

SDG 4 Benchmarks

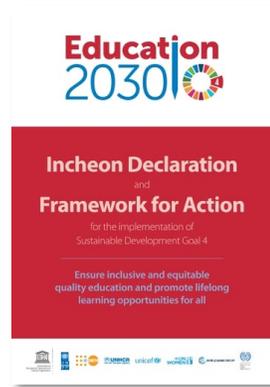


A common framework of global, regional and national priorities to improve education program quality, efficiency & impact





There is global commitment to honor the Education 2020 Framework for Action call to foster improvements in education outcomes



Education 2030 Framework for Action, 2015

Called on countries to establish “appropriate intermediate benchmarks (e.g., for 2020 and 2025)” for the SDG indicators, seeing them as “indispensable for addressing the accountability deficit associated with longer-term targets” (§28) .



Global Education Meeting, 2020

“We request UNESCO and its partners, together with the SDG-Education 2030 Steering Committee, to ... accelerate the progress and propose relevant and realistic benchmarks of key SDG 4 indicators for subsequent monitoring” (§10).



Benchmarks will improve outcomes through enhanced...

Alignment

- On a **focused set of global priority policy areas** for education
- On **regional benchmarks** as a minimum for each policy area
- On **national benchmarks** for countries to achieve, aligned to regional 'minimum floors'

Commitment

- **From countries** at the political level to work towards the benchmarks
- **From regional bodies** to **oversee country progress and peer learnings**
- From donors to **mobilize resources** to support ongoing progress

Monitoring

- **Country capability and capacity** to regularly report results (e.g. via EMIS)
- Using dashboards to **identify 'bright spots' and best-practices**
- Support aimed at fixing **low performance, bottlenecks, and cross-cutting issues**

Accountability

- **Focus on improvement** through routine country reporting
- Based on **country ownership** to make improvements
- On partners and donors for provision of **targeted support based on evidence**



Each component is underpinned by a focus on ensuring regular, reliable, and high-quality education data at global, regional and country-levels



**Benchmarks
provide focus on a
small number of
priority policy
areas linked to
the achievement
of SDG4**

1.



Basic education

2.



Pre-primary

3.



Teachers

4.



Expenditure

5.



Equity





Benchmark targets will be set at global, regional and national levels for each priority policy area

Priority Policy Areas



GLOBAL
SDG 4 Benchmark Indicators



REGIONAL



NATIONAL



Basic education

- 4.1.1 Minimum proficiency in reading and mathematics
- 4.1.2 Completion rate
- 4.1.4 Out-of-school rate

Definition of the regional minimum levels for global indicators

Definition of national commitment for global indicators



Pre-primary

- 4.2.2 Participation in organized learning a year before primary education entry



Indicators selected from regional frameworks:

Indicators selected from National Frameworks



Qualified teachers

- 4.c.1 Qualified teachers



Expenditure

- 1.a. 2/FFA Education expenditure - (% GDP / % budget)



Equity

Equity





Regular monitoring against benchmarks will drive commitment and focus on where investments are needed

Regional Benchmarking approach

 **Policy Priority Areas
SDG Global Targets**

 **SDG 4 Benchmark
Indicators**

Policy gaps

National
commitments

Data gaps

National
commitments



Missions
(e.g., 100m
children learning)

**Global Data
Coalition**



Increased international commitment on learning data

**Alignment and
coordination**

Financial Resources

Global Public Goods

Solutions and means of implementation

Solutions

- Cross-cutting analysis
- Education strategies
- Policies initiatives
- Support mechanisms
- Improved processes issues and challenges

Means of implementation:

- Funding
- Program design
- Implementation
- Results
- Investment in data systems



Dashboards and regular monitoring reports will be used to visualize progress at country and regional levels

- A **global benchmark dashboard** visualizes progress at all levels
- Allows **comparison** and **identification of 'bright spots'**
- **Intuitive, and usable** for stakeholders at all levels
- Countries are trained to **ensure effective-use**
- All stakeholders will have access, ensuring **transparency and accountability**

