

EQUITABLE ACCESS TO EDUCATION WITH GEOSPATIAL DATA

PLEASE DISSEMINATE WIDELY

 **APPLY NOW**

For interested

- Educational planners, managers, policy-makers and analysts in education
- working for government, university, research institution, or civil society organization
- based in one of the KIX EAP countries, fluent in English and with access to a computer

KIX EAP LEARNING CYCLE IN ENGLISH STARTING ON 7 JUNE 2021

The Knowledge and Innovation Exchange (KIX) Europe, Asia and Pacific (EAP) Learning Cycle “**Equitable access to education with geospatial data**” is a professional development opportunity proposed by the UNESCO International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP) in the framework of the KIX EAP programme hosted by NORRAG. This training is proposed to national experts from 21 countries in the Europe, Asia, and the Pacific (EAP) region.

This Learning Cycle focuses on equitable access to education, with a special focus on the use of geospatial data in educational planning. The learning objectives pursued are:

- To understand the geospatial dimension of educational planning and management,
- To apply basic mapping techniques to visualize key education statistics,
- To combine different sources of information and analyse the results in light of geographic disparities,
- To examine and contrast different policy options that might respond to challenges in equitable access to education, particularly policies on gender equality.
- To produce quality knowledge products that are published, in English to be disseminated widely by the KIX EAP hub.

Specifically, this course will enable participating planners to challenge the different aspects of equitable access to education by harnessing the power of geospatial data in their daily work. The course will provide participants with new perspectives to inform decision-making, and insights from interactions with colleagues from other countries. By the end of the course, participants will be able to prepare a short report that will provide policy options to key national challenges.

To draw the full benefits of the training, participating countries should ideally have access to georeferenced information for the school system, i.e. full school mapping or geolocation of educational facilities, with school-level information (student, teachers, etc.). Participants that do not have access to such information are still invited to apply as alternative datasets can be shared by the trainers.

A Certificate of participation will be issued by IIEP, upon successful completion of the knowledge report.

FORMAT

The **online course** will start on 7 June and end on 9 July 2021. This course will be offered in English. However, the KIX EAP Hub can provide translation into Russian and Arabic, if needed. Please email your requests to

norrag.kix@graduateinstitute.ch

The participants will meet twice a week. Five 90-minute (max.) lectures on Tuesdays will combine theoretical sessions with practical workshops so that the participants can directly put in practice the elements presented by the instructors. Some sessions will be more theory-heavy, others more practice-oriented; some will be recorded, some live.

Five 45-minute sessions will be offered on Fridays with an open format to facilitate peer-exchange and peer-learning. Participants will exchange on their progress on their knowledge report, exchange ideas, ask questions, and share national experiences and resources. These sessions will support not only capacity building but also knowledge production. These sessions are optional and can be shortened or expanded if needed.

In the preparation of their knowledge report, countries will be supported by the trainers to produce the relevant charts, maps, and tables. Extra coaching sessions are expected, to provide participants with more tailored support when needed.

The course draws on free, open-source software and resources such as [QGIS](#) and the [IIEP Education Policy Toolbox](#). Beginner users will be introduced to those during the weekly Tuesday sessions, and more advanced users will be able to contribute to the course by coaching other participants.

INSTRUCTORS

The course will be taught by instructors with extensive experience in applied policy research:



Amélie A. Gagnon is a Demographer, leading the IIEP Development Unit, and designing innovative tools, guidelines and methodologies to improve the efficiency of educational planning and management in Member States. Amélie has almost 20 years of experience in education statistics, EMIS, household survey and census data management, and has also worked at the UNESCO Institute for Statistics and Statistics Canada. Amélie is also UNESCO Observer to the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management.



Germán Vargas Mesa is an Education Economist in the Development Unit at UNESCO IIEP. He is particularly interested in monitoring and evaluation, geospatial analysis, and the use of new methodologies to improve educational planning. Before coming to IIEP, he worked as a Teaching and Research Assistant at the Universidad de los Andes, as well as a consultant for the Inter-American Development Bank, researching educational policy in Colombia.

ELIGIBILITY

- Applicants must be from the [21 GPE KIX EAP countries](#)
- Have at least three years of prior educational planning, policy analysis, research, or management experience in education
- Must have access to Internet and reliable computer
- Can commit to weekly meetings, group work, and a strong motivation to collaboratively produce a data-based feasibility study
- Priority will be given to applicants who are already constituted in teams of 3-5 persons (ideally gender balanced), and whom have access to education data including school location and characteristics of teachers and students.
- Digital literacy is a prerequisite for the course, and participants need to install the software [QGIS](#) that will be used in the course.

The KIX EAP hub, hosted at NORRAG in Geneva, will collect all applications and forward them to the national KIX coordinators or national KIX Steering Committees for nomination. Ideally, each team consists of 3 participants– 1 from government (ideally EMIS or Planning Unit at the Ministry

of Education, 1 from a research institution (university, civil society, or applied research) and 1 from civil society, associations, private foundations or international organizations (UNICEF, World Bank, Open Society Foundations, etc.).

COURSE SCHEDULE

Participants and instructors will meet twice per week: once on Tuesdays for lectures and hands-on workshops (90 minute sessions) and meetings on Fridays for exchanging experiences and progress on the knowledge reports.

7 June	Logging on the online training platform (self-paced)
8 and 11 June	What is spatial information, any why should we use it in ED planning?
15 and 18 June	Mapping techniques using QGIS for educational planning
22 and 25 June	Analysing the demand for education: standards, population, language of instruction, catchment areas, etc.
29 June and 2 July	Analysing the supply of education: geographic distribution of schools, school infrastructure, teacher deployment, etc.
6 and 9 July	Policy responses: towards more responsiveness
16 July	Teams submit their knowledge report

COURSE FEES

There are no course fees. The course is funded from a Knowledge and Innovation Exchange (KIX) grant of the Global Partnership for Education (GPE). The GPE KIX Initiative is administered by the International Development Research Centre in Ottawa (Canada) and NORRAG, based in Geneva (Switzerland), serves as the hub for the region Europe – Asia – Pacific.

APPLICATION

Please fill out this [Application Form](#) which includes:

- a short motivation statement (maximum 500 words) explaining:
 - (i) why you are interested in the course and
 - (ii) confirming your availability to regularly meet with your team members as well as with the instructors during the 5-week online course.
- a short CV to your email that demonstrates your prior experience in policy analysis, research or project management in education.

Application of teams of 3-5 participants is strongly recommended.

Deadline to submit your application is 18 May, 2021. For more questions, please reach out to the KIX EAP hub at norrag.kix@graduateinstitute.ch or to the National KIX Coordinator in your country.

