## Directory of statistical services of international organisations

#### **UNESCO Institute for Statistics**



Brief
description of
the
organisation <sup>1</sup>

- The UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS) is the statistical office of UNESCO and the United Nations depository for global statistics in the fields of education, science and technology, culture, and communication.
- Based in Montreal, the Institute was created in 1999 to meet the growing demand for policy-relevant, timely, and reliable statistics needed by UNESCO Member States and the international community.

### Mission<sup>2</sup>

- The UIS mission is to provide the data and methodologies to monitor trends internationally in UNESCO's fields of competence. This involves close working relationships with national statisticians in countries at all stages of development.
- The UIS is the official data source for the education-related targets of the Millennium Development Goals and Education for All. More than 200 countries and territories participate in its annual education survey.

# Fields of Activity/ structure

**Statistics** 

The Institute's main services include:

- collecting and disseminating statistics in education, science and technology, culture, and communication;
- setting and applying standards to compare data internationally;
- ▶ helping Member States to improve the quality and analysis of their data;
- monitoring progress towards international development goals, especially concerning gender;
- designing new indicators to better reflect the policy needs of developing countries; and
- promoting wider use of data for policymaking.

To deliver these services, the UIS works closely with other statistical organizations, such as Eurostat and OECD. Most importantly, the UIS works closely with national statisticians in more than 200 countries and territories to improve data quality at the national and international levels. National statisticians and policy-planners take part in UIS training workshops, technical assistance projects as well as bilateral and regional consultations to improve data collection

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Description of the statistics section/department in the organization

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Mission of the statistics section/department of the organization

	<ul> <li>tools and the comparability of international statistics, especially in the field of education.</li> <li>The UIS also develops new statistical frameworks and assessments, such as the Literacy Assessment and Monitoring Programme, which is designed to provide countries at all stages of development with a complete diagnostic on adult literacy skills.</li> </ul>
Mandate	<ul> <li>See general description and mission statement.</li> <li>As an autonomous organization, the Institute has its own Governing Board that consists of 12 experts, representing different regions and international organizations.</li> </ul>
Statistical work programme	<ul> <li>The UIS Medium-Term Strategy for 2008 – 2013 provides an overview of the Institute's priorities, major activities, strategic orientations and resources. In particular, it highlights new directions designed to improve data quality at the international and national levels.</li> <li>The strategy is the basis for annual programmes that set more detailed objectives for each year.</li> <li>http://www.uis.unesco.org/ev.php?ID=7018_201&amp;ID2=DO_TOPIC</li> </ul>
Number of staff Total / Statistical division	■ About 100 worldwide
Flagship Publications	<ul> <li>Global Education Digest</li> <li>The UIS is the primary source of education and literacy for leading publications and databases, such as: • EFA Global Monitoring Report • World Development Indicators (World Bank) • Human Development Report (UNDP) • State of the World's Children (UNICEF) and many others.</li> </ul>
Website	http://www.uis.unesco.org

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