The International Task Force on Teachers for Education 2030

A global alliance of partners working to address the “teacher gap”
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Sustainable Development Goals: 2015 - 2030

Teachers at the centre of the right to education

Of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), adopted in 2015, SDG4 is dedicated to education and aims to “ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all”.

The guarantee of the right to education implies a fair distribution of knowledge, information and skills and the access to a quality equal education. For these reasons, teachers and their education and training, recruitment, retention, status and working conditions, are part of Education 2030 and UNESCO’s main priorities.

The dedicated target on teachers states that “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.”
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About the International Task Force on Teachers for Education 2030

Who we are

The International Task Force on Teachers for Education 2030, also called The Teacher Task Force (TTF), was created in 2008. It was previously known as the International Task Force on Teachers for Education for all. Its new name reflects the alignment of the Teacher Task Force’s work with the new Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted by the United Nations in September 2015, and more particularly SDG 4, the goal dedicated to “ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all”.

The Teacher Task Force is a voluntary global alliance. As such, it does not represent the voice of one organization but is rather an independent partnership including national governments, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, international development agencies, civil society organizations, private sector organizations and UN agencies working together on teacher-related subjects and issues.

Our Mission

The Teacher Task worked initially to address the ‘teacher gap’. Indeed, according to the UNESCO Institutes for Statistics, 69 Million teachers are need to achieve the targets set out in SDG4. Providing an adequate number of effectively trained teachers is the cornerstone of achieving SDG4. This was further reinforced by the creation of dedicated target on teachers for SDG4, target 4.c, that aims to “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”.


As a worldwide alliance, the TTF’s purpose is to have global impact on teachers and teaching. The TTF will provide expert information and data to the SDG4-Education 2030 Steering Committee, particularly on the implementation of the teacher target.

The mandate of the Teacher Task Force is to advocate for, and facilitate the coordination of international efforts to provide sufficient numbers of well-qualified teachers to achieve the teacher target of the Education 2030 Framework for Action and the SDGs. The Teacher Task Force will monitor global, regional and country-level progress in the development of policies and strategies and resourcing for teacher development.

The Teacher Task Force has the following strategic objectives:

Objective 1: The recognition of the critical roles of teachers and teaching in achieving the SDG4-Education 2030 targets at international, regional and country levels are increased.

Objective 2: Governments, as well as other stakeholders, are urged and enabled to engage in social dialogue in order to formulate and implement effective and comprehensive teacher policies and strategies within national education plans.

Objective 3: Key knowledge gaps are identified, and research commissioned to inform teacher policies, legislations, practices and governance.

Objective 4: Monitoring of the status of teachers and teaching in achieving SDG target 4.c and Education 2030 targets is strengthened.

Objective 5: Exchange of knowledge, expertise and experiences on key dimensions of the teaching profession is facilitated.

Objective 6: Support to countries requesting technical assistance on teachers and teaching is facilitated.

Objective 7: TTF governance is strengthened.
Structure of the International Task Force on Teachers for Education 2030

The Teacher Task Force is composed of the full body of all of its members, the members of the Steering Committee, and the dedicated Secretariat hosted by and established within UNESCO in Paris.

Our members

The Teacher Task Force will achieve this mandate by bringing together member countries, donor countries and interested organisations to enable:

- Global, regional and country-level discussions.
- Informed strategic planning.
- Access to high-quality advice, and the mobilization, production and dissemination of knowledge and information related to issues of teachers and the teaching profession.
- The facilitation of support on demand to country level efforts to secure sufficient numbers of qualified teachers to achieve SDG 4.

The Teacher Task Force is a voluntary multi-stakeholder partnership. New members may join the Task Force partnership upon acceptance in writing by decision of the Steering Committee. Countries and organizations can first submit their request to the Secretariat. Membership applications from UN Member States are automatically approved.

Each member of the Teacher Task Force – country or organization – is represented in the Teacher Task Force by a principal focal point and two deputies, all three nominated by a dedicated authority. Their responsibility is to ensure continuous interactions between the Task Force and their country/organization.