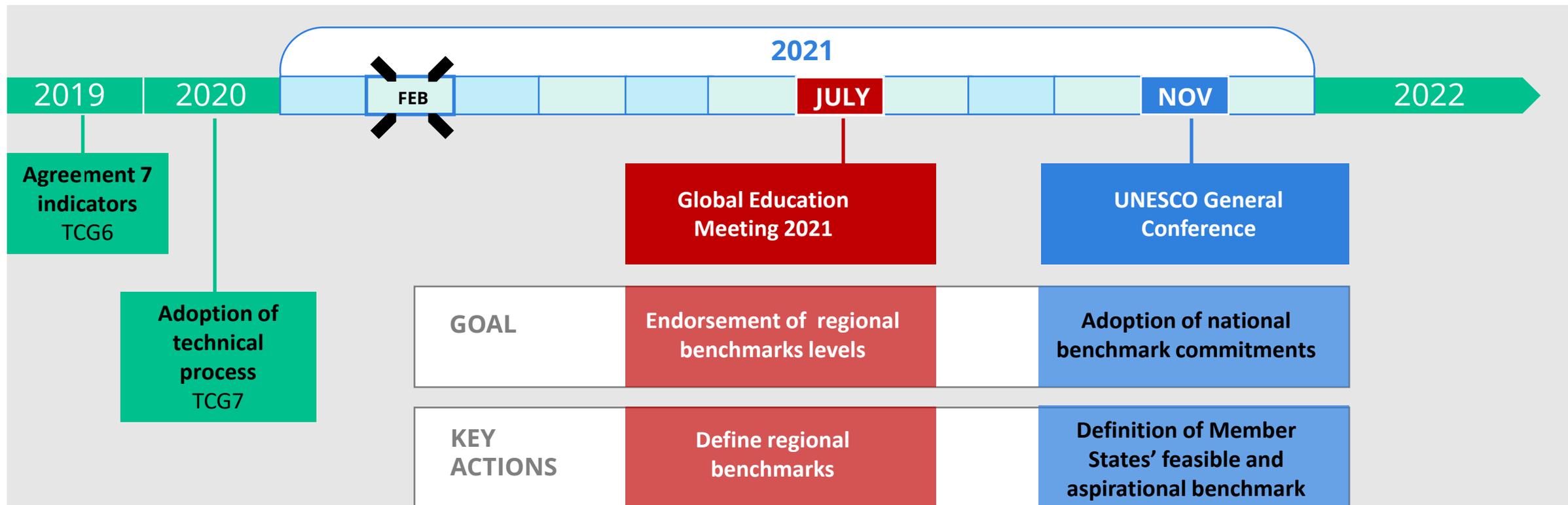
Indicative example of dashboard functionality



Legend



With your support we are on track to endorse the regional benchmarks approach by November 2021



