



Rapporteur Summary Template

Session title: Higher Education Data Production

Time: 11.00 to 12.30, Room XII

Organizers (and co-organizers if relevant): Higher Education Section

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Guidance:

- Thank you for accepting to be Rapporteur during the 2024 Conference on Education Data and Statistics – Engagement Day.
- Kindly use the below template to share your **consolidated summary in ENGLISH**.
- This summary will be used for at least two purposes: (1) to prepare a report for the Rapporteur to report to the conference; (2) to prepare a detailed meeting report after the conference.

1. Please provide a summary or key points for each of the following elements:

Key topics in-focus

- Data challenges in general and related to monitoring SDG 4.3.2 (gross enrollment ratio for tertiary education by sex).
- Lack of data related to equity and marginalized populations in general.
- Enrollment rates for refugee youth in higher education.
- Challenges for diversified systems with diverse students.
- Comparative information for higher education policymakers and its limitations, comparisons at the system level, case studies of institutions, etc.
- International collaboration for improving data in higher education.

Main issues, key messages and takeaways (problems, solutions, future directions, etc. in **400 words**)

“Transformation” is the horizon to which all SDGs aim to contribute, with the primary purpose of **leaving no one behind**. This transformation depends on new knowledge and competencies. Consequently, building equitable, efficient, and resilient higher education systems is crucial for inclusive growth, which needs to be based on evidence-driven policy and practice.

A shared understanding of the challenges, needs, and opportunities for information generation is critical to transforming higher education and its role in development. Solidarity and collaboration in this field are inescapable, as sharing efforts and seeking synergies will allow for faster progress, higher quality, and more comparable and cost-effective information production.

Among the challenges to address, we need to consider:

- the consequences of understanding Higher Education from a lifelong learning perspective;

- equity issues and the fact that reliable data is not available on the participation of different groups, especially marginalized and refugees;
- the massive expansion, diversification and flexibility, notably in the Global South, including private providers who account for around 30% of enrollments;
- the flexible learning pathways, which are difficult to measure;
- the fact that international mobility is growing;
- the need to tackle critical barriers for reporting related to technical weakness, lack of interest and capacity, timeliness or low-quality data being reported, and scarce resources.

Takes away from the panel:

- To take care of what kind of comparative information is helpful to HE policymakers
- Address equity issues, considering access to and persistence through tertiary education as a global concern requiring sustained commitment.
- pay special attention to the growing issue of refugees who should be in tertiary education, which needs extraordinary efforts to collect data. Consider and analyze diverse institution types and delivery modes, allowing for access and choice, as well as articulated pathways for movement across the system.
- Consider technology use and its impact on HE provision, teaching and learning.
- Consider efficiency and accountability to ensure that resources are strategically used to promote desired outcomes, both public and private
- Balancing policy relevance with the burdens and costs of data collection, including taking into account essential institutional characteristics, student data, data with the highest policy relevance, what data has high initial development cost but low subsequent maintenance cost, etc.
- To build adaptive capacity or resilience, for institutions and systems to transform and nimbly take on challenges and turn them into opportunities for reflection, evaluation and evolution.

Finally,

To continue the international dialogue on how educational data and information are constructed internationally, address current challenges, and collaborate to tackle the corresponding challenges.

Relevant conference session(s) identified (Please refer to the updated conference agenda via <https://ces.uis.unesco.org/>)

- 4. Administrative data: challenges and solutions forward
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Other notes

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