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United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA)

Expert Group Meeting on Population, Education and Sustainable Development

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Labour market integration and basic skills are important but insufficient to meet the growing challenges of societies undergoing wide-sweeping transformations

Governance perspective: Overall responsibility of the State to guarantee education, and its role in strengthening accountability mechanisms for all actors state, non-state, and their networks—and promoting citizen engagement to enable inclusive and resilient education systems of good quality for all

Philosophical perspective: Humanistic approach education not merely as the sum of skills acquired, but as a broader societal endeavour towards human well-being that enables people to live meaningful and dignified lives

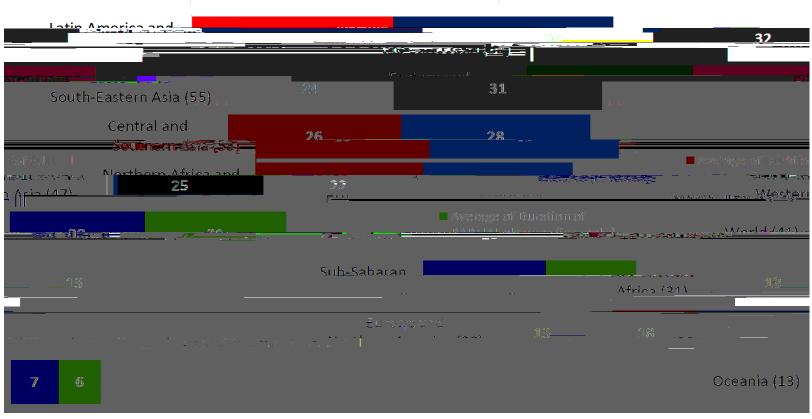


Figure 1 Average duration of full and partial school closures due to COVID-19, February 2020 to March 2022

Note: Full closures refer to instances where all schools were closed nationally due to COVID-19. Partial closures refer to school closures in some regions, or for some grades, or with reduced in-person instruction. Numbers in brackets are the total average duration of school closure per region in weeks. Totals may not add up because of rounding. Source

437 million children never reached via emergency remote instruction (UNICEF, 2020); 147 million of children missed over half of in-person instruction (United Nations, 2022)

A study of harmonized learning outcomes across 164 countries found that while years of schooling increased on average across all regions between 2000-2017, learning outcomes were highly variable across countries and regions, HICs outpacing other country groups (Angrist et al., 2021)

Globally: 53 out of every 100 children were either out of school, or in school but not learning an additional 10 of every 100 children may be added to this total (Save Our Future, 2020)

Modelling study LICs/LMICs: If learning in grade 3 is reduced by one-third, roughly the amount of time many children had already been out of school, learning levels in grade 10 will be a full year lower. And if reduced by a half, learning will be 1.5 years lower (Kaffenberger, 2021).

## Education disruption has institutional- and individual-level effects Institutional-level inequities: affect education systems governance Individual-level inequities: compound on those in existing vulnerable exclusion and new pandemic-related vulnerabilities and exclusions

Systems response: institute pro-equity measures and policies in education financing, provision, and regulation

Proactively protect and boost financial and human resources for education overall +

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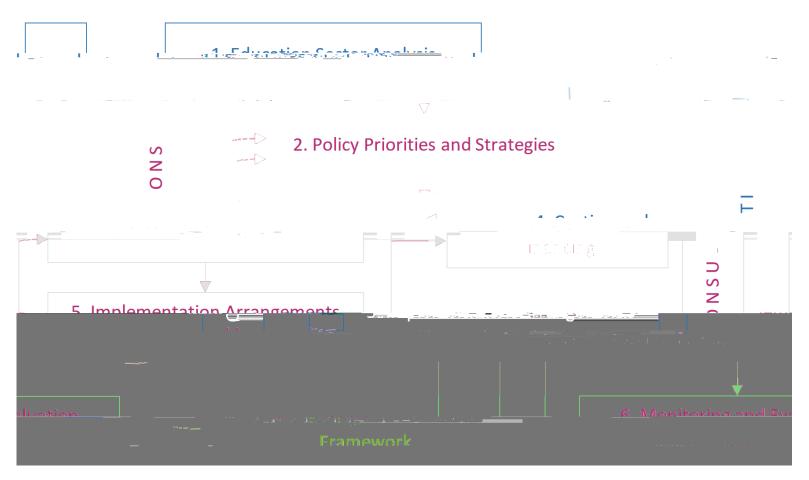
Imperative for all countries domestically, OECD DAC donors, and international organisations and actors in regional and international cooperation to:

Extend system capacities to focus on equity concerns

Be attuned to bidirectional and multi-dimensional relationships of education with other outcomes

Engage through cross-sectoral, multi-stakeholder, and multilateral coordination and collaboration

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Note: Adapted from IIEP-UNESCO and Global Partnership for Education

Source: Reproduced from Srivastava et al., 2020

## Data to support planning:

Existing education data should be disaggregated by vulnerable groups and mapped to each school community

- rapid data collection formats focusing on key indicators and sampling schools and students;
- 2. monitoring equity by overrepresenting vulnerable students (e.g., girls, students in

## Underlying dataset:

official data on all public school cases with school demographic and geolocation data previously disparate but publicly available datasets

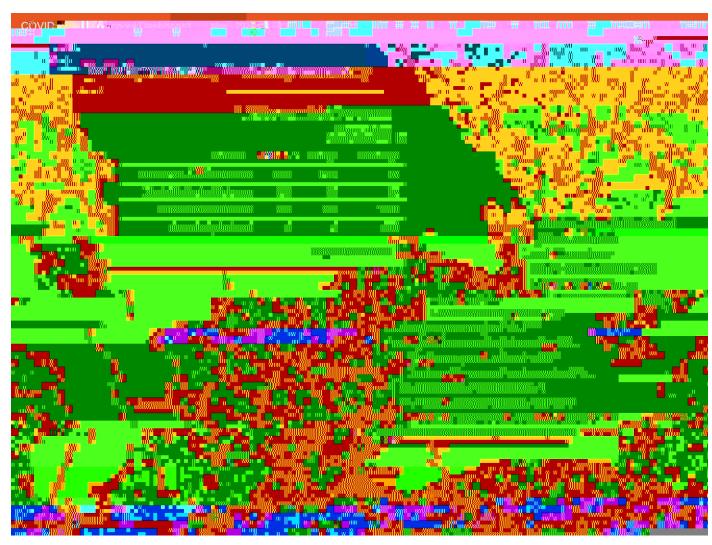
Unique school-level dataset on COVID-19 infections and equity variables:

household income, immigrant status, language, parental education

school administrative data

Implications on school infections closures and disruptions:

- School characteristics: Weak but significant effect of low household income on elementary school student infections.
- Area marginalization characteristics: Very strong significant effect of marginalization on elementary school student infections (Srivastava et al., 2022)
- 3 Levels of disruption: individual, class, school



Srivastava & Taylor (2021) (v. 1.1) https://github.com/connor-cozens/covid19-school-dashboard

Recommendation 1: Institute a long-term crisis-sensitive approach with collaborative cross-sectoral participation and citizen engagement

Recommendation 2: Prepare resilient systems for the future by reinforcing risk-informed educational planning and integrating equity-oriented analysis

Recommendation 3: Actively implement targeted open and public initiatives for citizen engagement to enable accountability and transparency in education and ensure participation from marginalized groups

Recommendation 4: Reassess partnerships between state and non-state actors to ensure they meet collective goals

Recommendation 5: Institute collective action across the humanitariandevelopment spectrum and enrich international cooperation beyond North-South engagement Srivastava, P., Cardini, A., Matovich, I., Bhatty, K., Gagnon, A.A., Jenkins, R., Mundy, K., Reuge, N., Séguin, T., & Interagency Network for Education in Emergencies Secretariat. (In press.) Education recovery for stronger collective futures. Policy brief for T20 Task Force 5 on Inequality, Social Cohesion, and Human Capital. 2022 T20 Indonesia.

Srivastava, P., Cardini, A., Anderson, S., Bhatty, K., Gagnon, A.A., Jenkins, R., Matovich, I., Moriarty, K., Reuge, N.,