ACTIVITIES AT REGIONAL FORA

Technical meetings on feasibility and levels

Political endorsement

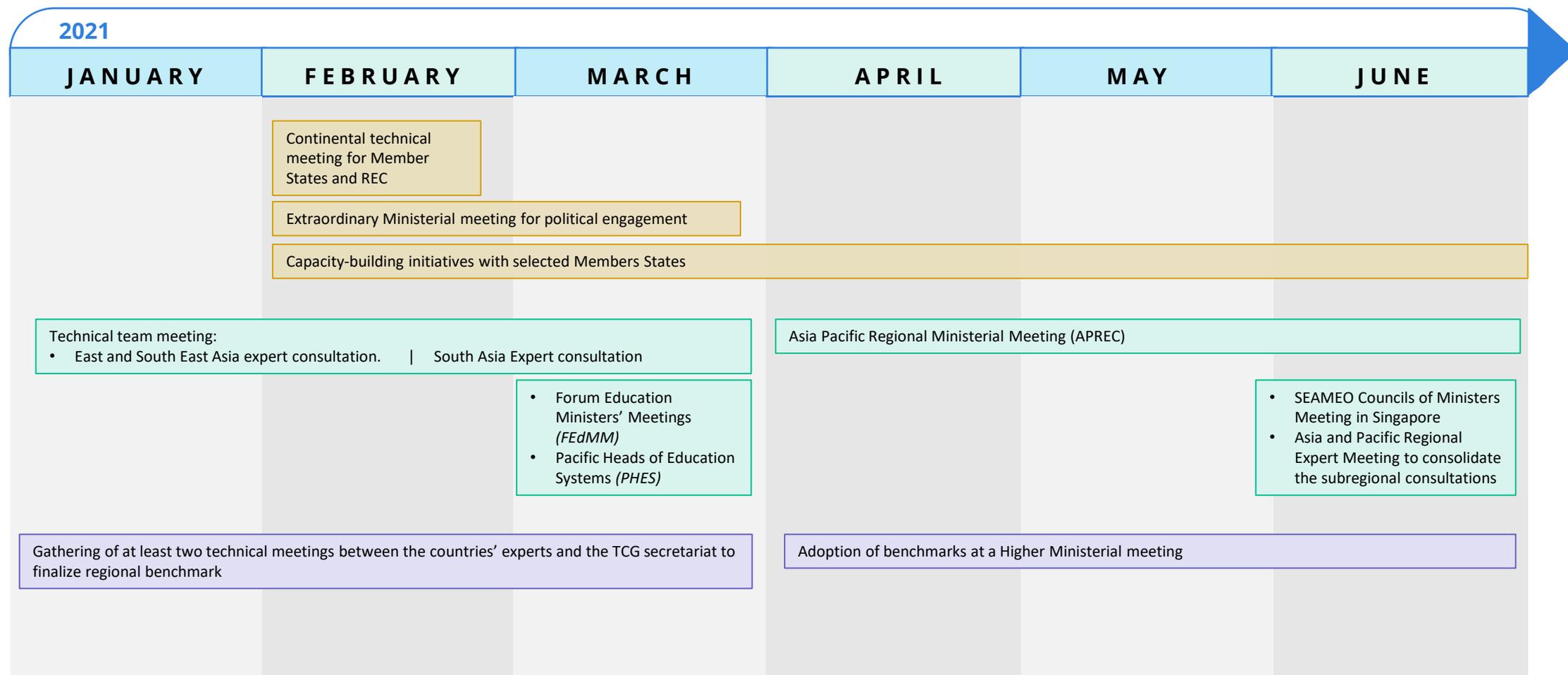
Definition of **additional indicators** for regional monitoring



<http://tcg.uis.unesco.org/benchmarks/>



Regional bodies supported by the UIS are working with countries towards definition of benchmarks level



While regional benchmarks plug important gaps, **further investments in data to support SDG4 monitoring are key**



Data availability

- Expand **scope and country coverage** of learning assessments
- Increase **coverage and frequency** of household surveys
- **Strengthen administrative systems**
- **Methodological developments needed to make full use of data**



Data Quality

- Strengthen country's **administrative systems**
- Expand country **coverage and scope of learning assessments**, and increase alignment with international standards and procedures



Mutual Accountability

- Countries and donors to **invest in learning assessments**
- Countries and donors to **use UIS to establish data-funding coordination / broker mechanism**
- Countries and donors to **establish systematic review through policy mapping and peer learning** mechanisms



UIS' unique position ensures it can convene, coordinate, innovate and 'broker' support to fill gaps

Facilitator



Countries SOs

- Assistance
 - Technical
 - Financial
- Report SDGs



Donors SOs

- Priority areas
- Innovation
- Data for investment



UIS Strategic Objectives (SOs)

- Global leadership SDG4 reporting
- Strengthening capacity to monitoring SDG4 targets
- Respond to policy needs based on research, foresight and innovation

