



INTERNATIONAL DATA WEEK – IDW 2018

International Data Week Pre- Event Education Workshop Programme

Date: Saturday 3 November 2018

Time Frame: 1:00 PM to 4:40PM

Location: Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Botswana

Theme: *Introducing the Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS)
Foundational Learning Skills module for 7-14 year olds, In or Out of school*

Objectives of the workshop

1. Analyze the contribution of the MICS module outputs to evidence based holistic learning, sustainable development and the knowledge economy.
2. Demonstrate the importance of an approach to learning assessment that is universal, reaching all children; has focus on equity; and allows for cross-sectional analysis.
3. Describe and analyze how the MICS module can contribute to the Southern Africa Development Cooperation (SADC) and overall Ministries of Basic Education portfolio.
4. Identify what the Ministries of Education like to see as an outcome and the way forward?

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UNICEF assists countries in collecting and analyzing data to monitor the situation of children and women through its international household survey initiative, the Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS), with 300 surveys in more than 100 developing countries. In the education domain, MICS collects information on adults' literacy, as well as children's school readiness, entry, attendance, retention and completion. However, until now, MICS has never collected data on learning achievement, or even interviewed children directly.

This module is a breakthrough because it directly assesses the skills of children, ages 7-14. It includes four components: reading tasks; numeracy tasks; questions for children about their learning practices; and a questionnaire for parents about their involvement in their children's learning at school and at home. These components were developed with inputs from a wide range of experts, including the Pal Network (Uwezo, ASER and others), RTI, Save the Children, UIS, GMR, GPE and the World Bank.

The IDW workshop draws from nationwide representative household samples in three or more countries in sub-Saharan Africa, in order to explore the current status of learning outcomes, and ultimately to inform policies to improve the quality and equity of education in the region.

Panelists

- Manuel Cardoso, UNICEF Global Office, New York, is a Learning Specialist. He has 21 years of experience in education, with a focus on learning assessment.
- Leseka Mukokomani is a UNICEF Botswana Education Specialist. She is responsible for managing the Education portfolio which includes Early Childhood Development, Out of School Education for Children and Quality Education.
- Lois L. Ngope, Chief Education Officer in Ministry of Basic Education South East Region, Botswana
- Dr. Bethany Mulimbi, Postdoctoral Research Project Coordinator, Botswana Educational Research Association.
- Melissa Tarisai, the Zimbabwe government in the Curriculum Department.
- Changu Mannathoko (PhD), Managing Partner, Joint Minds Consult, Botswana

Please Note: This is a highly interactive workshop with group work throughout to facilitate discussion and better analysis of MICS.