WORKING GROUP ON TEACHERS

CONCEPT NOTE AND AGENDA

22 November 2022
Background

ISCED-T was developed in close consultation with the Technical Cooperation Group on the Indicators for SDG 4 - Education 2030 (TCG). Indeed, at its 6th meeting in August 2019, the TCG acknowledged the classification as a sustainable solution and positive step towards achieving a global public good to enable global policy dialogue on teachers. At the 7th TCG meeting (27 to 29 October 2020), UIS presented options for development of ISCED-T and the TCG, in a post meeting consultation, endorsed the proposed dimensions for classification of Teacher Training Programmes (TTPs) in ISCED-T. At the 8th TCG meeting (2 November 2021), UIS presented the draft proposal of ISCED-T submitted to the 41st session of UNESCO General Conference (GC) for adoption. UIS also presented the proposal for collecting metadata on national definitions of ‘trained’ and ‘qualified’ teachers and on the minimum ISCED level qualification required to teach a given level of education. Moreover, UIS and TCG discussed the implications of ISCED-T for data reporting on SDG 4.c.1. In the post-meeting consultation, the TCG endorsed the proposal to collect the metadata as this will contribute to clarifying some of the current uncertainties regarding the quality and the comparability of data on ‘trained’ and ‘qualified’ teachers and inform the development of a global minimum standard of teacher qualifications by level of education taught. The TCG also endorsed the mapping of national TTPs to the five main classification dimensions of ISCED-T, the use of the resulting mapping to produce internationally comparable data, and the development of an international standard for “trained” and “qualified” teachers.

ISCED-T was adopted at the 41st session of UNESCO GC in November 2021. Further to the adoption of the classification, the UIS developed an implementation strategy, with inputs from ISCED-T Technical Advisory Panel (see Annex 1). The implementation of this strategy is currently ongoing. In January 2022, the UIS launched the collection of metadata in the 167 countries covered in its survey of formal education (see Annex 2 for the list of countries covered by SDG regions).

During this meeting of TCG working group on Teachers, the UIS will present the new developments about ISCED-T. It will also present results from the metadata collection by focusing on national definitions of ‘trained’ and ‘qualified’ teachers, emerging evidences from national minimum qualifications required to teach and how these evidences can help explore the development of a global standard metric.

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Objectives of the meeting

The objectives of the meeting are:

• Concerning the new developments on ISCED-T:
  o Present the work progress on ISCED-T since the last TCG meeting, including the adoption of the classification at the 41st session of UNESCO General Conference and the ongoing implementation of the classification.
  o Discuss options about the production of national ISCED-T mappings and the use of the mappings to produce internationally comparable data.
  o Review the ISCED-T questionnaire proposed for the feasibility study.

• Concerning the results from for the metadata collection
  o Present countries standard for definitions of ‘trained’ and ‘qualified’ teachers, and of Minimum ISCED level of academic qualifications required to teach.
  o Discuss a proposal to advance on the development of a global minimum standard of teachers’ qualification by level of education taught and political process of validation.

Expected output

• The WG members are updated on the new developments about ISCED-T.
• Options about the production of national ISCED-T mappings and their use to produce internationally comparable data on related indicators for SDG Target 4.c are discussed.
• The proposed ISCED-T questionnaire for the feasibility study is reviewed.
• The implementation strategy of ISCED-T is approved
• The work flow between OECD/Eurostat and the UIS proposed for the review and ‘approval’ of the draft countries’ mappings to ISCED-T is approved.
• The criteria to define a global minimum standard of qualification to teach a specific level of education are concluded and the definition of the global metric finalised.
• The mechanisms for a political process to validate the global standard metric developed based on empirical process are discussed and approved.

Meeting modalities

The working group on teachers will be held virtually in English, with simultaneous interpretation to French and Spanish.

Date: Tuesday 22 November 2022
Time: 8:30 to 9:30 (Montreal time⁴)
Webpage: https://tcg.uis.unesco.org/9th-meeting-of-the-tcg/
Link to the meeting will be posted on the webpage.

⁴ The hours are indicated in Montreal time. Please check the correct hour in your time zone at https://bit.ly/3DgxrXD.
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