



United Nations  
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UNESCO  
INSTITUTE  
FOR  
STATISTICS

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## Assessment of Equity in Education

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## Outcome Targets [7]

- 4.1 Quality primary/secondary education for all
- 4.2 Early childhood & pre-primary education
- 4.3 Equal access to TVET & higher education
- 4.4 Relevant skills for work
- 4.5 Gender equality & equal access for all
- 4.6 Youth and adult literacy
- 4.7 Global citizenship education for sustainability

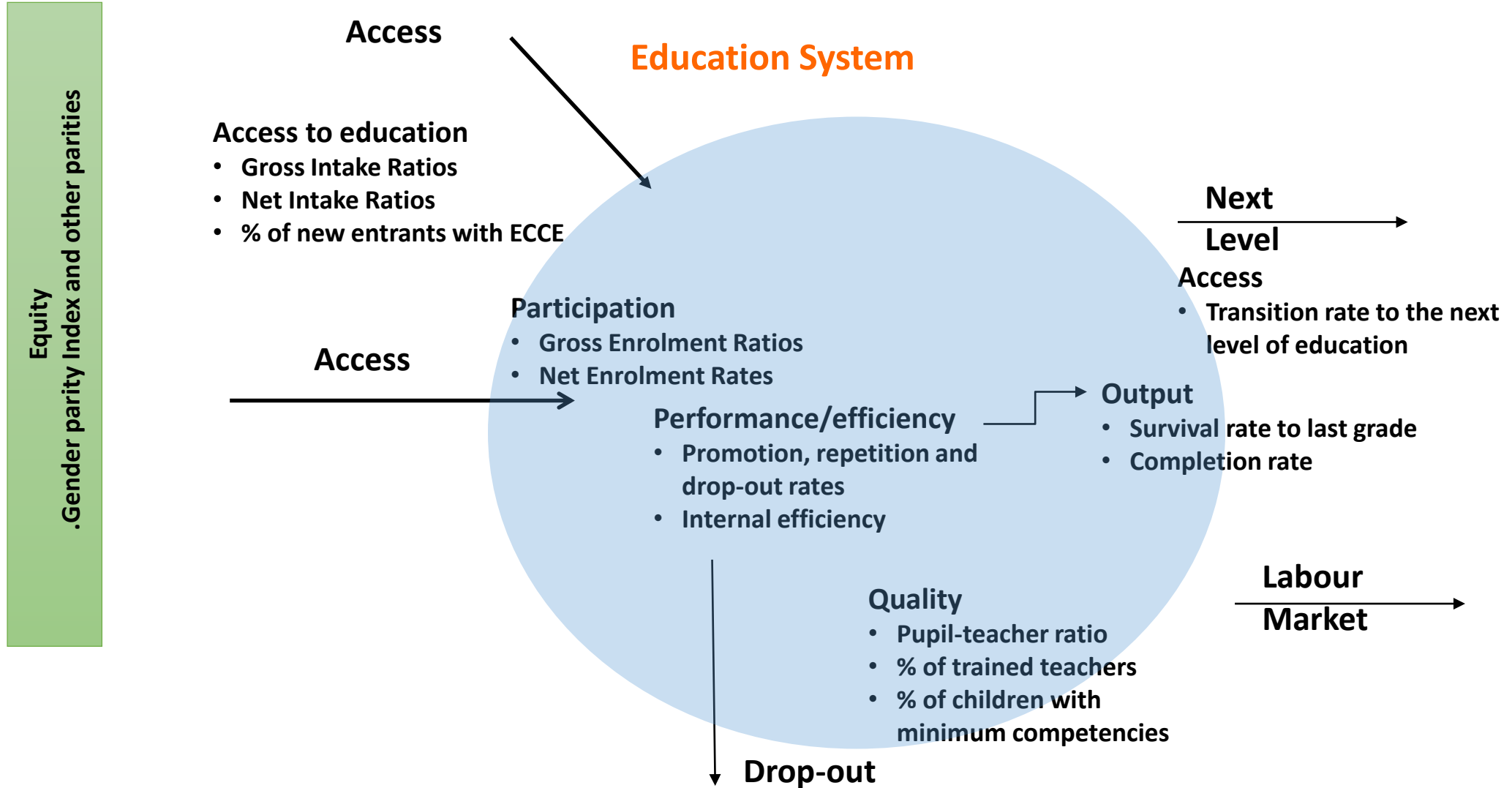
## Means of implementation [3]

