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# Webinar series on FRAMEWORK FOR REOPENING SCHOOLS

## Webinar #8: What have we learnt? Overview of national responses to COVID-19

4 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 following the 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 academic and pedagogical considerations such as curriculum prioritization and remote assessment; school leadership and management; blended learning; managing changing behaviours; and technological platforms for reimagining learning.

## Questions the webinar will address

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The next webinar on November 4 will focus on the results of a survey on national education responses to COVID-19. As part of the coordinated global education response to the COVID-19 pandemic, UNESCO, UNICEF and the World Bank have conducted two rounds of surveys with ministries of education, to better understand their responses to school closures and subsequent re-openings. The survey was administered by the UNESCO Institute of Statistics. The key findings of the second round of data collection (July-October 2020) were published in the form of a report entitled '[What have we learnt? Overview of findings from a survey of ministries of education on national responses to COVID-19](#)', published on 29 October 2020. The 8<sup>th</sup> webinar of the joint series will focus on this report and the corresponding survey results.

The survey generates inputs to better understand the potential learning losses implied by school closures, as well as policies to assess and remediate them. It also addresses the various distance learning modalities deployed and the policies and strategies implemented to ensure their effectiveness, including policies to support teachers and parents and to boost access to and effectiveness of online learning. Lastly, the survey seeks to better understand the strategies undertaken to ensure safe re-opening of schools for all. As such, the webinar will delve into the survey results by addressing the following questions:

- What policies were implemented by countries in order to mitigate learning losses, including assessments and remedial strategies?
- How effective were the distance learning modalities deployed, and what efforts were made to boost access particularly among the most vulnerable?
- What additional support was provided to teachers, students and their parents during pandemic?
- How did countries address the re-opening of schools? What additional supports were assured to ensure a safe return for all?
- What key areas should be further explored in future iterations of the survey?

## Format

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This 90-minute webinar will include panelists from UNESCO, UNICEF and the World Bank who jointly designed the survey and prepared the analytical report. A moderator will facilitate the discussion between the panelists on the three main chapters of the report. 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 international organizations and other agencies working on the education response to COVID-19, researchers as well as 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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Wednesday, 4 November, 2020	
15:00-15:15	<b>Opening</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Welcoming remarks (World Bank)</li><li>• Success factors of the partnership (UNICEF Office of Research)</li><li>• Overview of the Survey (UNESCO Institute for Statistics)</li></ul>
15:15-16:25	<b>Survey findings presentations and Q&amp;A</b> Moderation: UNESCO <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Monitoring and mitigating learning losses from school closures   Q&amp;A</b> World Bank</li><li>• <b>Deploying effective remote learning strategies   Q&amp;A</b> UNESCO and World Bank</li><li>• <b>Re-opening schools safely for all   Q&amp;A</b> UNICEF and UNICEF Office of Research</li></ul>
16:25-16:30	<b>Closing remarks</b> UNICEF