Developing a research network to explore education in the wake of Covid-19: a report on work in progress

Dr Priyank Shukla (Ulster University) & Dr Elizabeth Hidson (University of Sunderland)

Representing the Comparative and Interdisciplinary Education Research Network (CIERN)

This presentation is given on behalf of the members of the Comparative and Interdisciplinary Education Research Network (CIERN), which brings international interdisciplinary and education researchers to work on topics relating to education broadly captured under United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG 4).

The network was created through a 2021-2022 Research Networking Grant awarded by BAICE.

Background

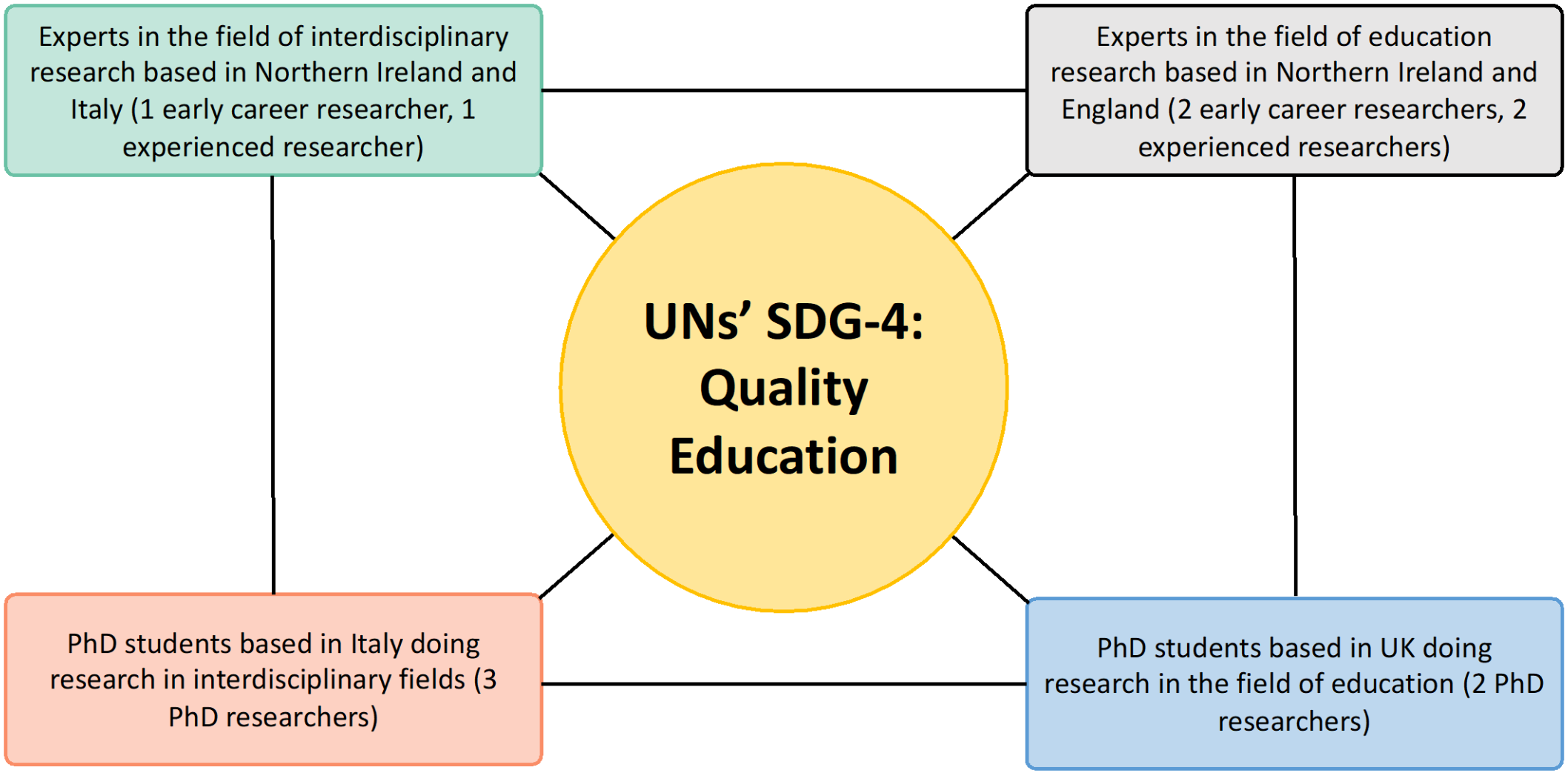
- Developing an international **collective** of experienced and early career researchers
- ISA – Institute of Advanced Studies, **Bologna** and link to SDG4
- **BAICE** application
  - CIERN Network – the process
  - Research – the outcomes

Establishing the network

ISA Bologna

Network

Research


Experts in the field of interdisciplinary research based in Northern Ireland and Italy (1 early career researcher, 1 experienced researcher)
Experts in the field of education research based in Northern Ireland and England (2 early career researchers, 2 experienced researchers)
UNs' SDG-4: Quality Education
PhD students based in Italy doing research in interdisciplinary fields (3 PhD researchers)
PhD students based in UK doing research in the field of education (2 PhD researchers)

