Education Quality and Learning for All (EQUAL): A Global Researcher Network for SDG4

Hirokazu Yoshikawa and Alice Wuermli (Global TIES for Children, NYU)
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Overview

- Two Initiatives of Relevance for GAML co-hosted by NYU Global TIES for Children, SDSN and Pratham:
  
  1) EQUAL Global Research Network for SDG 4
  
  2) Measurement Inventory (funded by WB SIEF) of learning assessments, middle childhood to adolescence, and assessments of contexts in LMIC’s
EQUAL Network of the SDSN

- U.N. Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)
  - Research and technical network
  - Advising the Secretary-General and the global community on development and implementation of the SDG’s
- Building on Yoshikawa’s role as Co-Chair of the SDSN network on education and ECD

- EQUAL
  - Global Thematic Network: Research Universities, Institutions and NGOs
  - Achieve progress on SDG Goal 4 Target 4.1 and 4.2, 4.4 and 4.7
  - Co-hosted by Global TIES for Children and Pratham
What does EQUAL address?

- Lack of adequate representation of scholars from LMIC’s in measurement, evaluation and program innovations relevant to progress on SDG 4 and its indicators

- Capacity building – mutual – between scholars of the global North and global South

- What research skills are relevant?
  - Psychometric skills for within- and cross-country validation of individual assessments and contextual assessments (e.g., quality)
  - Culture and learning / human development
  - Impact evaluation
  - Implementation science

- Buy-In for GAML Initiatives with role for national-level measurement
“Network of Networks”

Regional Networks – “Sections”

- **West Africa**
  - Youth (14-24) Convenings
  - Seed grants

- **East Africa**
  - Youth (14-24) Convenings
  - Seed grants

- **MENA**
  - ECD
  - Primary Youth (14-24) Convenings
  - Seed grants

- **South Asia**
  - Convenings
  - Seed Grants

- **Technical Assistance**

- **Coordination & Communication**

- **Quality Assurance**

**Global Secretariat (Global TIES & Pratham)**
I. Planning Phase:
Global: Identify key players (Universities, researchers) in 4 regions (East Africa, West Africa, MENA, South Asia); identify Section Leader and co-Leader; host global planning meeting.
Sections: Attend global planning meeting; host regional planning meeting; identify research questions.

II. Development Phase:
Global: Provide technical assistance and guidance to Section Leader(s) in preparing for Seed Grant competition (guidelines and standards for evaluation etc.); develop solutions for dissemination, engagement, and collaborative learning.
Sections: Launch seed grant competition.

III. Implementation and Consolidation Phase:
Global: Provide technical assistance to sections and seed grant projects; host annual global convenings; facilitate and ensure collective learning and exchange; consolidate findings from sections.
Sections: Implement seed grant projects, consolidate findings, engage and collaborate in Global Network.
Objective: Landscape of available measure validation studies across full range of learning, development and quality (context) measures

Inclusion criteria
- Assesses individual level outcomes
  - Children and youth 6-24
  - Adults
- Setting-level characteristics and processes
  - E.g., classrooms, home environment
- Used in low- and/or middle-income country
The Inventory to Date…

- Total: 294 measure validation studies
  - Setting: 126
  - Individual: 168
    - child outcomes: aprx. 96%
    - Socioemotional: 84
    - cognitive: 28
    - physical health: 16
    - educational outcomes: 34
  - Used in more than one LMIC: 156
    - 89 individual-level
    - 67 setting-level
    - 76 measures have been used in more than five LAMICs.
Useful for…

- Guiding “common set of items” approach

- Mapping next steps for measures aside from literacy and math skills in SDG 4

- Adding current state of measurement of quality of education – preprimary through secondary / youth programs

- Identifying networks of researchers engaged with measurement
Next Steps

- Completion work for Measurement Inventory
- Launch user survey
- Systematize categorization of methodological rigor
- Identify associated tools for policy / training / practice
- Install on public platform