Background

Since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, most governments worldwide have implemented policies to contain the disease’s spread. While incurring high economic costs, restrictive procedures such as schools’ closures and the changes of learning methods risk hindering effective learning during the pandemic and the progress made towards achieving Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG 4).

Up-to-date information on the impacts of policy interventions and responses at the global level is needed to support subsequent educational planning and programming to deploy effective learning strategies.

The Survey of National Education Responses to COVID-19, jointly conducted by UNESCO, UNICEF, the World Bank, and most recently the OECD, has collected such information through two iterations in 2020 which was captured in an initial report. Responses to the third iteration in February-April 2021 are captured in the current joint report. The survey is coordinated and administered by the UNESCO Institute of Statistics.
Questions the webinar will address

The webinar will present the report of the results obtained during the most recent data collection and invite the discussion of the findings, which provide the latest snapshot of the COVID-19 impact on various aspects related to the education systems, as well as the policies implemented to assess and remediate them, including strategies to ensure equity and safe reopening of schools for all.

The survey generated inputs for a variety of issues touching upon school calendar and curricula, distance education, teachers, assessment, financing, equity, and health protocols – to name a few. As such, the webinar will delve into the survey results by addressing the following questions:

- What policies were implemented by countries in 2021 to mitigate learning losses, including assessments and remedial strategies?
- How effective were the distance learning modalities deployed, and what efforts were made to boost access particularly among the most vulnerable?
- What additional support was provided to teachers, students, and their parents during pandemic?
- How did countries address the re-opening of schools? What additional supports were assured to ensure a safe return for all?
- What steps were undertaken to ensure equity in offering learning solutions and safe return to school?
- What key areas should be further explored in future iterations of the survey?

Format

This 120-minute webinar will include panelists from UNESCO, UNICEF, OECD, and the World Bank. A moderator will facilitate the discussion, and a Q&A session will follow.

Audience

The webinar is primarily directed to ministry of education officials, staff from international organizations and other agencies working on the education response to COVID-19, researchers as well as other interested partners and stakeholders.

Participation

The webinar will be held in English with simultaneous interpretation to French and Spanish, conducted through the Zoom webinar platform.

Interested participants are kindly invited to register here.

For more information about the event please visit this page

The event can also be followed live using this link (to be provided).
### Agenda

**Tuesday, 13 July 2021**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11:00-11:10 EST</td>
<td><strong>Opening of session and welcoming remarks</strong>&lt;br&gt;UNESCO</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:10-12:10 EST</td>
<td><strong>Panel discussion</strong>&lt;br&gt;Moderator: Nicolas Reuge, UNICEF&lt;br&gt;Panellists:&lt;br&gt;• UNESCO&lt;br&gt;• UNICEF&lt;br&gt;• World Bank&lt;br&gt;• OECD</td>
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<td>12:10-12:45 EST</td>
<td><strong>Questions &amp; Answers</strong>&lt;br&gt;Moderator: Nicolas Reuge, UNICEF</td>
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<td>12:45-13:00 EST</td>
<td><strong>Closing remarks</strong>&lt;br&gt;Manos Antoninis (GEMR)&lt;br&gt;Marie-Helene Doumet (OECD)</td>
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