KNOWLEDGE GENERATION AND UPTAKE FROM LEARNING SCIENCES AT UNESCO

Drivers for knowledge generation: Multiple crises in education worldwide

771M

young people and adults lack basic literacy skills,

two thirds of them women

70%

of countries worldwide

allocate less than 4%of their GDP to education

222M

school-aged children and youth

are affected by crises globally

50%

of curriculum documents analyzed in 100 countries

don't mention climate change

69M

teachers

must be recruited to achieve universal primary and secondary education by 2030

244M

children and youth

are out of school globally

Less than 40%

of girls in sub-Saharan Africa

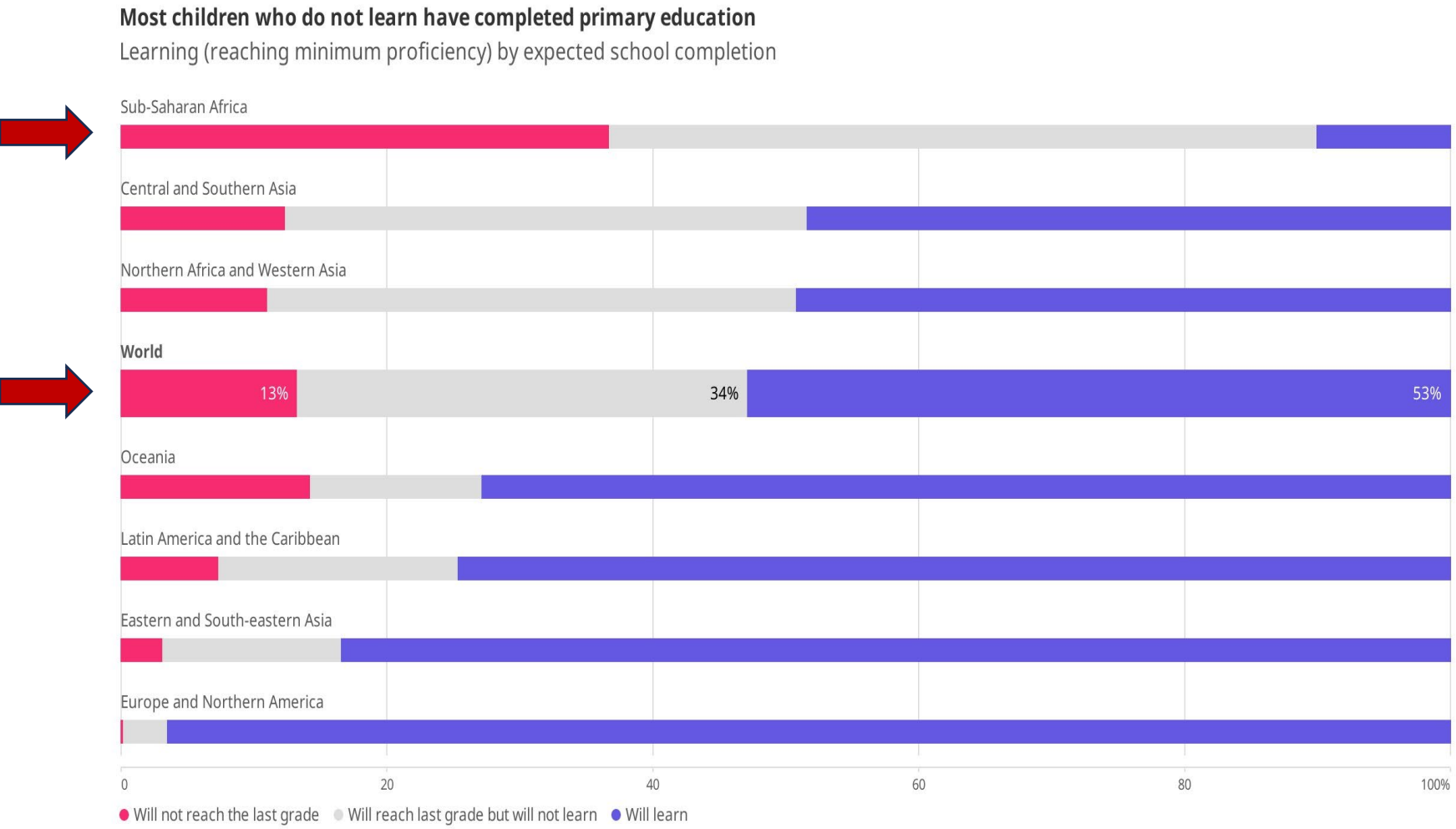
complete lower secondary school

US$200 billion

in additional funding is needed annually

to get the world on track to achieve SDG 4 by 2030

Drivers for knowledge generation: Global learning crisis



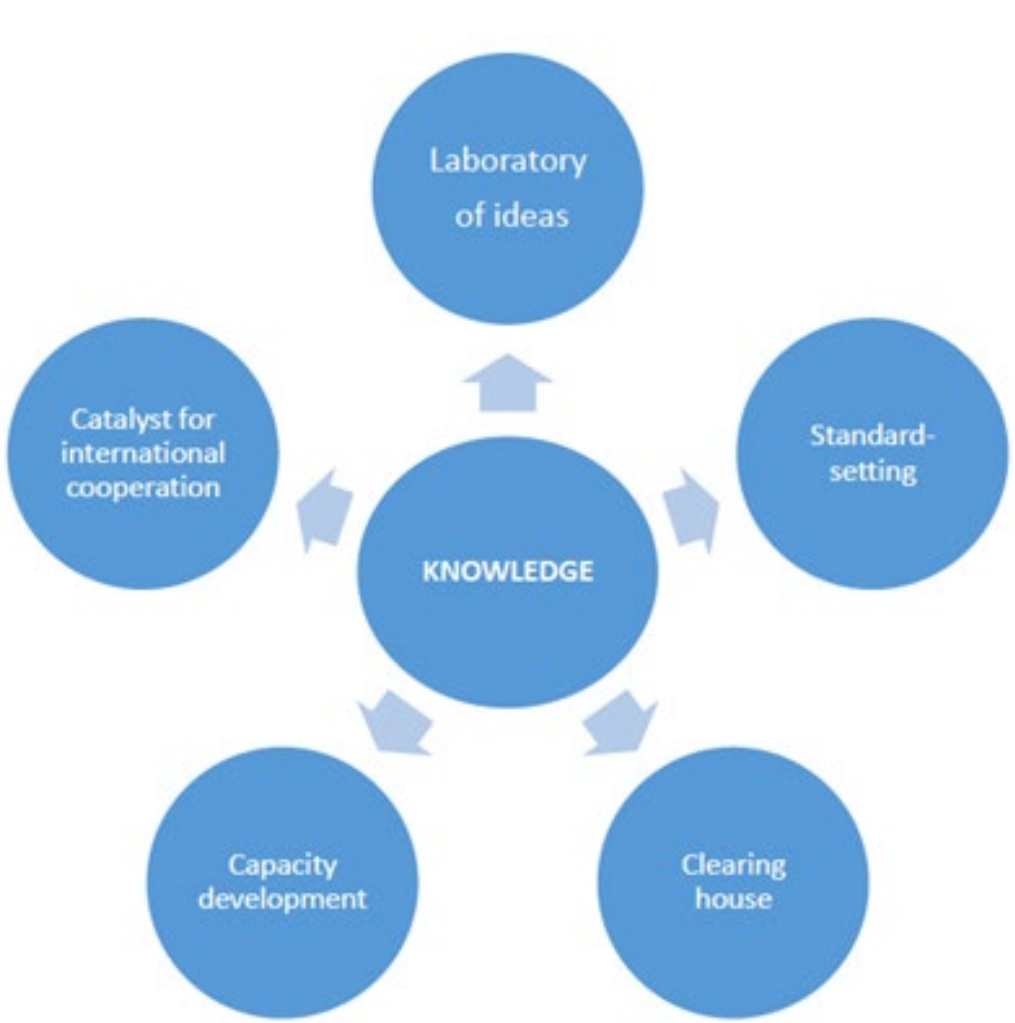
Source: GEMR based on UIS data

Globally,

one third

of children who complete primary school do not reach a minimum proficiency level in reading

