

**Terms of reference  
for a senior international consultant  
to support the production of the CESA/SDG 4 baseline Continental Report**

**PRESENTATION OF IYPE-UNESCO DAKAR**

L'IYPE-UNESCO Dakar, situé à Dakar, au Sénégal, est le bureau pour l'Afrique de l'Institut international de planification de l'éducation de l'UNESCO (IYPE-UNESCO). L'IYPE est un institut spécialisé de l'UNESCO, dont le mandat est de renforcer la capacité des États membres de planifier et de gérer leurs systèmes éducatifs. L'IYPE-UNESCO Dakar est réputé pour ses analyses du secteur éducatif et aide les pays africains à élaborer des plans crédibles de développement des systèmes éducatifs dans le cadre de l'agenda 2030 pour l'éducation.

Par une approche de renforcement des capacités, l'IYPE-UNESCO Dakar contribue à la production d'analyses diagnostiques, de plans sectoriels et d'outils pédagogiques qui contribuent à des politiques éducatives plus pertinentes et durables. L'IYPE-UNESCO Dakar est également activement impliqué dans la production de connaissances pour le secteur de l'éducation en Afrique. Plus d'informations sur ses activités peuvent être trouvées sur le lien suivant : [IYPE-UNESCO Dakar](#).

**CONTEXT AND RATIONALE**

At the Pan African Conference on Education (PACE 2018), members States instructed the African Union and the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to work together to produce, on a regular basis, the continental monitoring report for both the Continental Education Strategy for Africa (CESA) and Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4.

Within the fast-approaching deadline of 31 December 2030 for countries to meet their SDG commitments, it is imperative that a Continental report be issued in 2021 as the first continental baseline to take stock of the five years of implementation of the two agendas since 2015 for SDG4 and 2016 for CESA. IIEP-UNESCO Dakar will lead the technical development of the report, in close collaboration with UIS<sup>1</sup> and UNESCO regional and country offices, as well as with the GEM Report<sup>2</sup> team.

The quantified and time bound targets of the CESA strategic objectives that were adopted in 2015, led by Heads of State, represent an epic effort in Africa to contextualize the global SDG agreement. **Annex 2** sets the linkages between the CESA strategic objectives and the SDG targets. The targets mentioned in the Annex are associated with various measurable indicators for monitoring progress at both country and continental level.

The goals and objectives of the Continental Report are as follows:

1. To reexamine Africa's achievements in implementing both CESA and SDG 4 in details and in a consolidated framework.
2. To develop a scorecard for the continent, which will be used to monitor progress and achievement of its targets and commitments, with baseline data that will contribute to assess progress from the perspective of 2 agendas.

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<sup>1</sup> Unesco Institute of Statistics

<sup>2</sup> Global Education Monitoring Report

3. To record the lessons learnt including the foundations for successful achievements: this includes reviewing current innovative practices, prioritizing policy and institutional reforms, identifying means of policy implementation, and evaluating financing options.
4. To highlight the magnitude of the data crisis in African countries, which hamper a continental development of quality education for all based on sound evidence. The report will help to identify data gaps, lessons from national monitoring systems that work well, investment needs in data production and associated capacity development in the continent.

The Continental Report 2021 targets a broad audience including policymakers, the general public, international and bilateral institutions and partners, academia, the education experts' network and media. A database of all calculated and gathered indicators serving as baseline for the monitoring the two agendas will also be produced.

Data for the continental joint reports will be mainly provided by the UIS, with its global mandate to collect data for monitoring the SDG4. From an initial assessment, about 50% of CESA indicators are already covered in UIS global annual surveys in formal education. In addition to data collected through the African Union institutions, UNICEF and UNHCR, complementary sources of data will be explored subject to their alignment to international statistical norms and standards to ensure comparability across countries and overtime.

In addition, UNESCO and African Union Commission (AUC) will mobilize their networks at the country level to facilitate the collection of qualitative data to document the domestication of the two agendas as reflected in the national policies and legislations, plans and strategies. Different national report such as Education Sector Analysis and other relevant reports/studies such as sectoral revue meeting reports, policy analysis reports, will be used to have additional data and evidence related to the CESA and SDG4.

