National Seminar on the topic
"Presentation of the Results of the SDG 4.2 Costing Program
and Practical Possibilities
of Using the Model for Kazakhstan"

Date: November 23, 2022

Time: 09:30-13:00

Venue: Astana, Comfort Hotel Astana, Merey Conference Hall

Organizers: United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific; Economic Research Institute JSC

Format: hybrid (offline and online via ZOOM)

Connect to the Zoom Conference
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83799131402?pwd=Z0FXYXgxdStxbzF2M01UVHJDaE9TUT09

BACKGROUND

Ensuring sustainable development within the framework of the Global Agenda until 2030 depends on the sufficiency of financial resources. In turn, this requires targeted development financing. One of the effective tools for identifying and monitoring financial resources in the field of sustainable development is an Integrated National Financing Mechanism.

The Integrated National Funding Mechanism (INFM) is a useful tool for informing the Government on how to channel the necessary funding to achieve the SDGs. The INFM is a guideline for the development of a financial policy that is integrated and consistent with all aspects of sustainability. The key structural unit of the INFM is aimed at analyzing financing needs, for example, through cost calculation exercises and the financial landscape, in order to create a basic understanding of financial gaps. The INFM also includes identifying the main risks and assessing the sustainability of the country's financing system, as well as identifying economic, institutional, potential and policy-binding constraints that hinder the effective and efficient financing of national development priorities.

In order to support the Government of Kazakhstan in further coordinating development planning and financing, assessing the impact of COVID-19 on the total amount of available SDG funding in the country and work on the creation of the INFM, a joint UN team represented by three agencies: UNDP, UNICEF and ESCAP in Kazakhstan, with the leading role of UNDP, has launched a Joint Program (JP) to coordinate policy measures and financing with the SDGs, funded by the UN Joint Fund
The JP focuses on the implementation of priority reforms necessary for the implementation of the INFM, based on the implementation of the DFE and a Rapid Comprehensive Assessment of national budgets.

At the moment, Kazakhstan has almost completed the initial phase of the INFM, having conducted an analysis of the DFE, which provided an overall assessment and diagnosis of the financial system. The assessment of development financing showed that it is necessary to develop a strategy for financing the country's sustainable development. This, in turn, requires the development of a methodology for determining the amount of funding for the country's strategic goals in the field of sustainable development.

Within the framework of a Joint Agreement, experts from the Economic Research Institute, together with the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), are conducting a study to determine the share of funding corresponding to the implementation of SDG 4.2 "By 2030, provide all girls and boys with access to high-quality systems for the development, care and preschool education of young children, in order to so that they are ready to receive primary education." Within the framework of this study, in order to effectively solve the problem of inequality in access and obtaining high-quality preschool education and, ultimately, contribute to the fulfillment of SDG commitments, a model for calculating the costs of SDG 4.2 for Kazakhstan and justifying its corresponding financing has been developed.

The UNESCO expert team is involved in this work, which advocates the development of a cost calculation Model based on data from the field of preschool education (demographic, economic, etc.). UNESCO developed an Educational Policy and Strategy Simulation Model (EPSSim) in 2001. Since then, EPSSim and its various versions have been used in dozens of countries around the world to support the development of plans for the development of the educational sector, as well as to promote data-based policy dialogues and research in the field of educational policy and planning. The model will help to estimate the current costs of education and the financing of basic education, as well as calculate the cost of achieving SDG 4.2.

In August of this year, an interim version of the developed Model was discussed with representatives of government agencies, research institutes and analytical centers of the country, as well as experts from international organizations. Currently, work is being completed to finalize the presented Model, taking into account the comments received.

In this regard, this seminar is aimed at presenting the results of the project, and also provides for a discussion of the cost modeling methodology with various stakeholders and experts, which will contribute to the preparation of a coherent national educational policy and strategies leading to an effective, efficient and cost-based plan for the development of education in Kazakhstan.

**THE SEMINAR CONSISTS OF FOUR SESSIONS:**

1) Informing participants about the results of the work done on the development of a model for calculating needs in preschool education, data collection and preliminary discussion;

2) Presentation of the results of the Model calculations to the seminar participants; Discussion of the possibility of using the Cost Calculation Model for SDG
4.2 to determine the amount of necessary funding for preschool and secondary education in Kazakhstan; and

3) Discussion and decision-making on the further use of the Cost Calculation Model for SDG 4.2 by stakeholders.

OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTED RESULTS:

The purpose of the seminar is to discuss the possibility of introducing a methodology for calculating the amount of financial resources to cover high-quality preschool education.