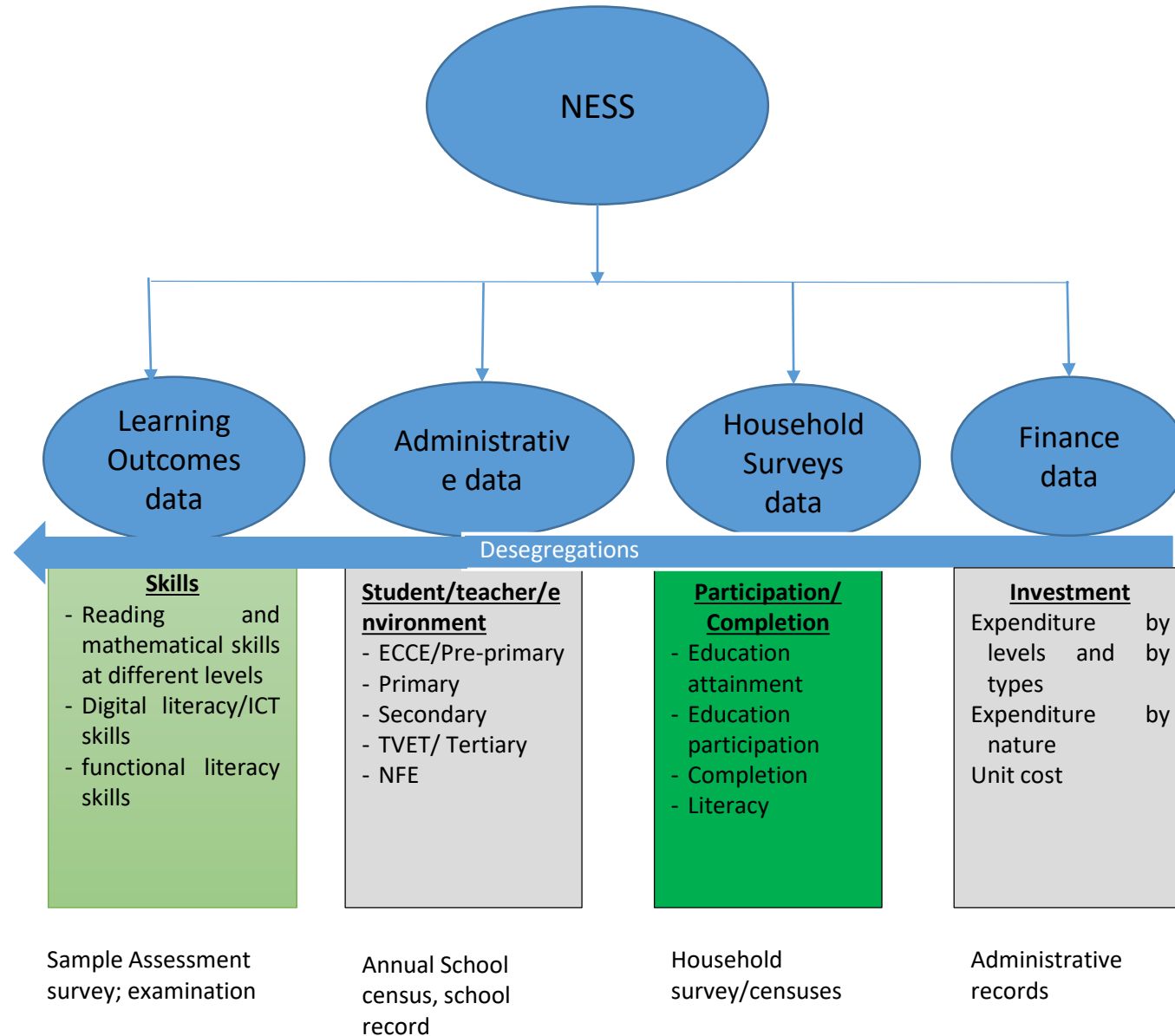
- 4.a Safe & inclusive learning environments
- 4.b Scholarships for higher education
- 4.c Teachers' training and working conditions



- SDG 4 consists of **7+3 targets** and **43 indicators**. There are **4 monitoring levels**.
- The **11 global indicators** are led by *IAEG-SDGs*. *TCG SDG4-ED2030* leads the methodological development and implementation of the **43 thematic indicators**.

- **Broad scope across the life cycle:** Indicators for areas which are on the “margins” of the formal education system, but recognized as critically important to achieving the development goals (levels and types)
- **Education quality:** results of learning at all stages of education provision or learning opportunities
- **Equity:** measures that capture those who are excluded from education provision or learning opportunities



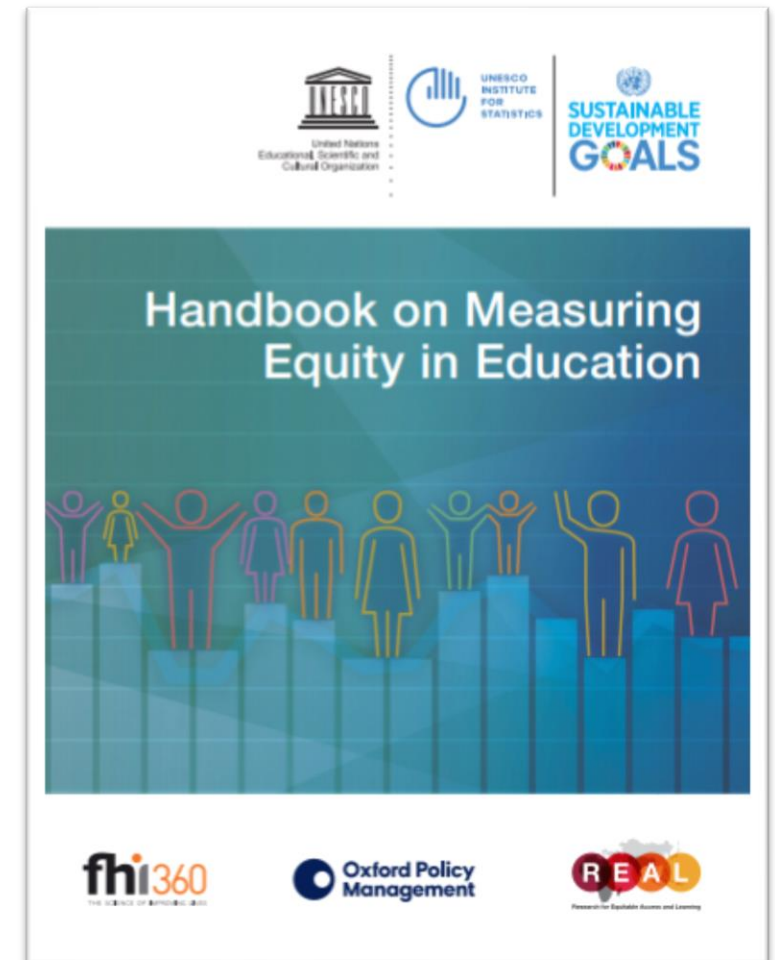


<http://uis.unesco.org/sites/default/files/documents/handbook-measuring-equity-education-2018-en.pdf>

*How much more bitter that lesson becomes when they realize that they are **excluded** because of **who** or **where they are**.*

*In effect, an **accident of birth** means that they are **the losers in the education lottery**.*

*As if they didn't have enough problems, they are also **invisible in the data**. We simply **don't know enough** about them.*





### 1. Why does equity in learning matter so much?

- For **moral** and **political** reasons: Equity by definition is about whether the distribution of education is fair, just and impartial.
- For **instrumental** reasons: Policy and programmes to improve learning outcomes for all will often require resources to be targeted towards those who are worst off, and the most unfair systems are often those that produce the worst average outcomes. In other words, equity in learning gives each child the chance of a level playing field in education.