Meet the team: academics

Dr Priyank Shukla

Ulster University, Northern Ireland

Dr Elizabeth Hidson

University of Sunderland, England

Professor Stephen McClean

Ulster University, Northern Ireland

Dr Sara Ganassin

Newcastle University, England

Professor Patrizia Fattori

University of Bologna, Italy

Dr Una O'Connor Bones

Ulster University, Northern Ireland

Bioinformatics, international education, bioscience education, applied linguistics and intercultural communication neuroscience, education

Interdisciplinary PhD students

Ms Sidra Asghar*
University of Bologna, Italy

Ms Emma Jackson*
University of York, England

Ms Benoite Martin*
Ulster University, Northern Ireland

Ms Amirdhavarshini Padmanabhan
University of Bologna, Italy

Mr Abdelmagid Sakr
University of Bologna, Italy

Ms Iuliia Selivanova
University of Bologna, Italy

Ms Olga Trunova*
University of Bologna, Italy

Ms Dora Tot
University of Bologna, Italy

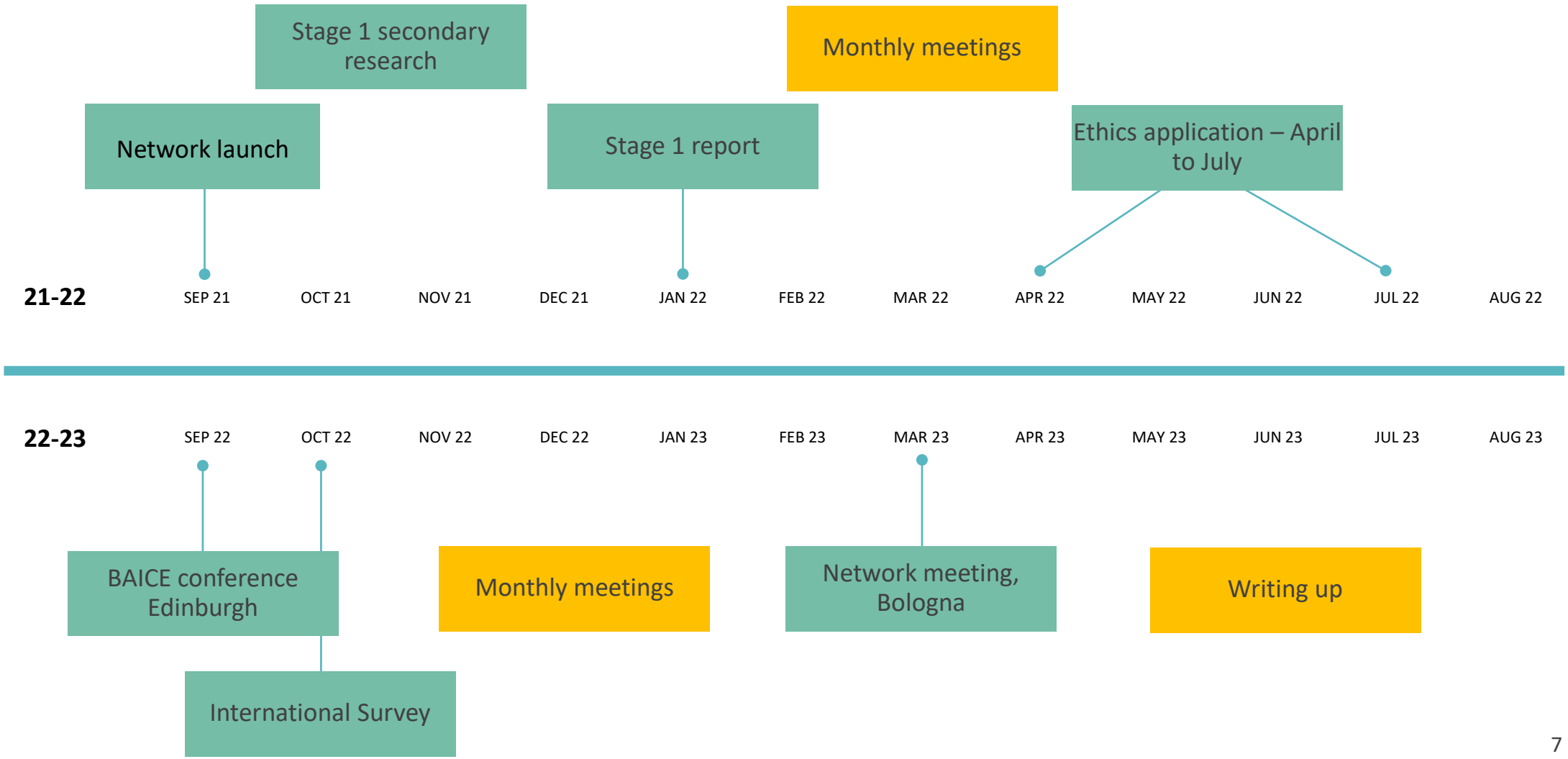
Mr Christos Tseronis
University of Bologna, Italy