‘Five’ key functions of UNESCO: UNESCO as a knowledge organisation



Laboratory of ideas
generating innovative proposals and policy advice in its fields of competence

Clearinghouse
developing and reinforcing the global agenda through policy analysis, monitoring and benchmarking, and the generation and analysis of benchmark data and statistics

Standard-setter
setting norms and standards and supporting their implementation

Catalyst for international cooperation
strengthening international and regional cooperation, and fostering alliances, intellectual, financial and technical cooperation, knowledge-sharing, mobilizing resources and operational partnerships

Capacity-builder
providing advice for policy development and implementation, and developing institutional and human capacities

Knowledge generation to fulfill mandated functions – Flagship reports

Thought leadership - Global education agenda setting

2015
Sustainable Development Goals

2016 -
Global Education Monitoring (GEM) reports (annual or biannual) through 2030

2021
International Commission on the Futures of Education "Reimagining our futures together: a new social contract for education"

2022
UN Transforming Education Summit

2022
The International Science and Evidence based Education Assessment

2023
SDG 4 High-Level Steering Committee: Functional Area 1 on evidence-informed policy and practice

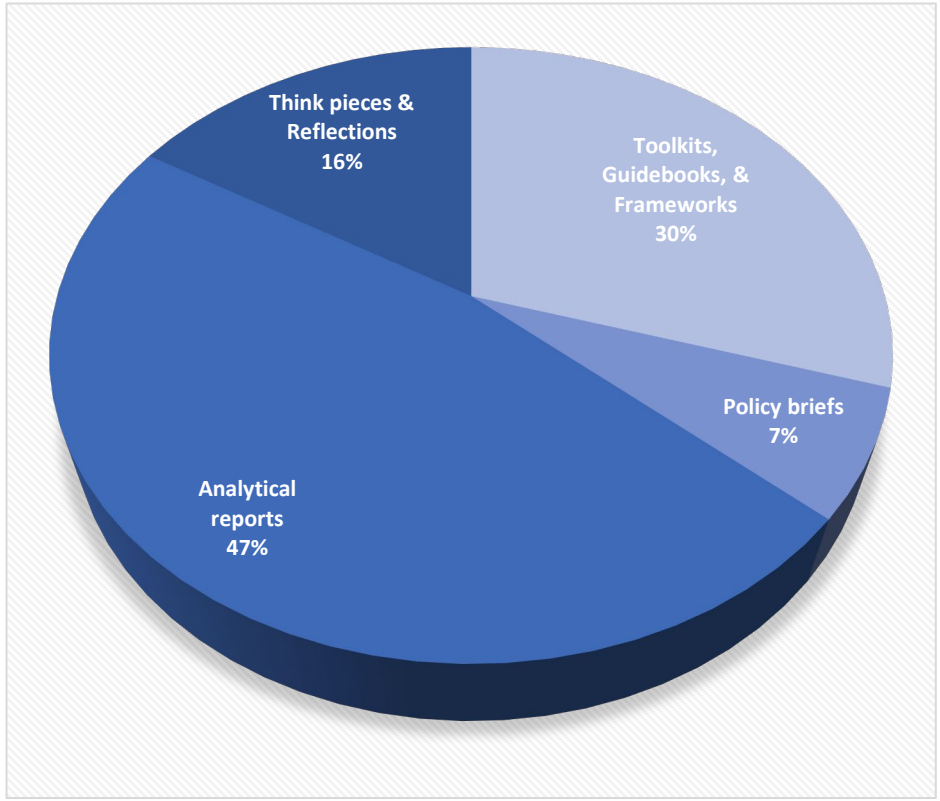
Policy advice & technical support for policy implementation