### 2. How do we measure it?

- What **approaches** can we take to measure whether that playing field is truly level?

Educational opportunities are distributed on the basis of *merit* (e.g. exams).

Mechanism for compensation of initial disadvantage by e.g. distributing educational inputs *unequally* to compensate for existing disadvantages.

**Meritocracy**

Educational opportunities must be at least the *same* for everyone below a certain threshold (e.g. MDG-2)

**Redistribution**

## 5 Principles to Guide the Measurement of Equity

**Minimum Standards**

Educational opportunities must be the same for *everyone* in the population, regardless of their different circumstances (every child receives *same investment, equal treatment*).

Educational opportunities should be distributed *equally with respect to differences* which should be irrelevant, e.g. gender, ethnicity, language, location, wealth, disability etc.

it is unfair to discriminate by characteristics

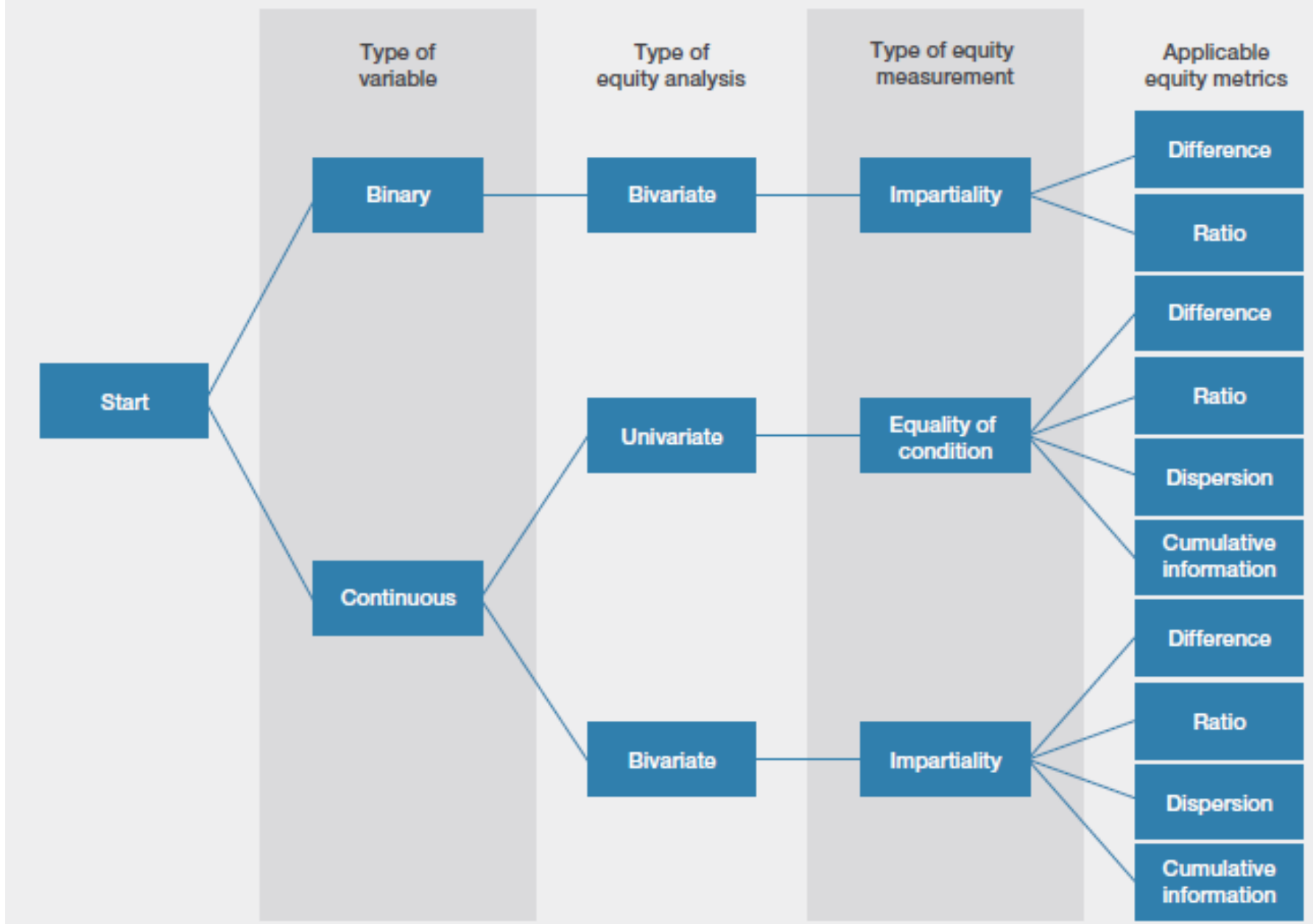
Focuses on the dispersion of education in the population

