the development and implementation of the SDG4 Monitoring Framework.

TCG background

The [TCG](#) was formed in early 2016 to lead the development and implementation of the global and thematic indicator frameworks to monitor the education targets in SDG 4. The Director of the UIS and the Director of at the Division of Education 2030 Support and Coordination of UNESCO's Education Sector (UNESCO ED/ESC) co-chair the group to guarantee an efficient articulation between UNESCO divisions and units and other international stakeholders involved in the implementation of the Education 2030 Agenda. The UIS acts as the Secretariat.

The SDG 4 - Education 2030 Framework for Action ratified that the UIS remains *“the official source of cross-nationally comparable data on education”*. It also clearly recognised that *“in addition to collecting data, the UIS will work with partners to develop new indicators, statistical approaches and monitoring tools to better assess progress across the targets related to UNESCO's mandate, working in coordination with the Education 2030 Steering Committee”*¹. Within this context, the aim of the TCG is to efficiently coordinate efforts to implement SDG 4 monitoring, particularly in respect to the 43 indicators in the thematic monitoring framework on education (which also includes the 11 global SDG 4 indicators).

The TCG is currently composed of 27 Member States and 8 organizations including representatives of all regions as well as from civil society organizations and from international organizations, such as OECD, UNICEF, the World Bank and UNESCO itself. Members of the SDG-Education 2030 Steering Committee are invited to participate as Observers.

TCG results up to date

The TCG has met [five times](#): in Washington, DC, USA (May 2016), Madrid, Spain (October 2016), Montreal, Canada (June 2017), Dubai, United Arab Emirates (January 2018), and Mexico City, Mexico (November 2018). At these meetings, the members:

- Revised the 43 thematic indicators proposed in the Education 2030 Framework for Action taking account of changes proposed by the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators;
- Reached agreement on the list of 33 indicators for reporting in 2018 and 2019;
- Shared national and regional experiences in the development and implementation of the SDG 4 monitoring process;
- Advanced the establishment of benchmarks, thresholds and minimum proficiency levels;
- Discussed capacity building needs of countries and the ways to meet these needs.

¹ Paragraph 100, *Education 2030 Framework for Action*.

Objectives of TCG 6

The Sixth meeting of the TCG will focus on:

- I. Discussion about additional indicators,
- II. Topics related to indicator development, reporting and benchmarking processes,
- III. Challenges and obstacles that countries face in producing and reporting on SDG 4 indicators.

Consequently, the main objectives of TCG 6 are:

1. To REVIEW and ENDORSE the methodological developments since the last meeting, including on potential new indicators;
2. To REVIEW and FINALIZE the list of indicators to be published in 2020;
3. To DISCUSS and UPDATE, if necessary, the SDG data validation process;
4. To AGREE on the process to develop benchmarking for at least three selected indicators;
5. To IDENTIFY areas for improvement in data production and funding.