

EDUCATION DATA AND STATISTICS COMMISSION (formerly known as Technical Cooperation Group on SDG 4 Indicators, TCG)

EDSC special meeting 5 in-between sessions

CONCEPT NOTE 4 July 2024

Introduction

The Technical Cooperation Group on SDG 4 indicators ([TCG](#)) was established in May 2016 to lead the development and implementation of the global and thematic indicator frameworks, providing a platform to discuss and develop the indicators used for monitoring the Education 2030 targets in an open, inclusive and transparent manner, involving the main stakeholders. Co-chaired by the directors of the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS) and the Global Education Monitoring (GEM) Report, the TCG plays a crucial role in establishing standards and developing methodologies making recommendations on the necessary actions to improve data quality and availability¹.

In February 2024, the Conference on Education Data and Statistics (EDS Conference) agreed on three decisions in relation to the TCG:

- The TCG will be renamed **‘Education Data and Statistics Commission’ (EDS Commission)**
- It will remain the primary body for the coordination of the global education data and statistics
- It will take forward the recommendations of the EDS Conference between sessions.

The latest [rotation of the EDS Commission members](#) for the period 2024–2026 was completed following the Conference². The group in its new composition met for the first time on 29 April 2024 to initiate new members to the work and discuss work plans of working groups (WG) and task forces (TF)³ which should be aligned with the Conference decisions. Following this introductory meeting, the EDS Commission is meeting again on 4 July 2024.

¹ Refer to Annex 1 for more information on the work of the TCG since its inception.

² Refer to Annex 2 for the new composition of the TCG. Outgoing members are Canada, Sweden, Russian Federation, Colombia, Cuba, Mexico, China, Indonesia, Angola, Zambia, Lebanon, and Saudi Arabia.

³ The TCG has five WGs (Administrative data/EMIS; Teachers; Education expenditure data; Global Alliance to Monitor Learning (GAML); Household surveys) and two TFs (Education in Emergencies; Teachers). A TF on ISCED will be added this year.

Objectives and expected outcomes of the meeting

This is the second of the EDS Commission in its new composition and its objectives are to:

1. Update members on recent developments related to SDG 4 indicators.
2. Discuss work plans for 2024-2026 to take forward the recommendations of the Conference and EDS Commission decisions.
3. Update on the review of the SDG 4 global indicator framework⁴ and steps towards a review of the SDG 4 thematic indicators.
4. Update on pending TCG decisions.
5. Follow up on the SDG 4 High-level Steering Committee decisions related to the Transforming Education Summit (TES)⁵.
6. Prepare the agenda for the upcoming in-person EDS Commission meeting.

The expected outcomes are:

1. An update of recent developments related to SDG 4 indicators is provided.
2. Workplans for 2024-2026 are set to take forward the Conference and TCG decisions.
3. Agreement on a process to review the SDG 4 thematic framework.
4. An update on pending TCG decisions is provided.
5. Consensus on indicator proposals related to the TES.
6. Agenda of the next EDS Commission meeting is discussed.

Meeting modalities

The meeting will be held virtually via Zoom on **4 July 2024** from **8:30 to 12:00** (Montreal time)⁶.

The meeting will be in English with interpretation to Arabic, French, and Spanish.

The information to join the meeting will be shared shortly.

⁴ For more information, refer to Annex 3

⁵ For more information, visit the page of the [Transforming Education Summit](#) (TES)

⁶ Kindly check the correct hour in your time zone at <https://bit.ly/3DgxrXD>

Draft Agenda

Time	Agenda item	Reference documents
5	Welcome	
15	Update on SDG 4 global indicators: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4.1.1 4.6.1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report of the TAG on 4.1.1a GAML/TCG criteria for use of an assessment to report on SDG 4.1.1 Report on 4.6.1
30	Workplans and TORs of WGs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summary of the decisions of the EDS Conference Executive Summary of the EDS Conference TORs of the Working Groups
10	Discussion	
15	Review of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SDG 4 global indicator framework SDG 4 thematic indicator framework 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IAEG-SDG 2025 Comprehensive Review Process EDS Commission SDG 4 Thematic Indicator Review Process
15	Discussion	
30	Break	
10	Education in Emergencies Task Force	TORs of the Task Force
10	Teachers Task Force	TORs of the Task Force
15	Discussion	
10	TCG decisions	
10	TES decisions	
10	Agenda of the next EDS Commission meeting	
15	AOB	
10	Closing	

Annex 1. Main decisions taken by the TCG (2016 – 2023)



TCG decisions 2016–2023



Annex 2. Composition of the TCG for 2024 – 2026

TCG membership 2024-2026						
Electoral groups	GROUP I Western Europe and North America	GROUP II Eastern Europe	GROUP III Latin America and Caribbean	GROUP IV Asia and the Pacific	GROUP V(a) Africa	GROUP V(b) Arab States
2024-2026 (28 Member States)	Cyprus	Armenia	Argentina	Bangladesh	Benin	Iraq
	France	Estonia	Brazil	Lao PDR	Côte d'Ivoire	Oman
	Germany	Romania	Chile	Malaysia	Equatorial Guinea	Tunisia
	Norway		Guatemala	Pakistan	Gambia	
			Jamaica	Sri Lanka	Nigeria	
				Thailand	South Africa	
				Tonga		

Note: New TCG Member States for 2024-2026 are in bold.

Annex 3: A note on the IAEG-SDG revision of the global indicators

According to the UN General Assembly [Resolution 71/313](#) (July 2017), the global indicator framework that includes the initial set of indicators is to be refined annually and reviewed comprehensively by the United Nations Statistical Commission (UNSC) at its [fifty-first session](#) held in 2020, and its fifty-sixth session, to be held in 2025. The IAEG-SDG has therefore initiated the process in preparation for the 2025 Comprehensive Review of the global indicator framework in order to submit proposed refinements, revisions, replacements, additions and deletions to the 56th session of the UNSC in March 2025 for its consideration.

In 2023, the IAEG-SDGs conducted a review of the availability of data for all global indicators to assess country and population coverage for each region for which those indicators were relevant. The review highlighted the following in terms of indicator classification:

- Ten indicators met the criteria for being reclassified from tier II to tier I^{7,8}: **4.3.1, 4.c.1, 5.1.1, 8.3.1, 8.5.1, 8.7.1, 8.8.2, 11.3.1, 11.6.1 and 11.7.1.**
- One indicator was reclassified from tier I to multi-tier (i.e. different components of the indicator are classified in different tiers) after a subcomponent was downgraded from tier I to tier II: **4.1.1a.**

⁷ The IAEG-SDGs established a tier system and grouped indicators into three categories:

- Tier I: indicators for which an established methodology exists, and data are already widely available;
- Tier II: indicators for which a methodology has been established but for which data are not easily available;
- Tier III: indicators for which an internationally agreed methodology has not yet been developed.

⁸ Education-related indicators are in bold.