In this regard, the following tasks are set:

• consider the proposals of experts and stakeholders on the application of the cost calculation model for SDG 4.2;
• discuss and determine the possibilities of using the model in the work of stakeholders;
• determine the possibility of using the model in the work of estimating and determining costs, as well as possible scenarios for more effective regulation of financial distributions and budget funds for preschool education and SDG 4.2;
• discuss the possibilities of integrating the cost calculation methodology into the strategic planning system in the field of education.

It is expected that the results of the discussion will make it possible to identify options for using the Model in the work of stakeholders and in planning financial costs to achieve sustainable goals within the framework of the ISNF.

PARTICIPANTS OF THE SEMINAR

Representatives of the following government agencies are invited to participate in the seminar:

− Ministry of Education of the Republic of Kazakhstan;
− Ministry of National Economy of the Republic of Kazakhstan;
− Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Kazakhstan;
− Bureau of National Statistics of the Agency for Strategic Planning and Reforms of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

International organizations implementing projects in the field of education or related to SDG budgeting will also be invited:

− Office of the UN Permanent Coordinator;
− United Nations Development Programme;
− United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF);
− UNESCO Office in Kazakhstan;
− Subregional Office of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific for North and Central Asia.

Experts from research institutes and analytical centers of the country, such as Financial Center JSC of the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Information and Analytical Center of the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Institute of Early Development of the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Economic Research Institute JSC of the Ministry of National Economy of the Republic of Kazakhstan, are expected to participate.

In addition, representatives of preschool organizations, including the Republican Association of Private Educational Organizations, are invited.
## Program

*(Almaty local time, UTC/GMT +6)*

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<td>09.30-10.00</td>
<td>Registration</td>
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<td>10.00-10.15</td>
<td><strong>Opening</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Moderator:</strong> Agapi Harutyunyan, Senior Economic Adviser, ESCAP</td>
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<td>- Nurgul Zhannazarova, Director of the Department of Social Policy and Development of State Bodies of the Ministry of National Economy of the Republic of Kazakhstan</td>
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<td>- Subathirai Sivakumarana, Chief of Section Financing for Development Section, ESCAP /on-line inclusion/</td>
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<td>- Kurtmolla Abdulganieva, Head of the Office of the UN Permanent Coordinator in Kazakhstan</td>
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<td>- Ruslan Sultanov, Chairman of the Management Board of Economic Research Institute JSC</td>
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<td>10.15-10.30</td>
<td><strong>Presentation of the preliminary work carried out on the project</strong></td>
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<td>- Natalya Zhumadiildaeva, Director of the Department of Preschool Education and Training of the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Kazakhstan</td>
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<td>Presentation on the current situation in the field of preschool and secondary education in Kazakhstan</td>
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<td>- Altyngul Utebayeva, Deputy Director of the Secretariat for Sustainable Development Goals of the Economic Research Institute JSC</td>
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<td>Presentation on the implementation of the project</td>
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<td>10.30-11.00</td>
<td><strong>Presentation of Kazakhstan's Cost Calculation Model SDG 4.2</strong></td>
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<td>- Nyi Nyi Taung, Program Specialist, UNESCO Bangkok /on-line activation/</td>
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<td>11.00—11.25</td>
<td><strong>Questions and answers</strong></td>
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<td>11.25-11.45</td>
<td>Coffee break</td>
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| 11.45-12.15| Panel discussion "Possibilities of using the Cost calculation Model for SDG 4.2 for more effective regulation of financial distributions and budget funds in the field of preschool education in the Republic of Kazakhstan"  
  - *Bakytgul Khambar*, Director of the SDG Secretariat of the Institute of Economic Research JSC  
    *Topic: Provision of a Roadmap for the implementation of the Cost Calculation Model for SDG 4.2 for Kazakhstan*  
  - *Manara Adamova*, Director of the RSU "Institute of Early Development" of the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Kazakhstan  
    *Topic: Advantages and disadvantages of the SDG 4.2 Cost Calculation Model*  
  - *Gulsum Egizbayeva*, Director in Astana, Republican Association of Private Educational Organizations  
    *Topic: The main criteria for the effectiveness of the model and the development of the influence of these coefficients on the development of preschool education* |
| 12.15-12.50| Discussion and suggestions for further implementation of the methodology and Model |
| 12.50-13.00| Closure  
  - Closing remarks *Bakytgul Khambar*, Director of the SDG Secretariat of Economic Research Institute JSC  
  - Generalization of proposals  
  - Closing remarks by *Agapi Harutyunyan*, Senior Economic Adviser, ESCAP |