

Foundations of Education Sector Planning Programme

2 October 2024 – 22 July 2025



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PROGRAMME OVERVIEW



DATES

2 October 2024 – 22 July 2025
(9 months)



PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Languages

English and French

Volume of learning

450 hours

(10–12 hours per week)

Registration fees

USD 2,500

Registration deadline

28 June 2024

IIEP credit points earned

18 IIEP credits



KEY COMPONENTS

- Educational planning
- Policy strategy and formulation
- Education statistics
- Education sector analysis
- Education plan preparation



AIM

To provide the fundamental knowledge and competencies for educational planning and management.



PARTICIPANTS

- Staff of ministries of education and other governmental bodies.
- NGO and development partner staff, including consultants.
- Regional or local level officials working in the field of educational planning.

! Please note that participants must have reliable access to the Internet and meet the requirements described in the 'Technology requirements' section of our website. Scan the QR code to learn more.



Introduction

UNESCO's International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP) is the only United Nations organization that provides a combination of training in educational planning, cutting-edge research, and in-country technical cooperation to develop capacities for improved educational planning and management. These three pillars form the bedrock for making essential changes for enhancing global education systems and achieving the Education 2030 Agenda.

Effective educational planning and management requires individuals and teams with robust knowledge, skills, and a variety of competencies. This is why training is key: it enhances the capacities of those working in the education sector to set a path for the implementation of education reforms, to transform systems, and ensure equal opportunities for children and youth.

For 60 years, IIEP has continuously refined its training programmes, incorporating the latest technology and research, to help achieve national and international educational goals. Today, the Institute's Global Campus continues to be a catalyst for transformation, supporting more than 1,400 professionals each year to develop their knowledge and skills through core, customized, and on-demand training.

'IIEP helped me gain the skills and knowledge necessary to develop an education sector strategic plan. When I returned to my country, I became one of the experts who prepared the national education sector plan for Somalia.'

Alumnus, Somalia



The programme

The **Foundations of Education Sector Planning Programme** is an online training programme that provides participants with the fundamentals of educational planning, including education sector analysis (ESA), education sector plan (ESP) preparation, and plan monitoring. Throughout its four courses, participants from different regions, notably from the Global South, learn and exchange with peers and educational experts through live sessions, individual study, and collective exercises.



Intended learning outcomes

At the end of the programme, participants should be able to:

- Analyse the main theories and international commitments that shape education policy and planning.
- Advocate for key policies that address the most pressing education challenges.
- Defend selected education policies by summarizing the main arguments.
- Calculate and interpret key education indicators for the analysis of major dimensions in educational planning.
- Design and draft an education sector analysis.
- Use simulation/projection tools for plan target setting.
- Evaluate the relevance and feasibility of education plans.
- Operationalize plan objectives into education sector programmes.
- Select, analyse, and present relevant information for planning including monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) concepts and evaluation strategies.
- Organise collaborative work for education sector planning tasks.



Programme Calendar

The programme will run from 2 October 2024 to 22 July 2025 (9 months), including two-week orientation phase for getting familiar with the e-learning platform, and meeting other participants and IIEP instructors.

Programme structure

This programme is organized around four courses of eight weeks, each including 10–12 hours of learning time per week. After completing each course, participants should be able to do the following.

<p>Course 1 Educational planning and policies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Explain why education policy and planning matters. – Identify international commitments. – Identify key features of education sector plans. – Explain the purpose of international education policies. – Examine stakeholders' roles and interests in the design and implementation of education policies. – Identify key policies that aim at strengthening education quality, equity, and governance.
<p>Course 2 Educational data and indicators</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Explain the role of data and information in effective planning and management of education. – Identify the data needed to measure access, participation and completion, equity, internal efficiency, teaching and learning conditions, and quality. – Calculate and interpret key indicators. – Identify the limitations of the key indicators and recognise the importance of the data on which they are based.
<p>Course 3 Education sector analysis (ESA)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Identify the purpose and usefulness of an ESA. – Explain the analytical framework of ESAs: 'angles of analysis' and related main questions. – Identify the main indicators and problems in a country's education sector. – Analyse available data sources to identify trends, strengths, and main challenges in education. – Synthesize the findings under the 'angles of analysis' by identifying the country's main challenges as they complete the ESA process.
<p>Course 4 Education Sector Plan (ESP) preparation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Propose ESP objectives and key policy reforms considering priority challenges described in the ESA. – Translate objectives into strategies and actionable interventions. – Identify the purpose and use of an education simulation model in preparing a realistic and acceptable plan. – Examine the specific social, financial, and technical aspects that determine the feasibility of the plan and its policies. – Identify the key concepts of monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) along with different evaluation strategies. – Design a multi-year costed action plan to ease implementation.

CONTACT

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Learning modalities

The programme will use an interactive and practice-oriented learning approach. Throughout the programme, participants will be asked to prepare practical exercises that will allow them to directly apply the skills acquired.

The training will be conducted via three learning modalities:

- **Individual study** of reading materials, videos, interactive presentations, and completion of quizzes.
- **Participation in weekly 90-minute online ‘live’ sessions**, such as webinars, presentations, debates, and group activities.
- **Interaction with international experts and participants** from other institutions and countries through direct collaboration in group work and sharing of experiences in a discussion forum.



Assessment and certification

Participant performance will be marked on a scale of 0 to 20 with 60 per cent (12 out of 20) considered a passing grade. Performance will be assessed through:

- Group assignments
- Individual assignments

Participants who successfully meet the validation requirements of the programme will obtain a Certificate of Completion with 18 IIEP credits.



Entry requirements

All candidates must meet the following requirements:

- **Professional experience:** Have relevant professional work experience as practitioner, trainer, or researcher in fields related to educational planning and management.
- **Academic background:** Hold a three-year post-secondary education (e.g., bachelor’s degree or equivalent) in a field related to social sciences (e.g., education, economics, political sciences, or statistics, etc.).
- **Language proficiency:** read, write, and speak fluently in one of the two course languages: English or French.
- **Computer literacy:** possess good computer skills in MS Word and Excel.
- **Successful completion of Introductory course:** a self-paced course on descriptive statistics.



Participation costs

USD 2,500 per participant. Thanks to support from our partners, the cost of the Foundations programme has been reduced by 60 per cent.



Registration

The deadline for application is **Friday, 28 June 2024**.

Individual applications must be completed online by clicking on the following link:

[APPLY](#)



Selection procedure

Candidates will be informed of their selection within three weeks of their application submission.

Geographical and gender balance will be taken into consideration in the selection process. Particular consideration will be given to applications received from low-income and middle-income countries.