Measuring ICTs in Education: The UIS role and its regional approach to data collection

Side event to the ESCAP Committee on Statistics 2012

ICT measurement in Asia and the Pacific: the issue of coordination of the national statistical system

Bangkok, Thailand, 14 December 2012

Presentation outline

- History and role of the UIS
- ICTs in Education process/ history
- Data collection
- Way forward
The UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS)

- The UIS was founded as a semi-autonomous institute of UNESCO in 1999; moved from Paris (HQ) to the University of Montreal in 2001
- About 100 staff; 15 in the field
- Mandated to maintain international databases for:
  - Education
  - Science and technology
  - Culture
  - Communication and information

What are the roles of the UIS?

- Collection of administrative national data and subsequent conversion & dissemination of cross-nationally comparable data
- Analysis of comparative data
- Development of international classifications (e.g., ISCED)
- Technical projects to improve data collection towards the production and usage of internationally comparable data
- Technical capacity building within countries (e.g., regional workshops)
- Advocacy for statistics in relation to UNESCO’s areas of interest
What do we mean by ICTs in education?

ICTs in education refers to education models that employ ICTs to support, enhance and enable the delivery of education. Any, all or combinations of the following types of ICTs are included.

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<th>ICTs in Education</th>
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<td>Radio</td>
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<td>TV</td>
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<tr>
<td>Computer</td>
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<td>Internet</td>
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Country examples of ICTs used in education

- Uruguay (El Ceibal project); provides free laptops for all primary school-age pupils and primary teachers by 2009
- Malaysia (Smart School Project); provides schools with latest ICTs and the required training of teachers
- Russia (Russia e-learning support project); provides greater access to ICTs in education and teacher professional development; also targets rural areas
- Belarus (State programmes): Achieved universal connectivity by 2008 by establishing computer labs in all schools
- Ghana, Kenya and Uganda (E-reader project) funded by WorldReader; provides children with digital textbooks
Why measure ICTs in education?

- International and regional commitments:
  - WSIS (Geneva, 2003) Plan of Action
  - Education for All (EFA) goals
  - Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), Target 8.F
    - "In cooperation with the private sector, make available the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communications"
  - eLAC2010 (Strategy for the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean)
  - New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD) e-schools initiative

- UNESCO sector demands, vision and mission
- Demands from analytical community
- Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development (ICT4D)

Role of the UNESCO/ UIS

- From the Plan of Action of WSIS, MDGs, EFA & UNESCO mandates
  - UNESCO was assigned to guide policy formulation and methodological work;
  - UIS was assigned to achieve an international data collection with different policy needs;
    → Regional approach
Partnerships and data collection

Present partners

- Korea Education Research and Information Service (KERIS)/Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MEST) (Korea)
- UNESCO (Bangkok)
- UNESCO Communication and Information Sector
- Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)
- Inter-American Development Bank
- World Bank
- Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development (ICT4D)
WISE: Membership

- The UIS established the international Working Group for Information and Communication Technology Statistics in Education (WISE) to develop the UIS data collection instrument and Guide to Measuring ICTs in education
- Included 25 countries
- Development of an initial core of ICT in education indicators:
  - Adopted by the United Nations Statistical Commission (UNSC) through the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development at its 40th session in February 2009

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<tr>
<th>Arab States</th>
<th>Bahrain</th>
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<td>East Asia and Pacific</td>
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Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development (ICT4D)

World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS)
- As a follow up to the World Summit on Information Society (WSIS), a list of ten targets were identified.
- The Partnership has written a publication on measuring these targets, as well as providing an analytical mid-term review based on pilot data collection.
Working group for ICT statistics in education (WISE): Core indicators

Adopted by the United Nations Statistical Commission (UNSC) through the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development at its 40th session in February 2009

| ED1 | Proportion of schools with a radio used for educational purposes (for ISCED level 1-3) |
| ED2 | Proportion of schools with a TV used for educational purposes (for ISCED level 1-3) |
| ED3 | Proportion of schools with a telephone communication facility (for ISCED level 1-3) |
| ED4 | Learner-to-computer ratio in schools with CAI (for ISCED level 1-3) |
| ED4. bis | Learner-to-computer ratio (for ISCED level 1-3) |
| ED5 | Proportion of schools with Internet access at school, by type (for ISCED level 1-3) |
| ED6 | Proportion of learners who have access to the Internet at school (for ISCED level 1-3) |
| ED7 | Proportion of learners enrolled by gender at the post-secondary non-tertiary and tertiary level in ICT-related fields (for ISCED level 4 and level 5-6) |
| ED8 | Proportion of ICT-qualified teachers in primary and secondary schools (for ISCED level 1-3) |
| EDR1 | Proportion of schools with electricity (for ISCED level 1-3) — Reference indicator |

WSIS targets

1. Connect all villages with ICTs and establish community access points
2. Connect all secondary schools and primary schools with ICTs
3. Connect all scientific and research centres with ICTs
4. Connect all public libraries, museums, post offices and national archives with ICTs
5. Connect all health centres and hospitals with ICTs
6. Connect all central government departments and establish websites
7. Adapt primary and secondary school curricula to meet the challenges of the information society, taking into account national circumstances
8. Ensure that all the world’s population has access to television and radio services
9. Encourage the development of content and put in place technical conditions in order to facilitate the presence and use of all world languages on the Internet
10. Ensure that more than half the world’s inhabitants have access to ICTs within their reach and make use of them
Target 2:

“connect all secondary and primary schools with ICTs”

- Four indicators suggested to measure Target 2
- All are existing UIS indicators, with three of them also being Partnership core indicators:
  - Proportion of schools with a radio used for educational purposes
  - Proportion of schools with a television used for educational purposes
  - Learners-to-computer ratio*
  - Proportion of schools with Internet access, by type of access

* Among the Partnership core indicators, the more specific indicator Learners-to-computer ratio in schools with computer-assisted instruction is included.

