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
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"
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.
THANK YOU

2024 CONFERENCE ON EDUCATION DATA AND STATISTICS

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