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CONFERENCE ON
**EDUCATION DATA
AND STATISTICS**

CONFERENCIA SOBRE
**DATOS Y ESTADÍSTICAS
DE EDUCACIÓN**

CONFÉRENCE SUR LES
**DONNÉES ET STATISTIQUES
DE L'ÉDUCATION**

7 - 9 FEBRUARY 2024
UNESCO HEADQUARTERS, PARIS, FRANCE



**2024 CONFERENCE ON
EDUCATION DATA AND STATISTICS**

**Implementation of the International Standard
Classification of Education (ISCED):
Challenges and solutions forward**

Background of ISCED

- ▶ Comprehensive framework that facilitates transformation of national education data into internationally agreed categories that make cross-national comparisons possible.
- ▶ UIS is custodian and responsible for development, maintenance, and consistent use of ISCED for data collection and analysis.
- ▶ ISCED family classifications include:
 - ISCED-P 2011: national educational programmes
 - ISCED-A 2011: educational attainment
 - ISCED-F 2013: fields of education and training
 - ISCED-T 2021: teacher training programmes and related qualifications

Most common issues about the use of ISCED 2011 and ISCED-F 2013 ?

- ▶ Lack of harmonization in classification of national programmes
 - National education programmes not classified in correct level of ISCED (issue not intrinsic to ISCED)
 - National education programmes classified but not in a harmonised manner across countries
- ▶ Unresolved broad ISCED 2011 classification issues
 - Homeschooling
 - Classification of early childhood programmes (3 or 4) as Pre-primary (ISCED 01)
 - Academic / Professional programme definitions for Bachelor and up (ISCED 6-8)
- ▶ ISCED-F 2013
 - Field names and descriptions
e.g. “03 Social sciences, journalism and information”, “0111 Education Science”, “04 Business, administration and law”



ISCED Review Panel

- ▶ Under which conditions can home schooling be classified in ISCED 2011 as formal education?
- ▶ Under which conditions can programmes intended for children aged 3 or 4 be classified as ISCED 01?
- ▶ How can academic and professional programmes be defined for ISCED 6-8?

Recommendations expected by mid-2024



Proposed decision

International Standard Classification of Education

- ▶ *Noting* the information presented in the document ‘International Standard Classification of Education: Challenges and solutions forward’ (1 UIS/EDS/3);
- ▶ *acknowledging* the role of the UIS as the custodian of ISCED and the support provided to countries in the classification of their national programmes in accordance with ISCED;

The UNESCO Conference on Education Data and Statistics:

- ▶ *Welcomes* the establishment of the ISCED review panel by the UIS in 2023 in accordance with ISCED 2011 and 2013 classifications;
- ▶ *Invites* the TCG/EDS Commission to follow up on the results of the deliberations of the ISCED review panel



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