



# Benchmarking SDG 4

## Proposed Methodology for Measuring Progress

TCG 9

# Background

**Education 2030 Framework for Action:** commitment to establish national benchmarks for SDG 4 as part of strengthening accountability for SDG 4 and GEMR and UIS to support countries

**August 2019:** TCG endorsed seven indicators selected for benchmarking

**August 2021:** Invitation to member countries to set benchmarks for 2025 and 2030

**February 2022:** Invitation to revise benchmarks following release of initial results, particularly for countries that did not share benchmarks

Thematic area	Indicator		Disaggregation
Early childhood	Global Indicator 4.2.2	Participation rate one year before primary	1
Basic education	Thematic Indicator 4.1.4	Out-of-school rate	3 (i) primary, (ii) lower secondary and (iii) upper secondary school age
	Global Indicator 4.1.2	Completion rate	3 (i) primary, (ii) lower secondary and (iii) upper secondary education
Equity	Target 4.5	Completion rate, gender gap in upper secondary	1
	Global Indicator 4.1.1	Minimum learning proficiency	6 (i) early grades, (ii) end of primary and (iii) end of lower secondary, in (a) reading and (b) mathematics
Quality	Global Indicator 4.c.1	Trained teachers	4 (i) pre-primary, (ii) primary, (iii) lower secondary and (iv) upper secondary education
Financing	Global Indicator 1.a.2 and Education 2030 benchmarks	Education expenditure	2 (i) as share of total public expenditure and (ii) as share of gross domestic product
			20

# Methods proposed to benchmark progress

**Objective:** Given that countries have established national benchmarks, the objective of the proposed methodology is to benchmark recent progress made for each indicator

**Underlying principle:** use historical rates of progress for an indicator defined by 25<sup>th</sup> and 75<sup>th</sup> percentile of progress rates observed historically (2000 to 2015) to help benchmark recent progress (observed since 2015)

## **Two methods proposed for each indicator (except expenditure):**

**Method 1:** benchmark each country's recent progress (since 2015) based on historical rates of progress

**Method 2:** benchmark the rate of progress needed to achieve national benchmarks based a country's current level and on historical rates of progress, i.e.: how far from the national benchmark is the country now?

**One method for public expenditure indicators:** use the international benchmarks for public expenditure as a percent of GDP (4 percent) and of total government expenditure (15 percent)

## Method 1

## Categorizing recent progress

## Method 2

Progress Categorization	Definition
<b>No data</b>	No data for indicator
<b>No trend</b>	Only one data point
<b>Regression</b>	Decline in indicator recently
<b>Slow</b>	Recent progress was less than the historical 25 <sup>th</sup> percentile
<b>Medium</b>	Recent progress was between the historical 25 <sup>th</sup> and 75 <sup>th</sup> percentiles
<b>Fast</b>	Recent progress was above the historical 75 <sup>th</sup> percentile (or within 5 percentage points of 100%)

Progress Categorization	Definition
<b>No data</b>	No data for indicator
<b>No trend</b>	Only one data point
<b>No national benchmark</b>	Country has not established or shared a national benchmark
<b>Regression</b>	Decline in indicator recently
<b>Slow</b>	Far from national benchmark, needs progress above the historical 75 <sup>th</sup> percentile
<b>Medium</b>	Close to national benchmark, needs progress between the historical 25 <sup>th</sup> and 75 <sup>th</sup> percentiles
<b>Fast</b>	Very close to national benchmark, needs progress below the historical 25 <sup>th</sup> percentile

## Method 3: for public expenditure indicators

Categorization based on whether public expenditure as a percent of GDP exceeds the international benchmark of 4 percent and on whether public expenditure as a percent of total government expenditure exceeds the international benchmark of 15 percent

Categorization	Definition
<b>No data</b>	Data is missing for either public education expenditure as a percent of GDP or as a percent of total government expenditure
<b>Achiever</b>	Achieves international benchmarks for both indicators
<b>Partial achiever</b>	Achieves international benchmarks for one of the two indicators
<b>Non-achiever</b>	Does not achieve international benchmarks for either of the indicators