**Equality of Condition**

**Impartiality**

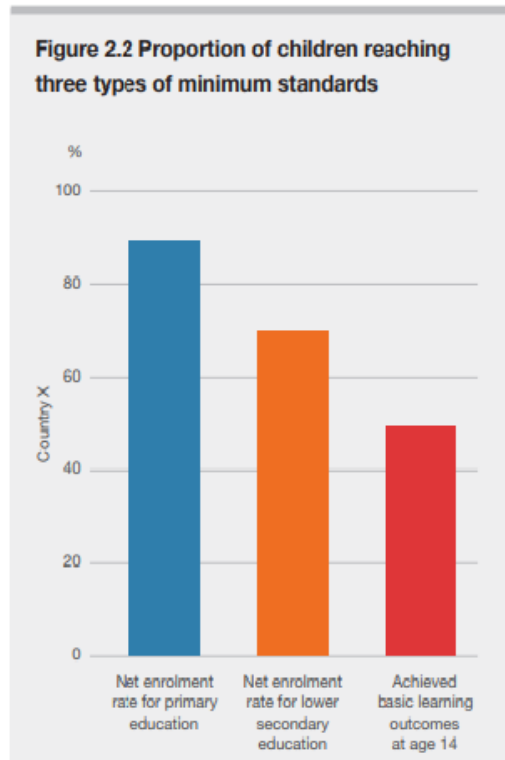


Figure 3.7 Decision tree for equity analysis and applicable metrics



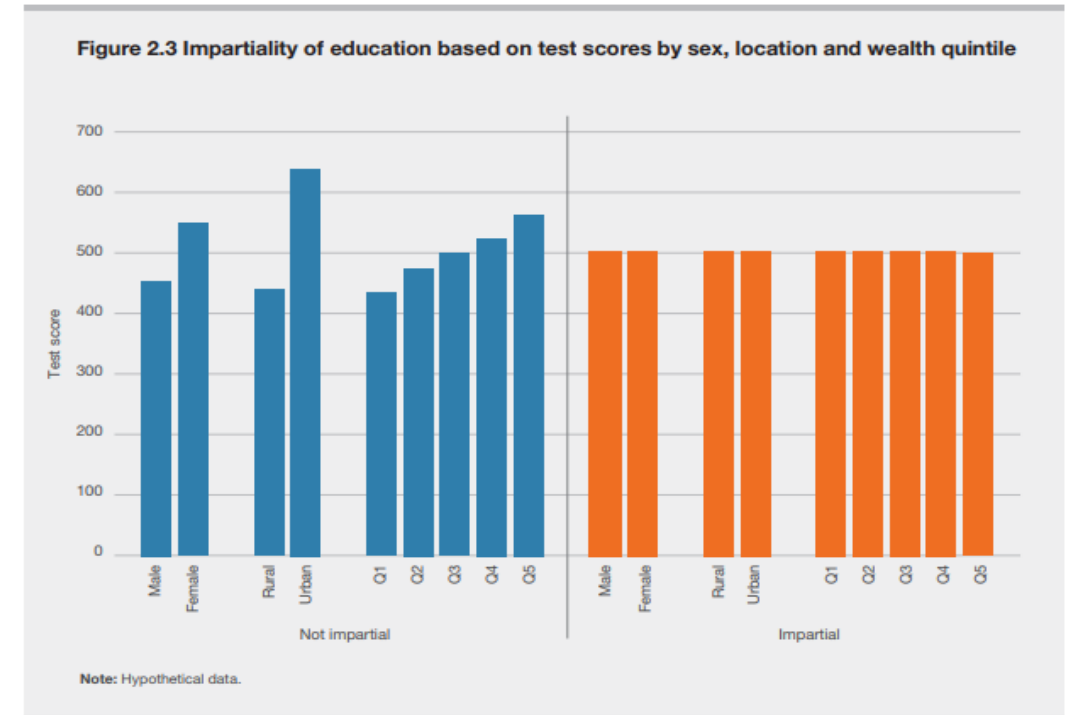
## Minimum standards

- Binary educational variable( e.g. child is in school or not; completed primary education or not, have basic reading skills or not)
- If everyone achieved this minimum standards, then the educational opportunity is equally distributed

