



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
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## Strengthening multi-partner cooperation to support teacher policy and improve learning

### The Norwegian Teacher Initiative

The Norwegian Teacher Initiative aims to increase the supply of qualified teachers in four African countries while promoting greater coordination among key international education agencies.

*Project generously sponsored by*



**Norad**

# About the Norwegian Teacher Initiative

The Norwegian Teacher Initiative was launched with the objective to strengthen coordination among international education stakeholders for stronger teacher policies.

The overall vision of the NTI is to facilitate and accelerate the achievement of SDG target 4.c. of the Education 2030 Agenda. The initiative aims to achieve two main outcomes:

1. improved coordination among partner organizations, and
2. strengthened national teacher policies that impact teaching, learning and contribute to the teacher target.

The project, funded by Norad, supports governments in four countries in sub-Saharan Africa to close their teacher gaps by identifying and systematically addressing the various levers and gaps in their teacher policies.

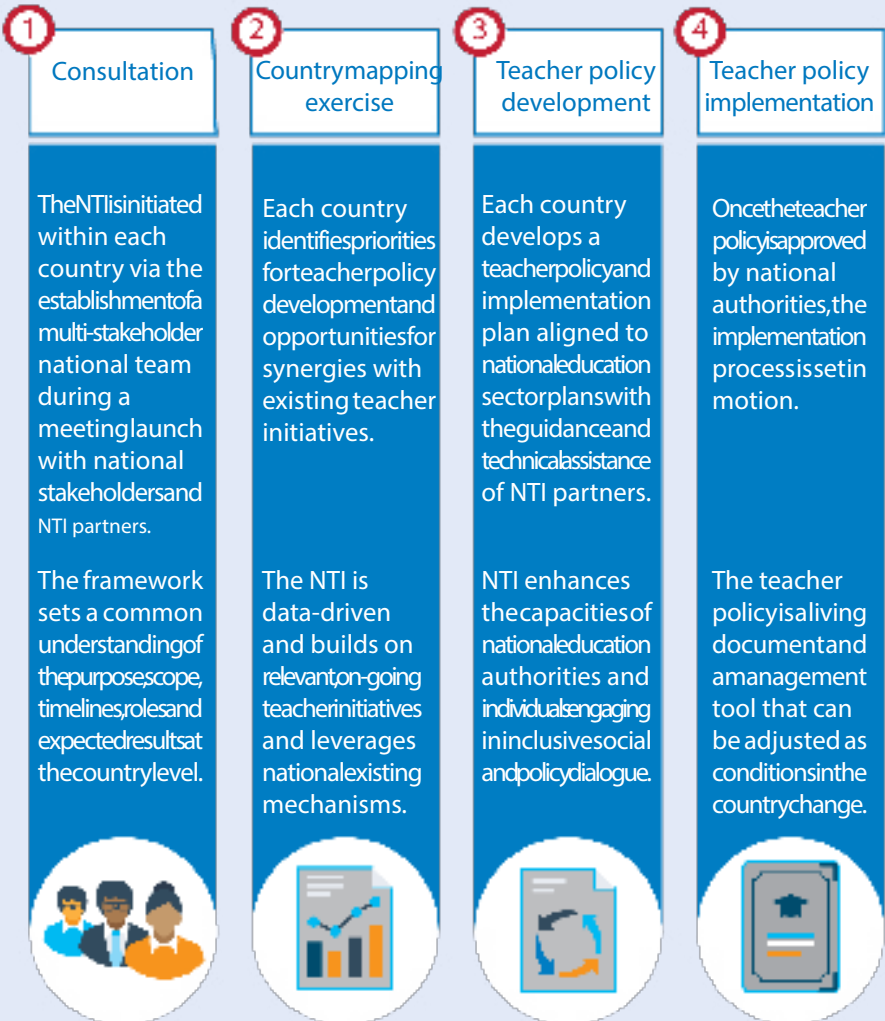
**Burkina Faso, Ghana, Malawi and Uganda** were selected by the NTI partners as beneficiary countries based on political commitment.

As Co-convenor of Education 2030 and the Secretariat of the International Task Force on Teachers for Education 2030 (TTF), UNESCO is the lead coordinator of the initiative.



# Four phases at country level

The roll-out of NTI project activities comprises four phases at country level. Planning processes are anchored in inclusive policy dialogue and reinforced by intra- and cross-national knowledge sharing.



## Partnership at international level

The NTI builds upon the comparative advantage of major partners to reinforce synergies for coordinated support to country-led policy development and implementation.

The Cooperation Framework enables partners at the global and country levels to work in a more coordinated manner with governments and key national stakeholders in developing and implementing holistic teacher policies. Based on the priorities of the

beneficiary countries and comparative advantage of each partner, clear roles were defined for partner organizations to act as **country** and **thematic leads** for the coordination and optimisation of all contributions.



## Background

The presence of skilled and motivated teachers is essential to improving education quality and learning outcomes.

Sub-Saharan Africa has the world's largest teacher gap and the fastest growing school age population. The region needs to recruit a total of 17 million primary and secondary teachers by 2030.<sup>1</sup> The impact of a global shortage of teachers on the Education 2030 Agenda requires urgent improvements to teacher training, professional development, recruitment and retention. The conditions under which many teachers perform duties remain largely unsatisfactory. The UNESCO Institute for Statistics estimates that the world needs 68.8 million primary and secondary

school teachers by 2030 in response to SDG4. Various teacher initiatives are undertaken by development partners supporting countries to enhance teacher policies and practices. However, they often manifest as stand-alone or parallel development programmes implemented separately within the same country, and do not yield comprehensive sustainable results. Coordinated actions between organizations assisting national education authorities are vital to achieve sustainable impacts on quality learning.

<sup>1</sup> UNESCO Institute for Statistics, 2016



## UNESCO Education Sector

Education is UNESCO's top priority because it is a basic human right and the foundation on which to build peace and drive sustainable development. UNESCO is the United Nations' specialized agency for education and the Education Sector provides global and regional leadership in education, strengthens national education systems and responds to contemporary global challenges through education with a special focus on gender equality and Africa.



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## The Global Education 2030 Agenda

UNESCO, as the United Nations' specialized agency for education, is entrusted to lead and coordinate the Education 2030 Agenda, which is part of a global movement to eradicate poverty through 17 Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. Education, essential to achieve all of these goals, has its own dedicated Goal 4, which aims to "ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all." The Education 2030 Framework for Action provides guidance for the implementation of this ambitious goal and commitments.



## Stay in touch

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