



Technical Cooperation Group
9th meeting
22-24 November 2022

WG/EMIS/1

WORKING GROUP ON ADMINISTRATIVE DATA/EMIS

CONCEPT NOTE AND AGENDA

22 November 2022

Background

The working group on administrative data/EMIS is meeting this year to discuss several issues of high importance. The working group will first present the progress made by the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS) in collecting education data in dynamic templates, including feedback from countries. It will then present the criteria to use national population data to calculate SDG 4 indicators. This will be followed by the presentation of a proposal by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) on using the net enrolment ratio instead of the gross enrolment ratio to calculate indicator 4.2.4 and a discussion of the proposal by the UIS to implement an ISCED review panel.

Following last year's discussions and decisions taken during the 8th Technical Cooperation Group (TCG) meeting in November 2021, the UIS has **collected administrative and finance education data using dynamic templates** in a number of countries in Asia and Africa. The main aim is to support these countries in the production of high-quality internationally comparable SDG 4 data and indicators. This approach consists of entering publicly available raw data into dynamic templates that automatically generate the related indicators. The dynamic templates allow countries to directly validate the indicators, check their consistency over time, see what indicators and data are missing, work on filling these gaps and most importantly take ownership of the data produced. The dynamic templates have proven to be an excellent tool for data collection and also capacity-building at the national level. Some interesting features of the templates include the following: they offer countries the possibility of calculating population-based indicators by using UNPD population or national population; they allow countries to compare the indicators produced by the template with the ones previously published by the UIS; the metadata collected in the templates serves as a basis for a comprehensive inventory of all publicly available national publications and data sources.

Last year, members of the TCG endorsed the proposal to adopt a **hybrid approach to the use of population data in UIS statistics**. Countries can request the use of national data for the calculation of population-based indicators instead of the World Population Prospects estimates from the UNDESA Population Division (UNPD). Some of the advantages of using national population data are the following: increased national ownership of the data and indicators produced as compared to those disseminated by the UIS and calculated using UNPD population; and greater accuracy of national population data, in some cases, as compared to estimates from international population models. The UIS has defined and will present the minimum criteria to accept the use of national population data instead of UNPD estimates. The session will also touch upon the means of implementation and timeline.

This year, the OECD is proposing a **methodological change in the calculation of SDG indicator 4.2.4 by using net enrolment ratios (NER) instead of gross enrolment ratios (GER)**. During the 5th TCG meeting, the calculation of this indicator was refined by dividing the enrolment in early childhood educational development (ISCED 01) and pre-primary education (ISCED 02) by their respective age groups in the population instead of by the total population corresponding to 'Early childhood education' (ISCED 0) group. There was also a discussion about the advantages of using NERs instead of GERs, especially that they provide more accurate information to policymakers and help them make informed decisions. Since then, some countries have requested the use NERs in place of GERs. Therefore, the OECD is suggesting refining in the calculation of indicator 4.2.4 accordingly, taking into consideration that data by age may not be available in some countries.

Finally, the working group will discuss the implementation of an ISCED review panel as foreseen in the ISCED 2011 revision. ISCED 2011 contains a recommendation for establishment of an ISCED Committee to advise the UIS on the classification of national programmes and qualifications, to review the current version of ISCED and to identify areas for further development.

Objectives of the meeting

The objectives of the meeting are:

- Present the progress made with using dynamic templates to collect data, produce indicators and build capacities at the national level
- Present criteria to use national population data
- Discuss the pros and cons of changing the methodology of calculating SDG 4.2.4
- Discuss the implementation of an ISCED review panel

Recommendations will be presented to the TCG meeting which will be held on 24 November.

Expected outputs

The expected outcomes are

- Continue the collection of data in dynamic templates for selected countries
- Start using national population data following criteria adopted
- Decide on the possibility of using a new methodology to calculate SDG indicator 4.2.4
- Decide on the implementation of an ISCED review panel

Meeting modalities

The working group on administrative data/EMIS will be held virtually in English, with simultaneous interpretation to French and Spanish. Links to the meeting are posted on the TCG 9 meeting page below: <https://tcg.uis.unesco.org/9th-meeting-of-the-tcg/>

Date: Tuesday 22 November 2022

Time: 9:45 to 10:45 (Montreal time¹)

Agenda

The meeting will include 4 presentations. The first one is the presentation of the progress made by the UIS in using dynamic templates to collect administrative and finance data on education. The second one is the presentation of the criteria that the UIS determined for the use of national population instead of UNPD population in the calculation of population-based indicators. The third one discusses OECD's proposal of using net enrolment ratios instead of gross enrolment ratios in the calculation of indicator 4.2.4. The last one discusses UIS' proposal regarding the implementation of an ISCED review panel.

¹ The hours are indicated in Montreal time. Please check the correct hour in your time zone at <https://bit.ly/3DgxrXD>.

Topic	Speaker/Presenter	Duration (in minutes)
Opening/Welcome/Agenda	Chair	5
Update on UIS data collection mechanisms: Progress in Implementation of new UIS questionnaire	UIS	10
Questions and answers		5
National Population Data: criteria for use in UIS indicator calculation	UIS	10
Use of a net enrolment ratio instead of a gross enrolment ratio for indicator 4.2.4 (OECD proposal)	OECD	10
Proposal for implementation of ISCED review panel	UIS	10
Questions and answers		5
Closing remarks	Chair	5