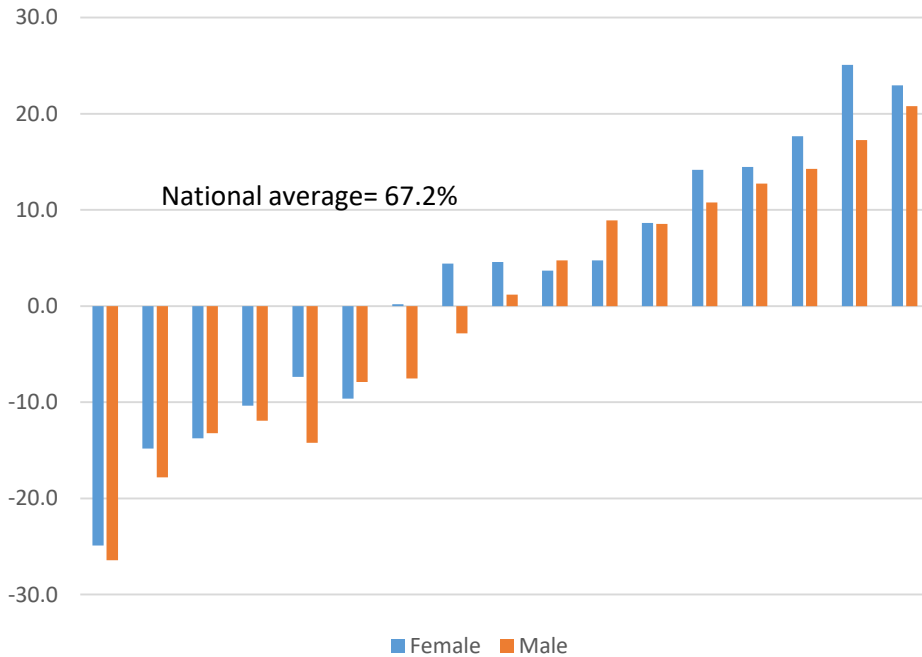


## Impartiality

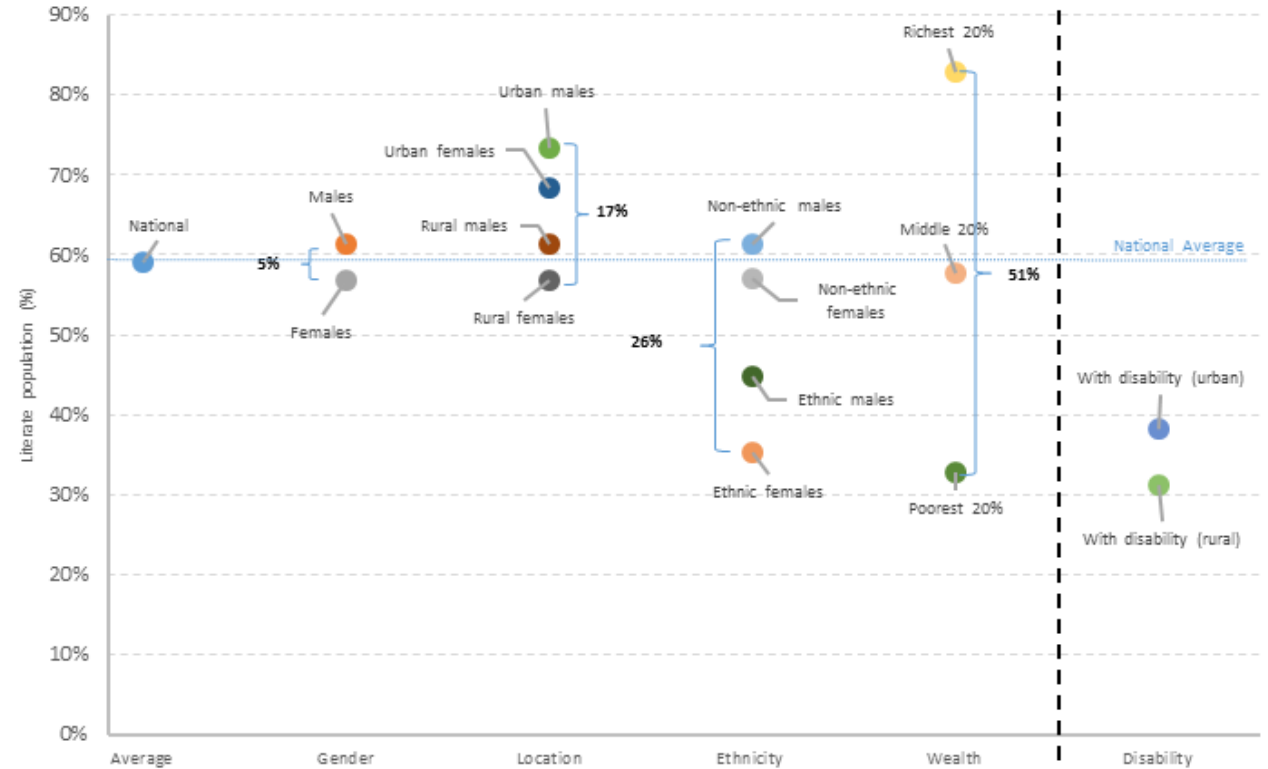
- Education doesn't depend on background characteristics
- Differences/gaps shouldn't be there due to groups characteristics ( location, wealth, ethnicity, disabilities)



Variation in cohort completion rate for primary level by provinces, Lao PDR, 2011-12

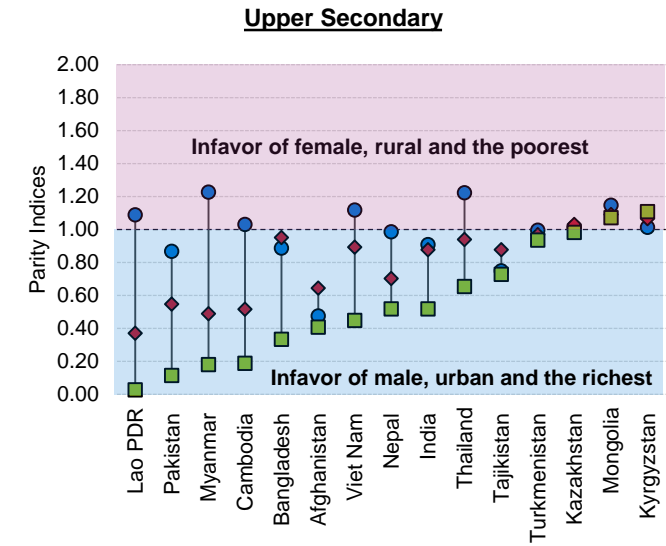
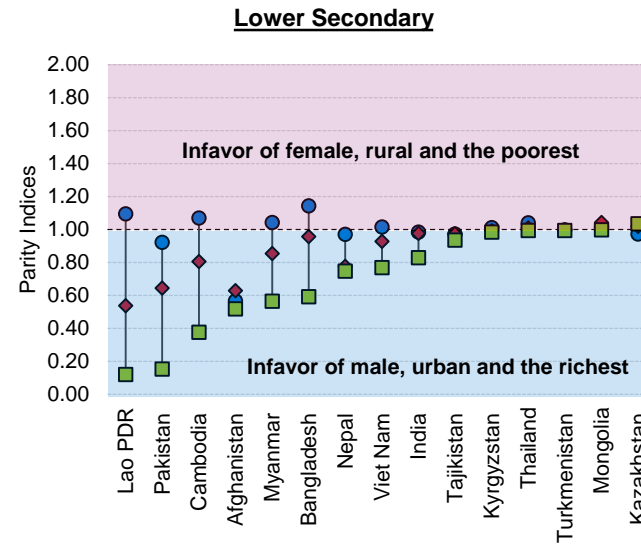
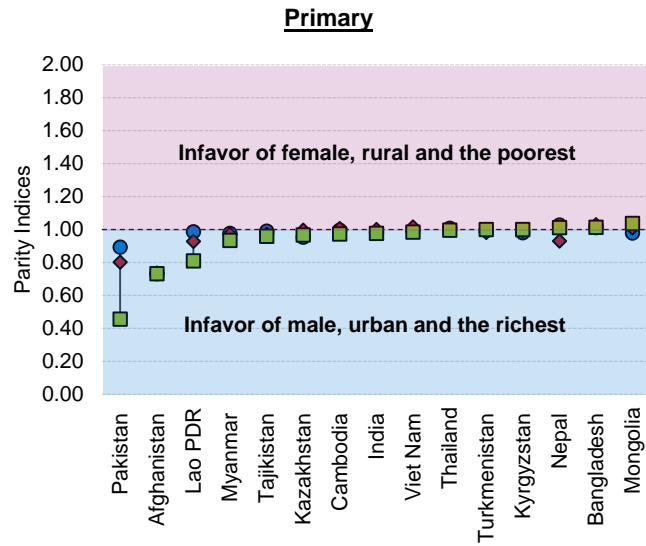