The production of the Report will be done under the guidance of two committees, and following the schedule outlined in Annex 1:

- A Steering Committee will examine and validate the inception report (including the outline), review the draft final report and the final report, and to guide the Editorial Committee and the IIEP Dakar in both policy and substantive matters.
- An Editorial Committee will review and provide comments on the various drafts of the report before submission to the Steering Committee.

**To assist with the production of this major publication, IIEP Dakar is recruiting two mid-level consultants to support, respectively, the quantitative and qualitative analysis that will feed into the Report, and one senior consultant who will oversee the work and be responsible for the writing of the report.**

**These Terms of Reference describe the duties and qualifications of the senior consultant.**

Under the direct supervision of IIEP Dakar's Research and Development Programme Manager and the overall supervision of IIEP Dakar's Head and Deputy Head of Office, and with the support of the qualitative and quantitative analysis consultants, the senior international consultant will be responsible for the overall production of the Continental Report.

Specifically, the consultant will, with guidance and support from the R&D Program Manager, and in close collaboration with the UNESCO Dakar regional office:

1. Propose, discuss with IIEP Dakar and present to the Steering Committee, jointly with the IIEP Dakar, an outline for the Continental Report;
2. Guide the qualitative and quantitative analysis consultants in their respective activities (data collection and analysis, research and productions, etc.) to ensure the content of the Report is adequately documented, the indicators are accurately analysed and narrative highlights relevant trends, making the necessary links with policy and institutional reforms options;
3. Identify key issues related to the achievement of the CESA and SDG4 targets for discussion in the Report;
4. Support, and where necessary participate in, the consultation of international and national partners for the identification and description of the innovative practices, prioritizing policy and institutional reforms, identifying means of policy implementation, and evaluating financing options;
5. Identify key tables and visuals (including charts and maps) to illustrate the analysis in the report;
6. Collate the inputs of the qualitative and quantitative analysis consultants into the agreed upon outline of the report, ensuring internal coherence balance between the various sections and chapters;
7. Co-lead, with the R&D Program Manager, the design of the scorecard for monitoring CESA and SDG4 indicators, at continental and country level;
8. Draft the Introduction, and support the graphic design of the Report;
9. Propose and draft, in collaboration with the R&D Program Manager, key policy recommendations stemming from the diagnostic and the data gaps presented in the Report;
10. Prepare and present to the Editorial Committee, jointly with the IIEP Dakar, the draft and final versions of the Continental Report;
11. Co-lead, with the R&D Program Manager, the collaboration with the UNESCO GEM Report team on the Spotlight report for Africa, ensuring an optimal articulation and cross-fertilization of both reports.

## DURATION AND DELIVERABLES

The consultant will be recruited for a period of six months from April to September 2021. They are expected to work remotely and deliver the following outputs.

- **Deliverable 1:** An inception report, including an outline for the Continental report, discussed and agreed upon with IIEP Dakar, for submission to the Editorial and Steering Committees;
- **Deliverable 2:** An interim report, presenting a detailed outline of the Report, with the key tables and charts to be included, and the country innovative practices to be featured;
- **Deliverable 3:** A template for the scorecard;
- **Deliverable 4:** A first draft of the Continental Report for review by the Editorial Committee;
- **Deliverable 5:** A second draft of the Continental report, taking account of the feedback from the Editorial and Steering Committees, and including the introduction, the recommendations and the full set of scorecards, at continental and country level;
- **Deliverable 6:** The final version of the Continental Report.

## REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

- Advanced university degree (Master or equivalent) in education, economics, social sciences or related fields.
- At least ten years of work experience in research, monitoring and report writing in education, including at least five at the international level.
- Strong analytical and writing skills.
- Proven experience in leading teams to produce high quality outputs.
- Experience in coordinating teams working remotely from different countries and continents a strong advantage.
- Very good knowledge of educational issues in Africa.
- Prior experience in similar responsibilities is highly desirable.
- Excellent proficiency (written and oral) in English. Good knowledge of French is an advantage.

