

Regional Training Course on Education-Related SDG indicators

15-19 October 2018

Daejeon, Republic of Korea

Concept Note

I. Background and rationale

The vision set out by the United Nations General Assembly in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted on 25 September 2015 includes “A world with equitable and universal access to quality education at all levels”, i.e. “early childhood, primary, secondary, tertiary, technical and vocational training”. In this context, the Agenda furthermore emphasizes that “All people, irrespective of sex, age, race or ethnicity, and persons with disabilities, migrants, indigenous peoples, children and youth, especially those in vulnerable situations, should have access to life-long learning opportunities that help them to acquire the knowledge and skills needed to exploit opportunities and to participate fully in society. We will strive to provide children and youth with a nurturing environment for the full realization of their rights and capabilities, helping our countries to reap the demographic dividend, including through safe schools and cohesive communities and families.”

This vision and commitment is underpinned by Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4, “Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all”. SDG 4 is to be achieved by reaching seven education-specific targets by 2030, as well as three related targets for the means of implementation.

The global SDG indicator framework developed by the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators (IAEG-SDGs) on behalf of the United Nations Statistical Commission has formulated 11 indicators for SDG 4. The majority of these indicators embody multiple concepts, the measurement of which in effect requires separate indicators. This, together with the requirement expressed in the 2030 Agenda to disaggregate all indicators, to the extent possible, by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts, implies that the actual number of SDG 4 indicators relevant for countries is a multiple of 11.

The course will provide the opportunity for participants to learn concepts and frameworks on statistics and indicators related to SDG 4, with the overall aim to strengthen capacity to produce a set of statistics, including indicators, to inform education policy decisions at the national and international levels.

II. Objectives

1. Participants understand the concepts and frameworks for the production and dissemination of statistics related to SDG 4, and are able to produce selected education-related indicators using their national data
2. Participants are able to assist colleagues, whether in their own countries or elsewhere, in the compilation of the indicators

III. Expected outputs

1. Availability of quality SDG 4 indicators in countries of participants
2. Enhanced technical, including training, capacity in participating countries to produce education-related statistics

IV. Course design and contents

The course will consist of lectures, presentations, discussion sessions and hands-on exercises. Participants are expected to provide insights into the data collection and indicator compilation and dissemination processes of their countries, as well as into the major education policy issues their countries are facing.

The course will cover the following topics:

- Education-related indicators in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the SDGs
- The global perspective: Monitoring the international education agenda
- The regional perspective: Implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and achieving SDG 4 in Asia and the Pacific
- Data sources for SDG 4 indicators
- Ensuring data quality
- Methods and tools for compiling SDG 4 indicators
- Disseminating education statistics, including SDG 4 indicators
- Producing disaggregated SDG 4 indicators: Mapping equity in education
- Integrating education statistics in national statistical systems and delineating capacity requirements in National Strategies for the Development of Education Statistics and National Strategies for the Development of Statistics

The participants would be requested to make presentations on the present status of compilation of SDG 4 related indicators in their country.

V. Participants

The course is designed for mid-level statisticians from national statistical offices (1 from each invited country) and education ministries/agencies (1 from each invited country) whose main responsibilities include the production and dissemination of education-related statistics and indicators. A total number of approximately 20 participants will be invited.

VI. Pre-course requirements

1. Participants are expected to be familiar with:
 - The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
 - The latest national Education Sector Plan (ESP)
 - Education statistics produced in their country
2. Participants will be requested to provide relevant country information prior to the course as per a template to be provided to the nominated participant.