Literacy rate for the population 7+ years in Bangladesh, Multiple deprivation

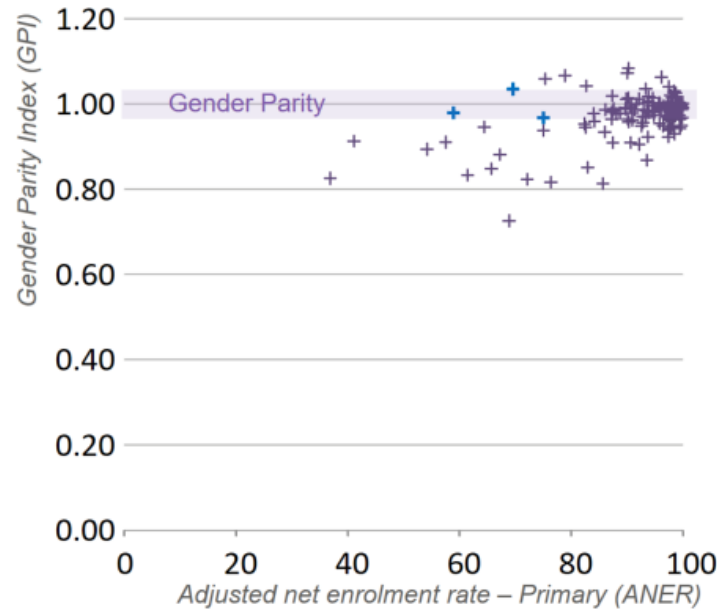


- Value of single indicator by different social groups
- Distance from average
- Gap between various groups
- Closing the gap/differences shows the distribution is becoming impartial

