Data for Sustainable Development
Who we are

The UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS) is the official source of internationally comparable data on education, science, culture, and communication, which it produces by working with national statistical offices, line ministries, and other statistical organizations. The UIS Director serves as UNESCO’s chief statistician.

Our mission

To provide statistical information on education, science, culture, and communication, which informs decision-making by counties and other stakeholders and allows benchmarking progress towards national and international goals.

Our values

Excellence
The UIS strives for excellence and continuous improvement in how it generates value.

Transparency
Data and analytical products are comprehensible and traceable.

Agility
The UIS responds to new challenges through a culture of innovation and experimentation.

UIS is:

- Trusted Producer
- Expert Voice
- Coalition Builder

The Institute was established by the decision of the 30th UNESCO General Conference in 1999. In 2001, the Institute moved to Montreal, following the invitation of the Canadian Government. UIS staff also work in UNESCO offices in Bangkok, Dakar, New Delhi, [Beirut, and Santiago].

The UIS is governed by its own Governing Board of 12 international experts, representing users and producers of statistics from different regions and international organizations.
What we deliver

Data, methodologies, and support to track progress and make informed decisions.

Standards & Methodologies

SELECTED EXAMPLES:
- International classifications
- Methodologies to produce sound and policy-relevant statistics in all contexts and for countries at all stages of development
- Solutions to respond to emerging issues

Data & analytics

SELECTED EXAMPLES:
- Data and metadata for 48* SDG indicators
- Free and easy access to data for decision-making and policy needs
- Data products to showcase the stories behind data

* as of 2022

Brokerage & Country Support

SELECTED EXAMPLES:
- Global consensus and commitment on key decisions for measuring SDG 4 progress
- Guidance and support to Member States and partners

Product examples:

Standards & Methodologies

- Guidelines for Data Collection to Measure SDG 4.4.2

Data & analytics

- Higher education figures at a glance
- Global Education Observatory

Brokerage & Country Support

- SETTING COMMITMENTS COUNTRIES’ NATIONAL SDG 4 BENCHMARKS
- COVID-19 in sub-Saharan Africa: Monitoring Impacts on Learning Outcomes
- Continental Overview: Bridging CESA and SDG 4 in Africa

Continental Overview:

Bridging CESA and SDG 4 in Africa

Africa Regional Report

December 2020

Continental Overview:

Bridging CESA and SDG 4 in Africa
Where UIS data are used

UIS data are needed to produce key international indices and reports

**A FEW EXAMPLES:**

- Human Development Index (HDI)
- Gender Inequality Index (GII)
- SDG Indicator Database
- Global Knowledge Index (GKI)
- Global Competitiveness Index
- Global Gender Gap
- Global Innovation Index
- Human Development Report (UNPD)
- The State Of The World's Children (Unicef)

- Sustainable Development Goals Report (UN)
- World Development Indicators (WBG)
- Measuring The Information Society (ITU)
- Global Education Monitoring Report (UNESCO)
- Unesco Science Report (UNESCO)
- Re | Shaping Cultural Policies (UNESCO)

“The data generated by the UNESCO Institute for Statistics is the primary source of comparable information that the Global Education Monitoring Report needs to update the international community on progress towards SDG4.”

——Global Education Monitoring Report
How we work

The UIS partners with a variety of multilateral agencies, regional and national organizations, governments, civil society groups, and other partners to research, implement, innovate and deliver our results.

DATA FOR:

Policy-Making & Benchmarking
- UN agencies
- Regional stakeholders (e.g. African Union)
- National governments

Research
- Researchers and academia

Advocacy
- Civil society
- Non-governmental organizations
- Media
How we are funded

The UIS is funded by UNESCO, governments, multilateral organizations and foundations.

CONTRIBUTIONS EITHER SUPPORT CORE ACTIVITIES OR FUND PROJECTS:

Core Activities:
(unearedmarked or earmarked for education funding)
work within the UIS mandate, such as
• data collection,
• indicator production,
• capacity development,
• data products dissemination,
• research and innovation.

Such activities span over many years and require consistent, long-term funding.

Projects:
(earmarked funding)
time-bound, output-specific activities which last 1 to 3 years.

They are not expected to continue after the planned output is delivered.

UIS is constantly searching for multi-year funding partnerships to continue delivering our products and services, while maintaining excellence, transparency, and the ability to respond to new challenges.

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