

# Learning assessment data for educational planning in sub-Saharan Africa



Amid a global learning crisis, our research found that learning assessment data are underused in educational planning and policy-making. **What could help?**

- 1** Understand that regional and international assessments are used to compare countries, while national ones help understand education quality
- 2** Establish a regulatory framework to coordinate assessments and clarify objectives
- 3** Promote capacity strengthening, dissemination, and ensure funding to maximize the use of learning data
- 4** Remember that collaboration and communication are key

## Where to get started on using learning assessment data

Do you work for a **ministry of education?**

- Clearly define the goals of your assessments and plan for the use of data when developing them
- Gear the system towards national leadership and ownership
- Reflect on the best institutional position of your assessment team
- Commit to the development of national capacities in the production and use of learning data at different administrative levels

Do you work for a **national assessment team?**

- Based on a national vision for assessments defined collectively, choose assessment design options that respond to identified actors' needs
- Reporting is not the end of an assessment cycle: link dissemination activities with constructive feedback loops
- Adjust assessment cycles to regular planning and budgeting activities
- Facilitate the understanding of learning data for different actors by adapting dissemination products and their content

Do you work for an **international partner organization?**

- Ensure that your support of learning assessments is in line with priorities defined in education sector plans and other national strategic documents
- Invest in capacities and transfer expertise, discourage outsourcing
- Rely as much as possible on existing national assessments rather than creating new ones



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