Target 7:

“adapt all primary and secondary school curricula to meet the challenges of the information society, taking into account national circumstances”

- Four indicators suggested to measure Target 7
- All are existing UIS indicators, with one of them also being a Partnership core indicator:
  - Proportion of ICT-qualified teachers in schools
  - Proportion of teachers trained to teach subjects using ICT
  - Proportion of schools with computer-assisted instruction
  - Proportion of schools with Internet-assisted instruction
WISE: Beyond the core indicators

- Development of an international questionnaire and instructional manual for ICTs in education
- Guide to Measuring ICTs in Education, which covers the 10 core indicators as well as an extended 43 indicators covering:
  - Political commitment
  - Infrastructure
  - Teaching staff and development
  - Curriculum
  - Participation skills and output
  - Outcomes and impact

Content of the guide on ICTs in education

- Detailed specifications:
  - Statistical definitions
  - Purpose
  - Data requirement
  - Interpretation
  - Methodological issues and limitations
- Serves as methodological reference material and facilitates operational implementation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
<th>Data requirement</th>
<th>Methodological and definition issues or operational limitations</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ED7</td>
<td>Proportion of learners enrolled by gender at the post-secondary non-tertiary and tertiary level in ICT-related fields (for ISCED level 4 and level 5-6)</td>
<td>To measure the share of learners in ICT-related fields of study in tertiary education institutions</td>
<td>To calculate the share of learners in ICT-related fields of study in tertiary education institutions</td>
<td>Requires further mapping and classificatory work to re-code within the ISCED fields of study those fields that have emerged after 1997.</td>
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Formula:

\[
\frac{LIT_h}{L_{t-h}} \times 100 = \frac{\sum LIT_h}{\sum L_t} \times 100
\]
Indicators to measure ICT in education

- Selection of indicators based on key principles:
  - Policy-relevance
  - Maximum probability of response
  - Minimise burden and avoidance of duplication
  - Sustainability
  - Consistency
- For Asia-Pacific region, a regional workshop in Seoul, Republic of Korea, was held on 5-7 September 2012.
  - The questionnaire was designed to answer the main core indicators and add the specific relevant indicators for the region.
  - Capacity building of the countries

Questionnaire on Statistics of ICT4Ed

**Coverage:**
- Focuses on primary and secondary (ISCED 1-3)
- Public & private institutions

**Indicator prioritization:**
1. Based on policy relevance (pilot experience 2009-WISE)
2. Regional specificity (partner consultation incorporates new items)
3. Minimizes burden on country respondents
The questionnaire...

Covers three levels of education (ISCED 1-3) for each sections:

- **Section A**: Policy and Curriculum
- **Section B**: Educational expenditures in ICT4Ed
- **Section C**: Educational institutions and ICT infrastructure
- **Section D**: Enrolment
- **Section E**: Teachers

Indicators calculated (examples):
- Proportion of ISCED levels/grades covered by existing national policies for ICT in education
- Proportion of ISCED levels that include basic computer skills in the standard curriculum

Section A: Policy and Curriculum

- What policies and systems are in place to promote effective use of ICT in education?
- What policies/plans/provisions are in place to integrate ICT into education systems?
- Are ICTs part of curriculum reform?
Section B: Educational expenditures in ICT4Ed

- How much is spent on ICT in education?

Indicators calculated (example):
- Proportion of capital expenditure spent on ICT in education

Section C: Educational Institutions and ICT infrastructure

- Do schools have infrastructure to support ICTs in education?
- Do children participate in education programmes using various types of ICTs?

Indicators calculated: (examples)
- Proportion of educational institutions with radio-assisted instruction (RAI)
- Proportion of educational institutions with computer-assisted instruction (CAI)
- Enrolment in programmes offering television-assisted instruction (TAI)
- Enrolment in programmes offering Internet-assisted instruction (IAI)
Section D: Enrolment

- Do schools have enough computers for all pupils?
- Are computers connected to the Internet?

Indicators calculated: (examples)
- Ratio of learners to computers for pedagogical use
- Ratio of learners to computers connected to the Internet
- Enrolment having access to programmes offering different ICT-related services
- Enrolment that has access to courses offering basic computer skills

Section E: teachers

- Do education systems train teachers to instruct pupils on basic computing skills?
- Do education systems train teachers to teach different subjects using ICTs?
- Do education systems train teachers using ICT-enabled distance education programmes?

Indicators calculated:
- Percentage of teachers trained via ICT-enabled distance education programmes
- Percentage of teachers who teach basic computer skills
- Percentage of teachers who teach subject(s) using ICT facilities
WAY FORWARD

- Regional perspective to data collection for ICT in education statistics
  - Asia and Pacific (2012):
    - Partnership with KERIS (Rep. of Korea)
    - The September 2012 workshop will ensure quality data and good response rates
    - Deadline to submit completed questionnaire, December 20th
  - Arab States (2011/2012): Coordinated by UNESCO Communications sector
  - Sub-Saharan Africa: Data collection in 2013?

- Global perspective to data collection for ICT in education statistics: Potential strategies

THANK YOU

For more information on UIS statistics on ICT in education, please visit the UIS website:

www.uis.unesco.org