

Proposal for the replacement of global indicator 4.6.1

4 July 2024

Content

- Introduction
- Global indicator 4.6.1
- Thematic indicator 4.6.2
 - Data coverage
 - Data sources
 - Data collection methods
 - ✓ UIS literacy survey
 - ✓ Estimates produced from survey microdata
 - ✓ UIS modeled data (GALP)
- Proposal

Introduction

- **SDG Target 4.6:** by 2030, ensure all youth and a substantial proportion of adults, both men and women, achieve **literacy** and **numeracy**.
- **Global Indicator:** SDG Indicator **4.6.1** measures the proportion of the population in a given age group achieving at least a fixed level of proficiency in **functional** (a) **literacy** and (b) **numeracy** skills, by sex.
- **Thematic Framework:** includes SDG Indicator **4.6.2**, defining **literacy** as "the ability to read and write, with understanding, a short, simple sentence about one's everyday life."

Global Indicator 4.6.1

- **Data sources:** adult learning assessments like PIAAC, STEP, and national adult literacy surveys.
- **Mini LAMP assessment:** developed by UIS for low- and lower-middle-income countries.
- **Data coverage:**
 - Limited, with data available from only fifteen countries since 2015.
 - Mostly from PIAAC's first cycle, implemented on a ten-year cycle.
 - High financial and technical requirements restrict data collection to upper-middle and high-income countries.
 - Unlikely to improve data coverage significantly before 2030.
- **PIAAC cycles:**
 - **1st cycle (2011-2017):** data from various countries, including rounds in 2011-2012, 2014-2015, and 2017.
 - **2nd cycle (2022-2029):** data collection ongoing, with results expected from OECD members in 2024.

Thematic Indicator 4.6.2

- **Coverage:**
 - UIS publishes data on youth and adult literacy rates for 143 countries from 2015 onwards.
 - Except for North America, Europe, and Oceania, regional coverage exceeds 50%.
- **Data sources:**
 - Population and housing censuses:
 - Key source for many countries.
 - Collected every ten years, including demographic and socio-economic characteristics.
 - National sample surveys:
 - Household or individual surveys with literacy modules.
 - Frequency varies, e.g., quarterly in the EU, less frequent in low-income countries.
 - International sample surveys:
 - Surveys like MICS and DHS, designed for international and national policy needs.
 - Modules may be added to national surveys.

Thematic Indicator 4.6.2 (cont.)

- **Data collection/production methods**
 - UIS literacy survey:
 - Administered annually before 2017, bi-annually since 2017, covering 132 countries from 2021.
 - Collects detailed literacy data by age, sex, and location.
 - Includes metadata for better interpretation of results.
 - Estimates from survey microdata:
 - Calculated by UIS and partners (GEM Report team and ECLAC).
 - UIS modelled data (GALP):
 - Produces estimates when recent observed data are unavailable.
 - Projects future literacy rates using demographic data and regression models.

Proposal

- **Replace global indicator 4.6.1 with thematic indicator 4.6.2**
- **Produce model data estimates for the literacy rate indicator**
- **Maintain monitoring of functional literacy and numeracy and downgrade the indicator to SDG 4 thematic framework**

Thank you

Learn more: www.uis.unesco.org



@UNESCOstat