## APPLICATION PROCESS

Interested candidates must submit their application **before 4 April (midnight Dakar time)** with the following required information:

- An up-to-date CV stating details of educational qualifications, work experience, including prior experience of similar work.
- A technical and financial offer, outlining the understanding of the assignment, highlighting the relevant experience, and presenting a proposed remuneration for the work (professional fees only – no other costs will be eligible)
- If available, examples of similar work and publications.

### Assessment

- Only applications providing the information requested will be considered.
- Evaluation of qualified applicants may include an interview.

Please submit your application by email to [senior.consultant.continental.report@iiep.unesco.org](mailto:senior.consultant.continental.report@iiep.unesco.org)

## Annex 1: Key milestones and estimated timeline

Activity	2021											
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
<b>1. Preparation activities</b>												
Formation of a Steering committee		■	■									
Develop ToRs of the technical task force		■	■									
Develop ToRs of the consultants		■	■									
Appointment of a Task Force		■	■									
Designation of the Editorial committee			■									
Recruitment of the consultants			■									
<b>2. Research activities</b>												
Define the structure of the report			■									
Assess the information need for the reporting			■	■								
Identify and evaluate the sources of information and data, and establish the knowledge gap			■	■								
Compilation of Indicators, data and metadata required				■	■	■						
Desk review and data analysis				■	■	■	■					
First draft report							■					
Second draft report								■				
<b>3. Finalisation activities</b>												
Final report									■			
Editing and translations								■	■			
Printing and submission									■			
Launch of the first Joint SDG4-CESA Monitoring Report											■	

Annex 2: Correspondence between CESA strategic objectives and the SDG 4

CESA Strategic Objective	SDG4 target
SO 1: Revitalize the teaching profession to ensure quality and relevance at all levels of education	4.c By 2030, substantially increase the supply of qualified teachers, including through international cooperation for teacher training in developing countries, especially least-developed countries and small island developing States
SO 2: Build, rehabilitate, preserve education infrastructure and develop policies that ensure a permanent, healthy and conducive learning environment in all sub-sectors and for all, so as to expand access to quality education	4.a Build and upgrade education facilities that are child, disability and gender sensitive and provide safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all
SO 3: Harness the capacity of ICT to improve access, quality and management of education and training systems	
SO 4: Ensure acquisition of requisite knowledge and skills as well as improved completion rates at all levels and groups through harmonization processes across all levels for national and regional integration	4.1 By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes
	4.3 By 2030, ensure equal access for all women and men to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university
	4.6 By 2030, ensure that all youth and a substantial proportion of adults, both men and women, achieve literacy and numeracy
SO 5: Accelerate processes leading to gender parity and equity	4.5 By 2030, eliminate gender disparities in education and ensure access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable, including persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and children in vulnerable situations

SO 6: Launch comprehensive and effective literacy programmes across the continent to eradicate the scourge of illiteracy	4.6 By 2030, ensure that all youth and a substantial proportion of adults, both men and women, achieve literacy and numeracy
SO 7: Strengthen the science and math curricula in youth training and disseminate scientific knowledge and culture in society	
SO 8: Expand TVET opportunities at both secondary and tertiary levels and strengthen linkages between the world of work and education and training systems	4.3 By 2030, ensure equal access for all women and men to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university
	4.4 By 2030, substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship
SO 9: Revitalize and expand tertiary education, research and innovation to address continental challenges and promote global competitiveness	4.3 By 2030, ensure equal access for all women and men to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university
SO 10: Promote peace education and conflict prevention and resolution at all levels of education and for all age groups	4.7 By 2030, ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development
SO 11: Improve management of education system as well build and enhance capacity for data collection, management, analysis, communication, and use	SDG 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development
SO 12: Set up a coalition of stakeholders to facilitate and support activities resulting from the implementation of CESA 16-25.	