Cost of achieving SDG 4 re-estimated in 2020

Yuki Murakami

Education economist,
Global Education Monitoring Report

12 July 2021
y.murakami@unesco.org
How much does it cost countries to achieve SDG 4 targets?

The model estimates the cost of achieving the headline SDG 4 targets: ensuring universal pre-primary, primary and secondary education by 2030 in low- and lower-middle-income countries.
Which target for pre-primary does the model address?

Model assumption

• All children will complete one year of pre-primary school.
  ➢ A pre-primary gross enrolment ratio of 100% by 2030.
  ➢ Benchmark GER is 35% for all, 25% for LIC and 42% for MIC.
• No more than 20 students per teacher.
  ➢ Pupil/teacher ratios fall as countries become wealthier, and assumes that countries will gradually converge at a lower global average over time.

4.2. Early childhood care and education By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education so that they are ready for primary education.
Factors explaining cost increases
Pre-primary financial gaps

Total costs = total financing needs
2015-2030

Financing gaps and total public budget, yearly average 2015-2030

12-13 July 2021 at 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm (Bangkok time/ GMT+7)
Pre-Covid-19, the annual financing gap to reach SDG#4 by 2030 was expected to grow from USD 39B to USD 148B.
2020 COVID impact on finance

Challenges ahead …
1. Reduced Global GDP
2. Financial implications of school closures and catch-up programmes
3. Squeezed aid budgets
Join in the discussion and our campaign for education following migrants and refugees:

Education on the move

download the report

gem-report-2019.unesco.org