MEETING OF MEMBERS OF THE TCG
CONCEPT NOTE

6 February 2024
INTRODUCTION

With the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at the UN General Assembly in September 2015 and the Education 2030 Framework for Action (FFA) at the UNESCO General Conference in November 2015, attention has turned to the development of processes and plans to monitor progress towards the targets associated with SDG4 on education.

At the level of global monitoring, the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on the Sustainable Development Goal Indicators (IAEG-SDGs) developed a global indicator framework which was agreed by the UN Statistical Commission in March 2016, further refined in March 2017 and formally adopted by the UN General Assembly in July 2017.

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. Since its inception, the TCG took major decisions following consultation with its members, allowing to monitor progress and to report on SDG4 indicators (see Annex 1).

The TCG plays a crucial role in establishing standards and developing methodologies: it worked extensively to ensure that all education indicators move from Tier III (with no methodology, no data) or Tier II (no methodology, with data) to Tier I (with methodology and data). The TCG continues to address the demand for adding new indicators to the framework to encompass emerging issues. At the 9th TCG meeting in November 2022, TCG members voted on the organization of the first session of the UNESCO Conference on Education Data and Statistics. The Conference objectives will be to:

- Communicate, discuss, and reach consensus on key issues regarding concepts, definitions, methodologies, and operational aspects of SDG 4 indicator measurement in the form of
recommendations and guidelines for adoption as international standards to improve comparability.

- Debate the impact of technological developments on education statistics and ways in which the community of education statisticians can benefit from opportunities and address challenges;
- Establish the process for an international community of practice among education statisticians and the indicators’ governance mechanism.

The TCG will meet one day prior to the Conference to discuss the results of the 10th TCG meeting, which was held virtually on 11 December 2023, the membership rotation process for the period 2024-2026, and the preparations for the Conference.

OBJECTIVES

TCG members will meet on 6 February 2024 to discuss the following:

- Results of the TCG10 consultation;
- Update on the membership rotation process;
- Conference preparations.

FORMAT

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Duration</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11:00 – 11:05</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Opening</td>
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<td>11:05 – 11:20</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Results of the TCG 10 consultation</td>
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<td>11:20 – 11:30</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Update on the membership rotation process</td>
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<td>11:30 – 11:55</td>
<td>25</td>
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<td>11:55 – 12:00</td>
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<td>Closing</td>
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ANNEX I: TCG DECISIONS FROM 2016 TO 2023

TCG decisions 2016–2023

**MADRID**
- Reporting: Disagree on use of placebo/did they
- Methodological development: SDC4 indicator metadata structure developed

**DUBAI**
- Reporting: 33 indicators
- Methodological development: 12

**YEREVAN**
- Reporting: 37 indicators
- Methodological development: 10 revised
- Completion estimates approved
- Benchmarks: 7 indicators agreed

**VIRTUAL**
- Reporting: 42 indicators
- Methodological development: Out-of-school estimates approved

**VIRTUAL**
- Institutional: Position papers, TCG rotation, Conference preparation
- Methodological development: Global standards for teacher qualifications
- Eligibility criteria for Learning

**WASHINGTON DC**
- Institutional: Organization of TCG, objectives and functions
- Global and thematic indicator framework endorsed

**MONTREAL**
- Reporting: 29 indicators
- Methodological development: 10
- Discontinued: 1

**MEXICO**
- Reporting: 33 indicators
- Methodological development: 9 revised

**VIRTUAL**
- Reporting: 39 indicators
- Added: 2
- Revised: 3
- Benchmarks: Equity indicator approved

**VIRTUAL**
- Reporting: 44 indicators
- Added: 3
- Discontinued: 2
- Methodological development: National population rules defined
- Benchmark: Internet connectivity indicator approved (TEI)