Currently, the TTF counts 133 members from the following constituencies:
Membership by type

- **Countries**: 85
- **Organisations**: 48
Member countries by region

- Africa: 38
- Europe and North America: 14
- Asia and the Pacific: 14
- Latin America and the Caribbean: 12
- Arab States: 7

Organisations by type

- Intergovernmental Organisations: 19
- International NGOs/CSOs/GLobal Teacher Organisations: 14
- Global private sector organisations and foundations: 6
- Bi- and Multi- lateral International Development Agencies: 2
The Steering Committee

The Teacher Task Force Steering Committee provides strategic guidance and technical support to the Secretariat and policy recommendations to the Teacher Task Force. The Steering Committee is composed of 27 members, to the extent of the willingness of the members and through the designation process set out below, of:

- 4 representatives of organisations providing funding to the dedicated Secretariat:
  - 2 seats for core funders that contribute a minimum amount of USD 500,000 per year and
  - 2 rotating seats for other donors that provide at least USD 100,000 per year for 2 consecutive years;
  - in-kind contribution by Teacher Task Force members, such as sending secondments to the Secretariat, will be only recognized by the Steering Committee, and will not give right of eligibility to the Steering Committee.

- 2 country representatives from each of the following 4 regions: Arab States, Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Europe and North America.

- 4 country representatives from sub-Saharan Africa reflecting the Regional Economic Communities.

- 2 representatives from international intergovernmental organizations.

- 2 representatives from international non-governmental organizations.

- 1 representative from a regional intergovernmental organization.

- 1 representative from a global private sector organization, or foundation with a special interest/programme on teachers.

- 1 permanent seat for Education International (EI).
• 1 permanent seat for the Global Partnership for Education (GPE).
• 1 permanent seat for the representative of the Director General of UNESCO.

Eligible candidates for the Steering Committee must have completed at least two years as a member of the Teacher Task Force, except for the two core funders.

Members will serve for two years and membership is renewable. Members representing a given region or constituency that has alternate membership should coordinate their participation in Steering Committee meetings to ensure the presence of at least one of the two members.

The Steering Committee will be accountable to Teacher Task Force members and will have the following roles and responsibilities:

• Provide strategic guidance to the Secretariat on the strategic objectives and related activities including reviewing the annual work plan.
• Take note of progress made in implementation.
• Report to the Teacher Task Force on the above-mentioned activities.
• Promote the work of the Teacher Task Force internationally by attending global conferences and meetings addressing teacher issues.
• Review the work of the dedicated Secretariat, including the annual report and the annual work plan, and advise UNESCO on behalf of the Teacher Task Force.

Two Co-Chairs are elected from amongst members of the Steering Committee, each for a period of two years. One represents a member country and the other a funding member. The roles and responsibilities of the Co-Chairs shall include:
• Using their influence in agreement with the Steering Committee to promote widely the work of the Teacher Task Force.

• Taking a leadership role in supporting Teacher Task Force activities (e.g. participating in conferences or meetings sponsored by and in close consultation with relevant international bodies).

• Together with the Secretariat, undertake any initiative considered necessary between the meetings of the Teacher Task Force or of the Steering Committee.

• Taking turns chairing Teacher Task Force meetings and Steering Committee meetings.

The Secretariat

The Secretariat of the Teacher Task Force consists of an operational team, hosted by UNESCO in Paris.

The Secretariat is responsible for developing annual work plans and objectives based on the Task Force strategic objectives. These work plans define targets associated with the objectives, specify the activities to undertake in order to achieve these targets and define the annual performance indicators designed to measure progress. These work plans are reviewed and approved by the Steering Committee and implemented by the Secretariat.

The Secretariat will prepare technical and financial bi-annual reports to be reviewed by the Steering Committee and for final endorsement by the Assistant Director-General for Education of UNESCO.
This brochure provides information on the International Task Force on Teachers for Education 2030.

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