# Measuring Inequity using Parity Indices



EQUITY CAN NOT BE LOOKED AT INDEPENDENTLY FROM ACTUAL LEVELS OF INDICATORS



# Measuring Inequity through co-variations ( Regression or correlation coefficients)

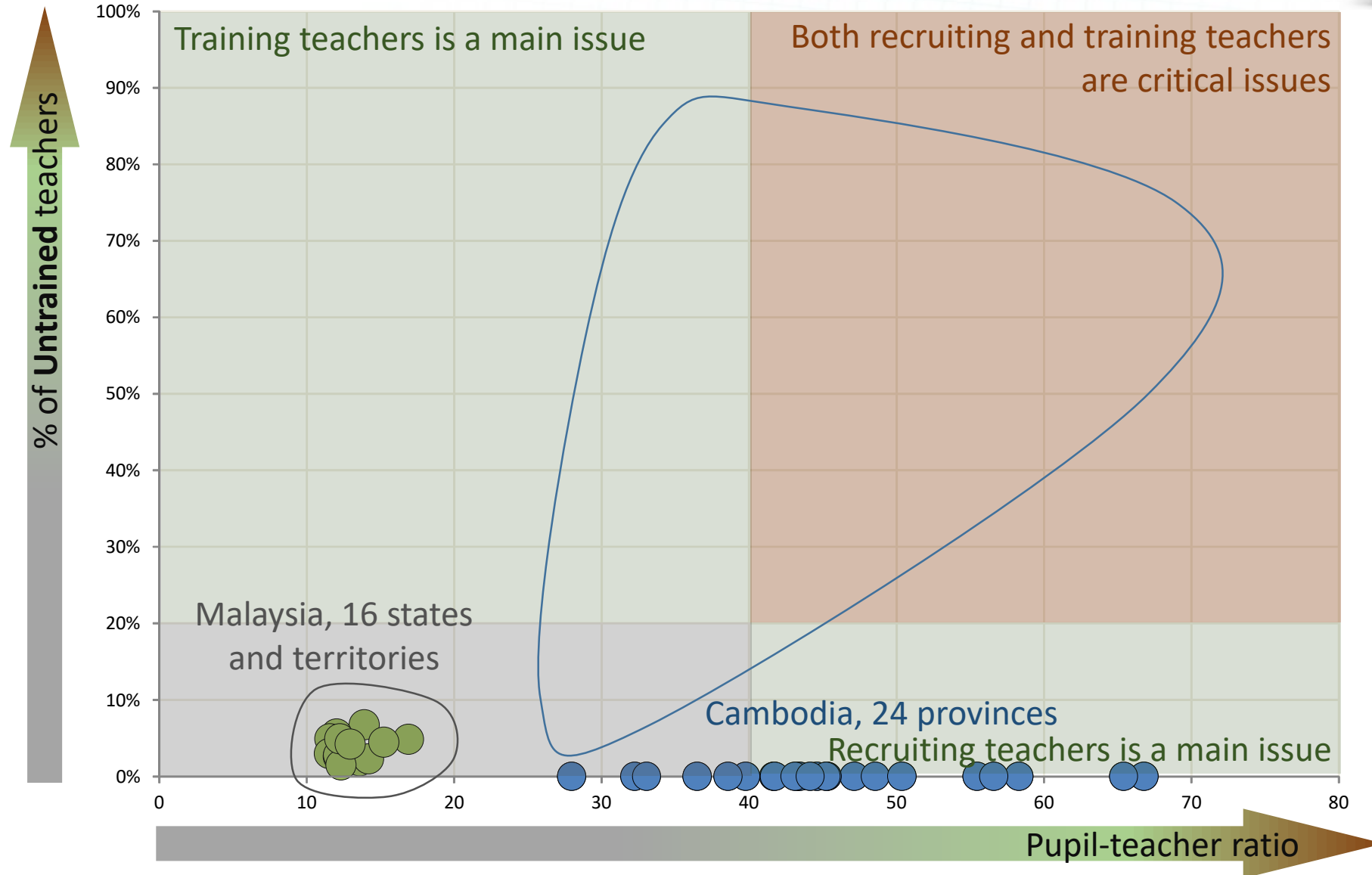


Coefficient of Determination ( $R^2$ ) measure the level of impartiality in distribution of education opportunities

## Other measurements

- Variance or standard deviation
- Coefficient of variation
- Average absolute deviation (difference from the mean) in the indicator.

# Equitable Distribution of Resources





- Collected through annual school census- collects aggregated data ( most of the cases) and limited to formal education
- Administrative data sources in Education are fragmented and data collection procedures, methodologies and production might differ from each sub sectors
- Disaggregated mainly by:
  - Location ( Administrative Village/Municipality/district/province/region/)
  - Gender
  - Age
  - Educational levels
  - Some countries also tries to include ethnicity, disabilities, however, quality is always an issue
- Limited use of data/lack of capacity

- Actual measurement of skills ( what is minimum competencies in your country at different levels ?)
- Various types of learning assessment with different framework- difficult to compare the results
- International assessments such as PISA, PASEC, TIMSS, EGRA, EGMA etc. – but coverage is limited
- National Assessment systems are in place, however, capacity is still limited
- Most of such assessment focus on school population and out of school children are not included. Some assessment start including OOSC as well.
- Testing language is mainly on national or official languages and do not provide opportunity for ethnic children to take test in their languages

**Global Alliance for Monitoring Learning (GAML)** is building consensus on the international reporting and measurement of learning. It is developing:

- All of the SDG 4 global and thematic indicators related to learning and skills as well as the methodological tools and standards needed to ensure global comparability;
- Standards, guidelines and tools to help countries strengthen the implementation of their assessments and evaluate their quality; and
- Capacity-development tools to support countries in collecting, analysing and using learning assessment data

<http://gaml.uis.unesco.org/>

## Analysis of 75 National Education Sector Plans

- National Education Plans are not prepared well to address the issues of inequalities
- Mostly sex disaggregation has been commonly foreseen ( reducing gaps between male and female )
- Some cases, Location is addressed ( e.g. urban and rural disparity in primary education will be reduced to less than 20%)
- Wealth and disabilities are least addressed

Table 4.1 Indicators included in national education plans

	Among global and thematic indicators for SDG 4?	Equity?	Dimension			
			Sex	Location	Wealth	Disability
<b>Learning</b>						
Percentage of students proficient in reading for an education level						
Percentage of students proficient in mathematics for an education level						
Percentage of students achieving minimum grade/score in national examinations	Yes	Yes	-	0	0	0
Percentage of students passing national examinations at the end of each education level		Yes	-	0	0	0
Percentage of students achieving minimum proficiency level (reading and mathematics) at end of the grade/education level	Yes	Yes	-	0	0	0
Learning achievement rates in examinations improved to "x %" by year "y"		Yes	-	0	0	0
Average percentage of correct answers in national examinations (reading and mathematics)						
<b>Access: Participation</b>						
Number of new entrants per education level		Yes	+	-	0	-
Gross enrolment ratio	Yes	Yes	+	-	0	-
Net enrolment rate		Yes	+	-	0	-
Gender parity index	Yes	Yes	-	0	0	0
<b>Access: Completion</b>						
Retention rate per grade or education level						
Drop out rate by grade/education level		Yes	-	0	0	0
Survival rate by education level						
Completion rate by education level	Yes	Yes	++	0	0	0
Transition rate to next education level		Yes	-	-	0	0
<b>Free Education</b>						
Education provision per education level guaranteed for all by year "x"						
Abolish fees for education level "x" by year "y"						
Number of years of compulsory schooling	Yes, under the category "participation"					

**Notes:** ++ High frequency indicators: indicators most commonly found in the different education levels when compared to other indicators for the same category (i.e. learning, access, free education) in the reviewed national education plans.  
 + Frequent indicators: indicators commonly found in the different education levels when compared to other indicators for the same category (i.e. learning, access, free education) in the reviewed national education plans.  
 - Low frequency indicators: indicators least commonly found in the different education levels when compared to other indicators for the same category (i.e. learning, access, free education) in the reviewed national education plans.  
 0 Indicators: indicators not found or almost not found in the different education levels when compared to other indicators for the same category (i.e. learning, access, free education) in the reviewed national education plans.