UNESCO programmes and networks on learning sciences

- Research on alignment of curriculum, pedagogy and assessment
- Learning research networks, e.g.
  - ✓ NEQMAP (Network on Education Quality Monitoring in Asia-Pacific)
  - ✓ TALENT (Teaching and Learning: Educators' Network for Transformation aiming to improve learning quality in Africa)
- IBRO/IBE Science of Learning Fellowships

  Fellowships awarded for translating neuroscience research into insights for educators and policymakers
- The UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs Programme

UNESCO's work on learning: curriculum, pedagogy and assessment



In total 239 resources from 2015 to 2023, out of which

Curriculum 73

Pedagogy 104

Assessment 90

Curriculum + Pedagogy + Assessment 7

Foundational Learning 35

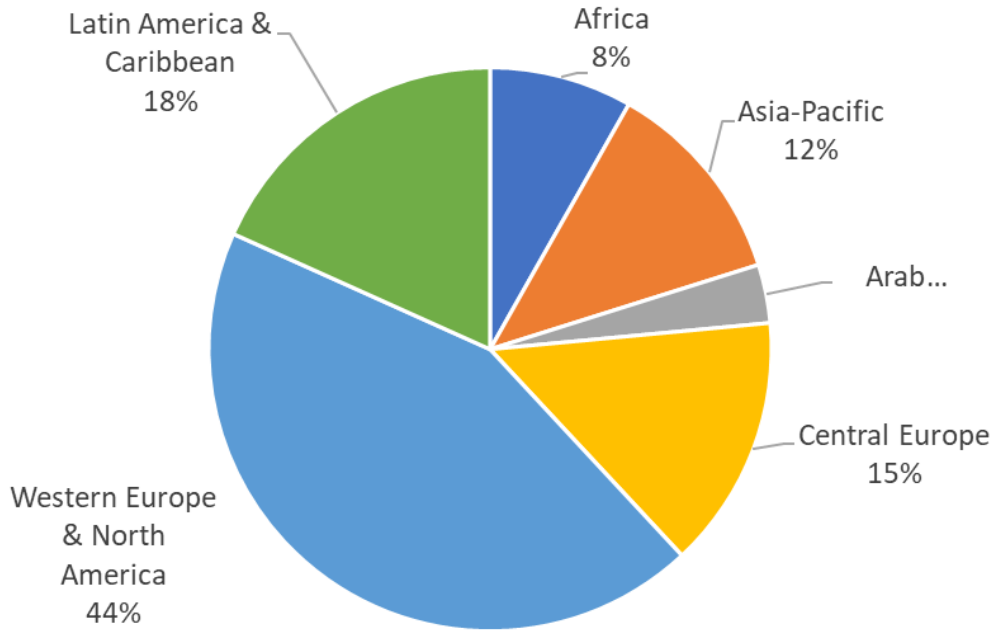
ICT 58

The UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs Programme

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

University Twinning and Networking Programme

1,000 Chairs and UNITWIN networks. About 25% of these are in education, disaggregated by region:



Objectives

- International inter-university cooperation and networking
- Platform for institutional capacity-building and knowledge-sharing
- Research, training, and exchange of academics, researchers, graduate students
- Pooling of resources to address pressing global challenges
- Research-practice-policy interface
- Forward thinking and innovative
- Inter-disciplinary and inter-sectoral
- North-South, South-South, North-South-South

In-country “research” translation and implementation, through e.g.

- Education sector analysis (ESA)
- Education policy reviews (EPR)
- Thematic research
- Policy/social dialogues on education
- Comparative analysis
- Happy Schools
- Etc.