

First meeting of the Technical Cooperation Group on the Indicators for SDG4-Education 2030

**Review of the thematic indicator
proposal**

Target 4.b.

Scholarships (2 indicators)

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- Goal: By 2020, substantially expand globally the number of scholarships available to developing countries, for enrolment in higher education in developed countries and other developing countries.
- Two indicators :
 - 35: Number of higher education scholarships awarded by beneficiary country
 - 36: Volume of official development assistance flows for scholarships by sector and type of study

Proposed indicators - Target 4.b Scholarships

Tier proposed by UNSD (for global indicators) : 1 ; Tier proposed by UIS : 1

36. Volume of official development assistance flows for scholarships by sector and type of study

- **Purpose** :ODA is the accepted measure of international development co-operation. The data thus cover official international assistance to provide education places for developing country nationals in donor country educational institutions.
- **Definition**: Total net official development assistance (ODA) for scholarships and student costs in donor countries (types of aid E01 and E02).
- **Calculation**: The sum of total official development assistance for scholarships for study abroad by sector and type of study awarded to students from the beneficiary country expressed in US\$.
- **Disaggregation**: aid provider
- **Source**: Administrative data
- Data are compiled by the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the OECD from returns submitted by its member countries and other aid providers.

Limitations

- A high value indicates that there is greater expenditure on students from the given beneficiary country to study abroad. But It does not indicate the number of students being supported.
- The data only address international concessional flows provided by governments. Detailed, internationally comparable data on scholarships for developing country nationals provided by universities, colleges, foundations, NGOs and other sources are generally lacking.

Proposed indicators - Target 4.b Scholarships

Tier proposed by UIS : 3

35. Number of higher education scholarships awarded by beneficiary country

- Purpose :The indicator is a direct measure of scholarships for study abroad as defined in the target.
- Definition: The number of higher education scholarships for study abroad awarded to students from the reporting (i.e. beneficiary) country in a given period (e.g. the last 12 months).
- Calculation: The sum of all scholarships awarded in a given academic year by donor or host countries to students from the given beneficiary country for study abroad.
- Disaggregation: ?gender ?
- Source: Administrative data from providers of higher education scholarships and recipient higher education institutions
- Data : at this stage, there are no established methodology and standards

Limitations

- A high value indicates that a large number of students from the given beneficiary country are being supported financially to study abroad. It does not indicate the amount of financial support nor whether this is sufficient to cover all the students' costs related to their study.
- Beneficiary countries typically will not have access to all the data on scholarships for study abroad awarded to their inhabitants.
- Similarly in most countries in which such students study there is no central source of data on scholarships awarded to students from abroad as they may be offered by many different sources including universities, foundations, private donors and others.
- There may also be problems with identifying the countries of origin of students.