



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



UNESCO  
INSTITUTE  
FOR  
STATISTICS

# Global Alliance to Monitor Learning: Strategic Planning Committee

## Terms of reference

GAML4/REF/1



## Overview

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) represent a paradigm shift in the way that the world community seeks to address entrenched challenges and emergent opportunities, including in the field of education.

SDG 4 raises the bar on global aspirations for education. By seeking to “ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all”, the emphasis has shifted to meaningful participation by all, with five of the seven SDG 4 targets focused on measurable and cross-nationally comparable learning outcomes (4.1, 4.2, 4.4, 4.6 and 4.7).

The Global Alliance to Monitor Learning (GAML) has been convened in order to play a critical role in operationalising SDG 4, through a focus on:

- extending the collection and availability of learning achievement data to better understand learner successes and challenges;
- enabling the comparability of learning achievement to track progress and identify areas for action; and
- building capacity and mobilising resources to support all countries in the drive towards achievement of the 2030 education goals.

## Committee Purpose and Functions

The GAML Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) has oversight of GAML, the operational effectiveness of the GAML agenda, and the positioning of GAML within the broader SDG environment.

The SPC has the following priorities:

1. To shape overall GAML governance, to provide and maintain clarity on:
  - GAML policy directions
  - Decision making processes within the GAML partnership
  - Practical connections with the broader SDG 4 environment
  - Communications and advocacy approaches for GAML
  - Progressing a multi-year agenda, defined by GAML members, most notably the GAML Results Framework.
2. To track progress of the GAML agenda, with a focus on:
  - Monitoring resource mobilization efforts in support of GAML
  - Maximising the use of expertise, drawn primarily from GAML stakeholders
  - Successes and challenges in realising the GAML agenda, as defined in GAML policy and operational documents, and the GAML Results Framework



- Identifying barriers and enablers of the GAML agenda
  - Reviewing and advising GAML bodies on annual and medium-term plans.
3. To keep under review the value-added of the GAML agenda, by:
- Assessing the objectives of the GAML agenda and its underpinning governance and management structures, at least annually
  - Liaising with members of the GAML partnership
  - Liaising with relevant entities with a stake in SDG 4 and the broader SDG agenda
  - Assessing the degree to which GAML is achieving its performance targets.

## Membership

The SPC is comprised of an SPC Chair, the UIS Director, and seven members that represent the following constituencies:

- International organisations (UN, multilateral banks, OECD) (1)
- Civil society (1)
- Teacher unions (1)
- Regional learning assessment organisations (1)
- Global learning assessment organisations (1)
- Country representatives (2).

Committee members will be proposed by UIS management to the relevant constituencies. The SPC Chair will be appointed by UIS management. The SPC Chair and SPC members will serve a two-year term, with the possibility for one additional term.

The process for the selection of subsequent Chairs and members will be considered by the SPC membership, with a proposal to the GAML partnership (or an appropriately representative GAML committee or grouping) in a period prior to the completion of the first two-year cycle.

## Meetings

The SPC will have face-to-face meetings at least once annually, co-timed with GAML meetings. The SPC will have virtual meetings on a bi-annual basis, or more frequently, as necessary.

Travel costs for SPC members will be covered by the UIS, with the exception of members representing the International Organisations constituency and members representing developed economies. Committee members drawn from well-funded institutions are strongly encouraged to meet relevant travel costs.