Products for identifying data gaps

- Global Education Database
- Indicator Heat Maps
- Country Profiles

Monitoring Benchmarks

- Regional Reports
- Policy Analysis
- Investment Case

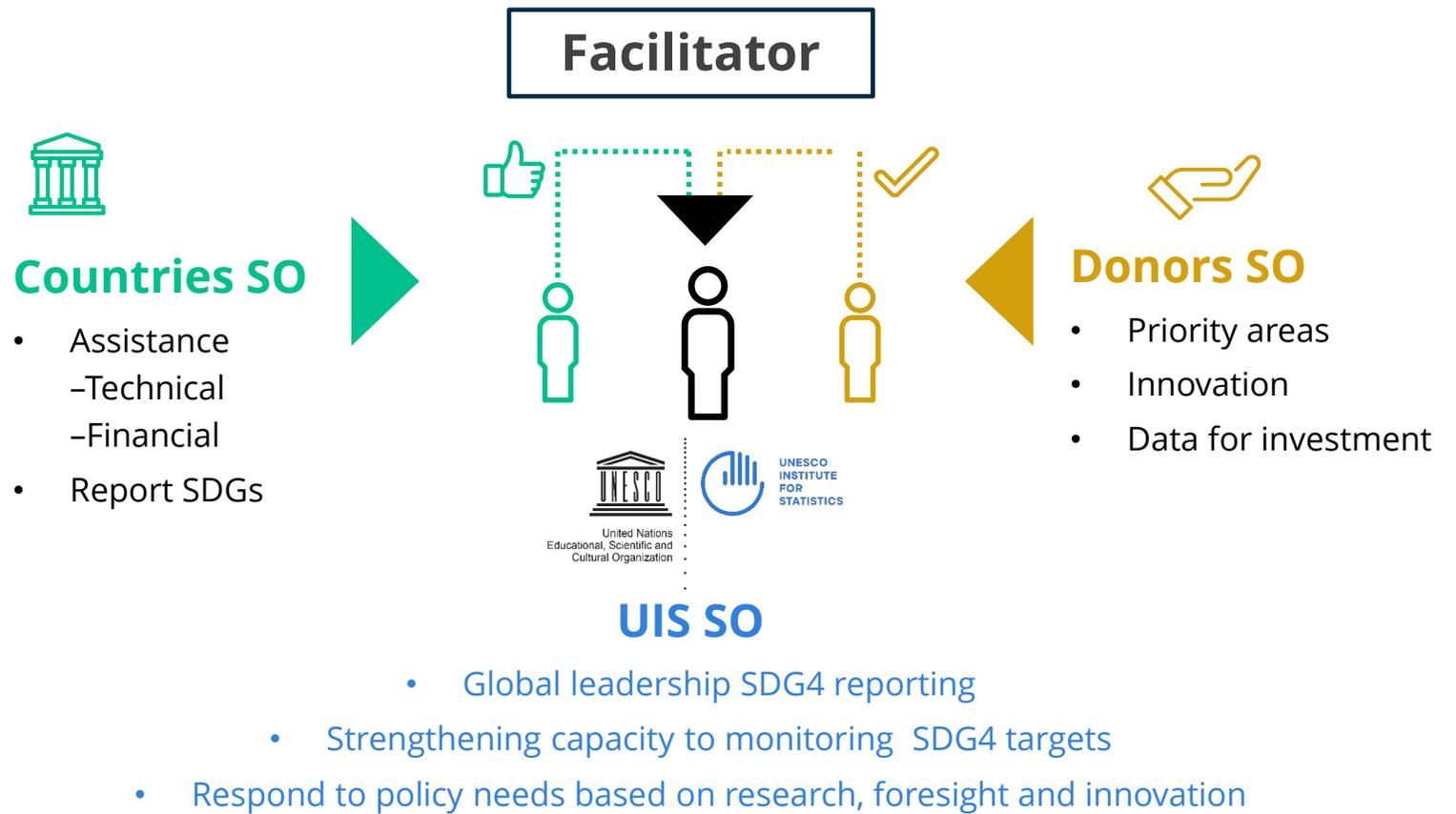
Data production tools

- Operational Guide & EMIS Buyers Guide
- Innovations in Learning Outcomes methodology
- COVID-19 Surveys

International brokerage

- Technical Cooperation Group
- Global Alliance to Monitor Learning
- Working Group on COVID
- LA Virtual Register of donor commitments

UIS' unique position ensures it can convene, coordinate, innovate and 'broker' support to fill gaps



Products for identifying data gaps

- Global Education Database
- Indicator Heat Maps
- Country Profiles

Monitoring Benchmarks

- Regional Reports
- Policy Analysis
- Investment Case

Data production tools

- Operational Guide & EMIS Buyers Guide
- Innovations in Learning Outcomes methodology
- COVID-19 Surveys

International brokerage

- Technical Cooperation Group
- Global Alliance to Monitor Learning
- Working Group on COVID
- LA Virtual Register of donor commitments



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



UNESCO
INSTITUTE
FOR
STATISTICS



SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
GOALS

Thank you.

Learn more <http://uis.unesco.org/>

 @UNESCOstat