RAPID: A framework to accelerate foundational learning

The RAPID Framework presents a pathway to ensure all children can acquire foundational learning skills. Developed by UNICEF, UNESCO, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the United Kingdom's Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and the World Bank, the RAPID Framework was initially introduced to support education systems in response to the COVID-19. Post-pandemic, the framework continues to be relevant in response to ongoing challenges, including in addressing foundational learning - the basic literacy, numeracy and socioemotional skills that provide the fundamental building blocks for all other learning, knowledge and higher-order thinking skills.

The RAPID Framework encapsulates five key actions needed to accelerate foundational learning:



- ✓ Promote attendance and re-enrollment through back-toschool campaigns
- ✓ Provide cash transfers
- ✓ Use early warning systems to identify at-risk students

- **ASSESS**
- ✓ Assess learning at the system level to inform policy and decision-making
- ✓ Provide teachers with tools for classroom-level measurement
- fundamentals.

PRIORITIZE

teaching the

- Prioritize numeracy, literacy, socioemotional skills
- Focus instruction on closing the gaps between desired and in specific subjects
- ✓ Adjust curriculum across and within

subjects

- actual student learning
- ✓ Use approaches that align instruction with learning needs: targeted instruction; structured
- self-quided learning Support teachers continuously; build practical pedagogical and digital skills
- Enhance learning with technology
- ✓ Build teachers' capacity to support their students' wellbeing and identify students in need of specialized services

DEVELOP

psychosocial

health and

wellbeing.

- ✓ Support teacher wellbeing and resilience
- Invest in students' safety, nutrition, and access to water, sanitation, and hygiene facilities



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The RAPID Framework is being used to track progress on countries' efforts to improve foundational learning.

Several rounds of RAPID surveys have been implemented since March 2022 to take stock of countries' RAPID actions. The surveys ask UNICEF country offices, in consultation with Ministries of Education, to indicate the extent to which policy measures are currently being implemented for each dimension of the RAPID Framework. The first few RAPID rounds focused on COVID-19 learning recovery, with global reports and regional briefs produced in March 2022, September 2022 and March 2023.

Countries' policy actions and systems strengthening efforts to support foundational learning are being monitored under the RAPID Framework.

In mid-2023, the RAPID survey was redesigned to shift focus from COVID-19 learning recovery to foundational learning, in line with the Commitment to Action on Foundational Learning launched during the Transforming Education Summit in September 2022. The latest round of the RAPID survey, administered between June-July 2023, was complemented by data from UNICEF's internal monitoring and reporting exercise to assess the extent to which enabling systems are in place to support RAPID. Using these data collection streams, the Foundational Learning Action Tracker was jointly launched by UNICEF and the Hempel Foundation in September 2023. The initiative found that low- and middle-income countries are initiating progress on foundational learning, but more efforts are needed to increase the efficiency of instruction and develop overall wellbeing. Moreover, systems to support and sustain RAPID implementation must be strengthened across all RAPID dimensions.

The RAPID data collection allows for a variety of knowledge products to present the findings and promote accountability.

In 2023, these knowledge products included a global report, regional briefs, country scorecards for low- and middle-income countries signing the Commitment to Action on Foundational Learning, and interactive infographics. The tracking of foundational learning using the RAPID data collection will be updated on an annual basis.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT
THE FOUNDATIONAL LEARNING
ACTION TRACKER, SCAN THE QR CODE:

