Ministries of Education across Latin America and the Caribbean will participate in IIEP-UNESCO’s Regional Forum on Education Policy

Ministries and national secretariats across the region will take part in the 2020 edition of the Regional Forum on Education Policy: Inclusion and Education in Post-Pandemic Times, which will bring together key public figures, experts and researchers in a space for debate and reflection in order to address the challenge of educational exclusion, aggravated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

 **Between November 9 and 12, representatives from at least 19 ministries and national secretariats of education will participate in the Regional Forum on Education Policy—an annual meeting for government officials and education experts from UNESCO’s Member States—with the goal of deepening their commitment to achieving the goals that make up the** [**Education 2030 Agenda**](https://es.unesco.org/themes/liderar-ods-4-educacion-2030)**.**

The fourth edition of the event, which will be held virtually for the first time, will be structured around the Regional Edition of the **UNESCO Global Education Monitoring Report** ([GEM 2020](https://es.unesco.org/gem-report/)), to be [released on November 5](https://es.unesco.org/gem-report/LAC2020inclusion). The forum will be inaugurated by Suzanne Grant Lewis, Director of IIEP-UNESCO, Pablo Cevallos Estarellas, Regional Director of IIEP-UNESCO, Claudia Uribe, Director of OREALC/UNESCO, Manos Antoninis, Director of the GEM Report, Justine Sass, Chief of the Section of Education for Inclusion and Gender Equality at UNESCO, and Mayte Ortiz, Managing Director of Fundación SM.

Additional authors of the GEM Report will also sit on the five panels of the forum and, together with other experts, will discuss different factors of exclusion that produce discriminatory practices within education systems. The issues to be addressed include the access of Venezuelan migrants to education in Colombia, the situation of young people deprived of liberty in Uruguay, the development of intercultural education policies in Ecuador, and the legislation of several countries in the region that continue to marginalise students with disabilities to this day. In addition, panellists will analyse how the pandemic has deepened these and other educational gaps.

Based on the diagnosis and recommendations presented in the panels, ministry officials from Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Curaçao, Ecuador, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Mexico, Montserrat, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Martin, Saint Lucia and Suriname will work on proposals for concrete actions to develop policies that foster a more inclusive education.

The Regional Forum on Education Policy is jointly organised by the Office for Latin America of the UNESCO International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP), the UNESCO Regional Bureau for Education in Latin America and the Caribbean (OREALC/UNESCO), the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS); the UNESCO Division of Education 2030 Support and Coordination, and the Global Education Monitoring Report (GEM Report).

In addition to the forum—and in a second effort to support education systems in the region during the current health emergency—as of March, IIEP-UNESCO has been compiling the measures that Latin American countries are taking to preserve educational continuity during the pandemic in a [systematisation of responses of Latin American education systems to the COVID-19 crisis](https://www.siteal.iiep.unesco.org/respuestas_educativas_covid_19). The new GEM Report, in turn, has been complemented by the launch of a new platform, [Profiles Enhancing Education Reviews](https://education-profiles.org/index.php/es) (PEER), which contains a series of education profiles describing countries’ laws and policies on inclusion and education.

**More Information**

**IV Regional Forum on Education Policy: Inclusion and Education in Post-Pandemic Times**

November 9 to 12 | Virtual event | Participation by invitation only

<https://www.buenosaires.iiep.unesco.org/foro-regional/2020>

**Organisation:**Office for Latin America of the UNESCO International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP); UNESCO Regional Bureau for Education in Latin America and the Caribbean (OREALC/UNESCO); UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS); UNESCO Division of Education 2030 Support and Coordination; and the Global Education Monitoring Report (GEM Report).

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