

Leveraging data to end learning poverty: Towards a global partnership for learning data

1 July 2021 (9:30 AM - 11:30 AM EST)



Background

This webinar by UNESCO, UNICEF and the World Bank will introduce the **latest country-level estimates** of the **World Bank-UIS learning poverty indicator**. This update will be the first since the initial launch of the measure on October 2019, and will bring more recent data from [PASEC](#) and [TIMSS](#), and a new regional learning assessment program that took place in East Asia, [SEA-PLM](#).

A few key messages emerge from the updated learning poverty estimates. First, the **magnitude** of the learning challenge is even bigger than previously thought. The new SEA-PLM learning assessments show that prior learning poverty estimates in several East Asian countries significantly underestimated the magnitude of the learning crisis. Second, the latest PASEC data shows that several African countries were off-track to meet the global goal of halving learning poverty by 2030 even before COVID-19. The new learning poverty estimates underscore the need for more timely and better data on learning to tackle the global learning crisis, and particularly to **recover the learning losses** accumulated during the last year due to COVID-19. The webinar will discuss **existing data gaps** to monitor learning poverty and progress towards SDG4, and propose a way forward to tackle these gaps by launching a global

commitment towards a **Minimum Learning Data Package** that: (i) leverages existing learning assessment data; (ii) improves the availability and quality of new learning assessment data; and (iii) fosters innovation in the creation and collection of complementary sources of learning data.

Questions the webinar will address

As part of the [Mission Recovery Education](#) partnership, UNESCO, UNICEF and the World Bank are planning a high-level virtual panel discussion to underscore the urgency of more and better data for countries to understand the magnitude of learning losses experienced by students and enable the global, regional and national monitoring of learning. This is essential to implement appropriate policy measures, including adapting teaching to the level of the children as schools reopen, equipping teachers with the appropriate pedagogical and assessment skills, and reorganizing curriculum and assessments. The event will focus on the following questions:

- How can countries increase the use of learning data and indicators such as learning poverty by policy makers?
- What would it take to expand the frequency and coverage of learning data in the low- and middle- income countries?
- How can classroom assessments and the measurement of learning at system level help countries respond to the consequences of COVID?
- What are the country perspectives of some on the recent innovations, such as the Global Proficiency Framework, Policy Linking and Student Linking on the measurement of learning that the SDG process has generated?
- How has your country strengthened the linkages between assessment in the classroom and the measurement of learning at the system level?

Format

This webinar will include global education stakeholders and key actors involved with international and regional assessments. A moderator will facilitate the discussion and a Q&A session will follow the discussion.

Audience

The webinar is primarily for ministry of education officials, staff from international organizations and other agencies working on issues related to learning loss and measurement of learning, researchers as well as other interested partners and stakeholders.

Technical platform, interpretation, and registration

The 120-minute webinar will be held in English with simultaneous interpretation to French (and Spanish to be confirmed), conducted through the Zoom webinar platform.

To participate to the event, please kindly [register here](#)

The event can also be followed live from [this link](#).

For more information about the event, including detailed programme and support documents, please [visit this page](#).

Agenda

1 July, 2021	
9:30 am - 9:40 am	<p>Opening of session and welcoming remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stefania Giannini, Assistant Director-General for Education, UNESCO Jaime Saavedra, Global Director for Education, World Bank
9:40 am - 9:45 am	<p>Panel introduction and agenda outline</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Andrew Jack, Global Education Editor, Financial Times
9:45 am - 10:05 am	<p>Presentation</p> <p><i>Presenters:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joao Pedro Azevedo, Lead Economist, World Bank Silvia Montoya, Director, UIS
10:05 am - 10:10 am	<p>Panel introduction</p> <p>Moderator to thank presenters and introduce the panelists.</p>
10:10 am – 11:10 am	<p>Moderated panel discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hilaire Hounkpodoté, Coordinator, PASEC Dr. Ethel Agnes Pascua-Valenzuela, Director, SEAMEO Secretariat Carlos Henriquez Calderon, Coordinator, LLECE SACMEQ (TBC) Shadreck Nkoya, Assistant Director, Research and Test Development Department, Examinations Council, Zambia Sridhar Srivastava, National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), India
11:10 am - 11:25 am	<p>Moderated Q&A</p> <p>Moderator to thank presenters and moderate the Q&A session</p>
11:25 am - 11:30 am	<p>Closing reflections and way forward</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Robert Jenkins, Global Director of Education, UNICEF