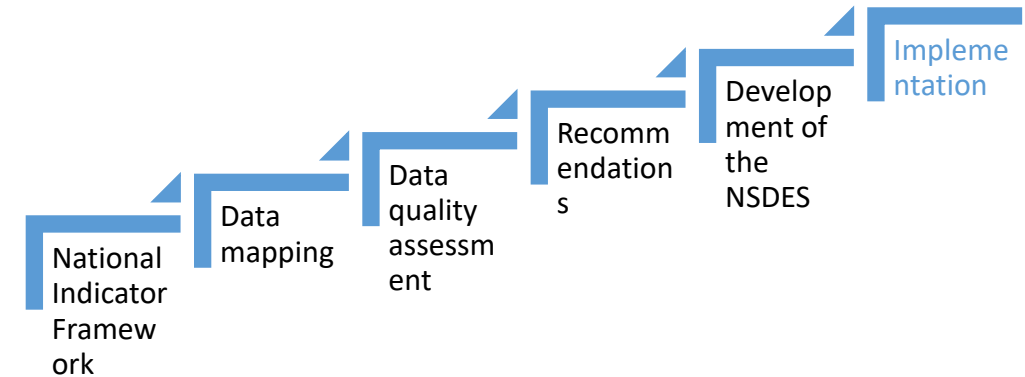
Source: Authors' analysis of 75 national education plans.

## 1. National Strategies for Development of Education Statistics ( NSDES)

- A **policy instrument** designed by government and its partners (ie. the EDP) to provide a **medium-term vision** for a strengthened education data system and data management platform in the country: the National Education Statistics System (NESS)- **Addressing the equity through data policy**
- It is **results-oriented**, outlining a coherent set of intended changes in the production, reporting and use of education statistics.
- It is based on a **sound analysis**, ie. *the Data Quality Assessments (DQA)*.
- *Participating countries= Nepal, Bangladesh, Afghanistan, Cambodia and Myanmar*

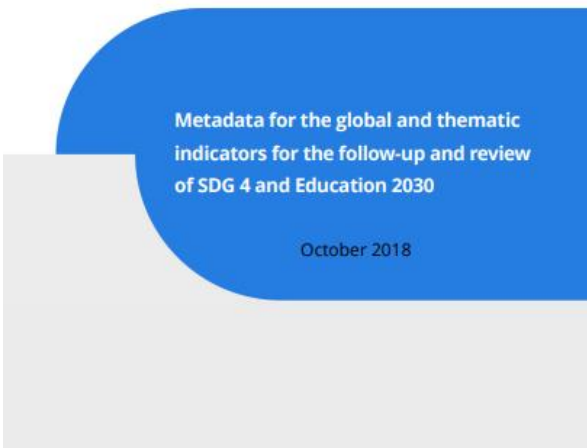
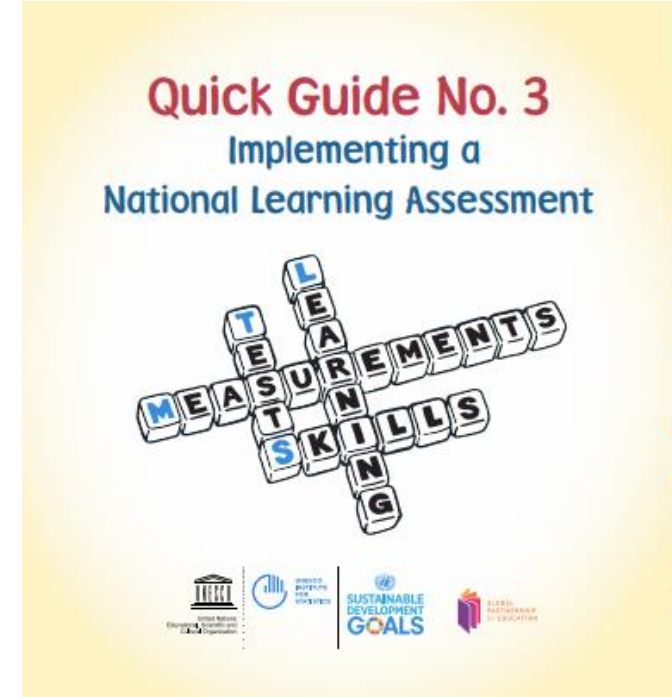
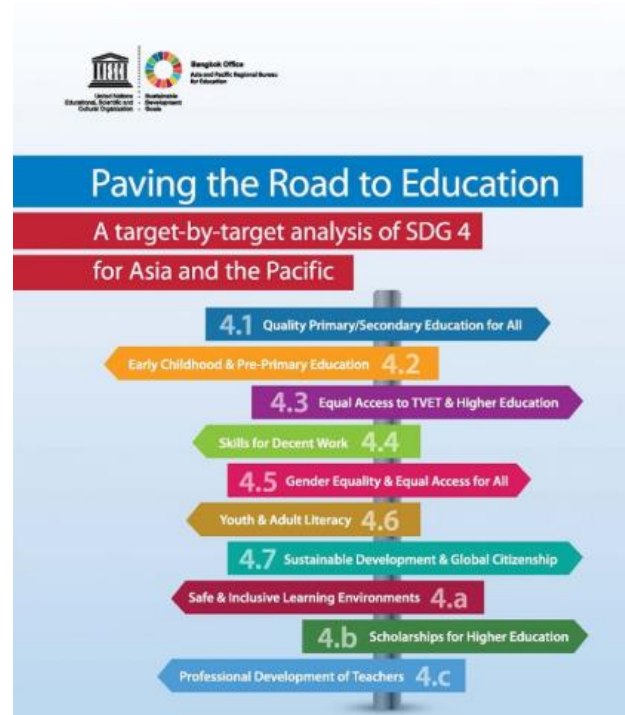
## 2. Improving EMIS through collecting Individual level data

- Individual student's detailed records by age, sex, cast/ethnicity, grade etc.;
- Individual teacher's records by age, sex, ethnicity, training, qualification, subject, grades, salary, subject teaching by grade;
- Students learning achievements;
- Efficient and effortless data transfer
- Nepal, the Philippines, Timor Leste, Republic of Korea etc.



## 3. Education Data Integration

- Brings all the education data together
- EMIS, NFE-MIS,
- TVET-MIS, HEMIS,
- Finance etc.
- Child welfare, labor data
- Demographic data etc.
- E.g. Fiji, RoK



Questions/Clarification??

Visit UIS data Centre

<http://data.uis.unesco.org/>



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