

CONCEPT NOTE

Meeting on 20 October 2020

The Technical Cooperation Group (TCG) Secretariat on data on household surveys, with the support of the GEMR team facilitating the discussion, are pleased to convene the first meeting of the working group in two 2-hour sessions.

- The first session of the meeting (provisionally scheduled for 6 October 2020) will be an occasion to introduce the members of the group to each other and engage in a collaboration and exchanges pertaining to the methodological aspects and use of household survey data for monitoring SDG 4. It will also discuss what members may be able to present in the forthcoming TCG meeting.
- The second session of the meeting (provisionally scheduled for 20 October 2020) will focus on discussing the papers to be submitted by the group and finalize the points for the plenary.

The two meeting sessions will precede the TCG 7th Meeting on 27-29 October, during which the working group will be presenting to the members their progress, challenges, and work plan for 2020-2021.

Various indicators related to household survey data require further methodological developments including issues related to inconsistencies for the measurement of specific indicators, the comparability across surveys and over time, as well as coverage, to ultimately improve the use of household survey data to estimate SDG indicators. A tentative set of indicators and priorities have been referred in the TCG WG ToRs:

- 4.1.2¹ on completion rate
- 4.1.4² on out-of-school rate
- 4.5.1³ Parity indices: gender, wealth, ethnicity, language, religion, regions
- 4.c.5⁴ teacher's salaries relative to similarly educated professionals (using labour force surveys)

In addition, in 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic has presented itself as a challenge but also as an opportunity for statistical units to optimize the use of education data. An immediate obstacle relates to how schools, teachers, students and their parents/caregivers, and others have had to navigate the abrupt changes brought by the crisis. National statistical planning units have had to respond and ensure the continuity of existing data collection programmes, as well as new data needs to better respond to the pandemic, often adopting innovative approaches or resorting to alternative data sources.

1 4.1.2: Completion rate (primary education, lower secondary education, upper secondary education). This indicator was previously listed as 4.14.

2 4.1.4: Out-of-school rate (primary education, lower secondary education, upper secondary education). This indicator was previously listed as 4.1.5.

3 4.5.1: Parity indices (female/male, rural/urban, bottom/top wealth quintile and others such as disability status, indigenous peoples and conflict-affected, as data become available) for all education indicators on this list that can be disaggregated

4 4.c.5: Average teacher salary relative to other professions requiring a comparable level of qualification

Agenda and objectives

- Review the working group's:
 - o terms of reference (TORs)
 - o work plan; and
 - o deliverables for 2020-2021
- Update the group's members on the progress related to:
 - o methodologies for defining and measuring relevant SDG indicators and disaggregation:
 - Global indicator 4.1.2 (completion rate)
 - Estimates of regional averages based on household surveys
 - Education indicators and disaggregation by disability related to the use of child and adult functioning modules from household surveys
 - Global Indicator 4.2.1⁵ (children developmentally on track): new methodology
 - Guidelines to estimate education expenditure data
 - o guidelines on reporting estimates and confidence intervals (or alternative measure to estimate sample variation)
 - o guidelines on reporting deviations in methodology (e.g. if the survey excludes some parts of the country, etc.)
- Update the group's members on:
 - o UN-wide level efforts to create an inventory of household surveys to expand geographical / time series coverage and identify gaps that need to be filled
 - o developments towards monitoring education by integrating learning assessment modules in household surveys (a UNESCO and World Bank Group initiative)
- Any other topic members of the working group would like to share with the group

Expected output

- Reviewed and approved terms of reference (TORs), work plan and deliverables for 2020-2021
- Recommendations for the approval by members of the TCG at the 7th meeting of the TCG.

5 4.2.1 Proportion of children under 5 years of age who are developmentally on track in health, learning and psychosocial well-being.