Ms Masayo Watanabe
University of Bologna, Italy

Ms Xin Zhang
University of Bologna, Italy

Linguistics, Biotechnology, Global Histories, Cultures and Politics, Future Earth, Climate Change and Societal Challenges, Graeco-Arabic studies, collaboration between private and public entities, governance of Smart Cities and sustainable development goals, SDG4, early detection of Hepatocellular Carcinoma, behavioural and experimental economics, the introduction of new educational policies by Kurdish Authorities in North-East Syria, applied human rights …

Timeline


Stage 1 secondary research
Monthly meetings
Network launch
Stage 1 report
Ethics application – April to July
21-22
SEP 21
OCT 21
NOV 21
DEC 21
JAN 22
FEB 22
MAR 22
APR 22
MAY 22
JUN 22
JUL 22
AUG 22
22-23
SEP 22
OCT 22
NOV 22
DEC 22
JAN 23
FEB 23
MAR 23
APR 23
MAY 23
JUN 23
JUL 23
AUG 23
BAICE conference Edinburgh
Monthly meetings
Network meeting, Bologna
Writing up
International Survey

Substantive research

- Giving **purpose** to the network
- **Educative** process
- Learning through and from the **process**
- Substantive research **outcomes**

Stage 1

Published secondary data from the government and education bodies of different countries studied to identify key findings and trends in relation to the pandemic-related reversal and recovery.

Stage 2

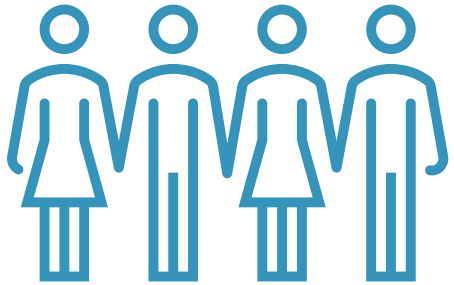
Follow-up qualitative interviews with representative stakeholders

Stage 3

Data analysis; mixed methods visual joint display analysis, where statistics and qualitative findings are merged for a side-by-side comparison

Research model

Initial secondary data



Report, conference (& forum paper)

International survey

Collaborative journal article

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS
17 GOALS TO TRANSFORM OUR WORLD
1 NO POVERTY
2 ZERO HUNGER
3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING
4 QUALITY EDUCATION
5 GENDER EQUALITY
6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION
7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY
8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH
9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE
10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES
11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES
12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION
13 CLIMATE ACTION
14 LIFE BELOW WATER
15 LIFE ON LAND
16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS
17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

4 QUALITY EDUCATION

ENSURE INCLUSIVE AND EQUITABLE QUALITY EDUCATION AND PROMOTE LIFELONG LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL

COVID-19 IMPLICATIONS

SCHOOL CLOSURES KEPT

90% OF ALL STUDENTS OUT OF SCHOOL

REVERSING YEARS OF PROGRESS ON EDUCATION

REMOTE LEARNING REMAINS

OUT OF REACH FOR

AT LEAST

500 MILLION STUDENTS

THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS REPORT 2022: UNSTATS.UN.ORG/SDGS/REPORT/2022/

4 QUALITY EDUCATION

ENSURE INCLUSIVE AND EQUITABLE QUALITY EDUCATION AND PROMOTE LIFELONG LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL

COVID-19 PANDEMIC

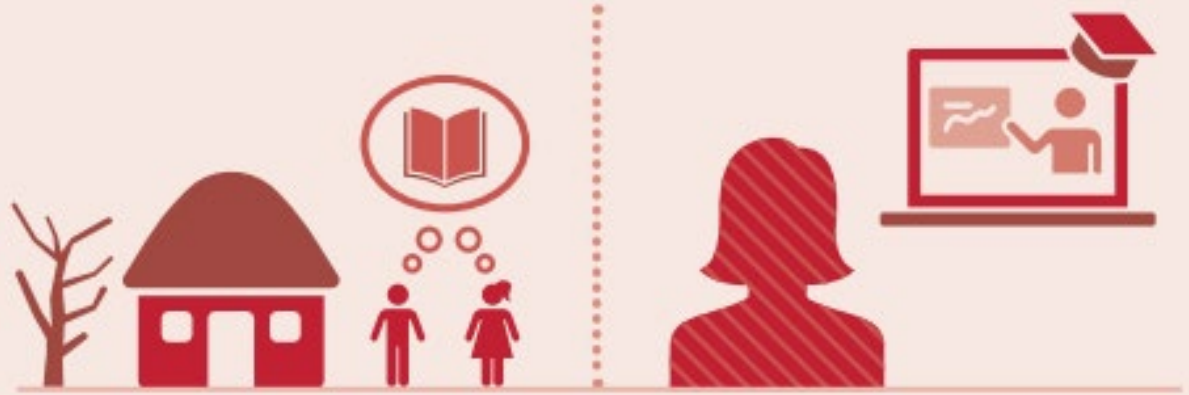
HAS DEEPENED A

GLOBAL LEARNING CRISIS

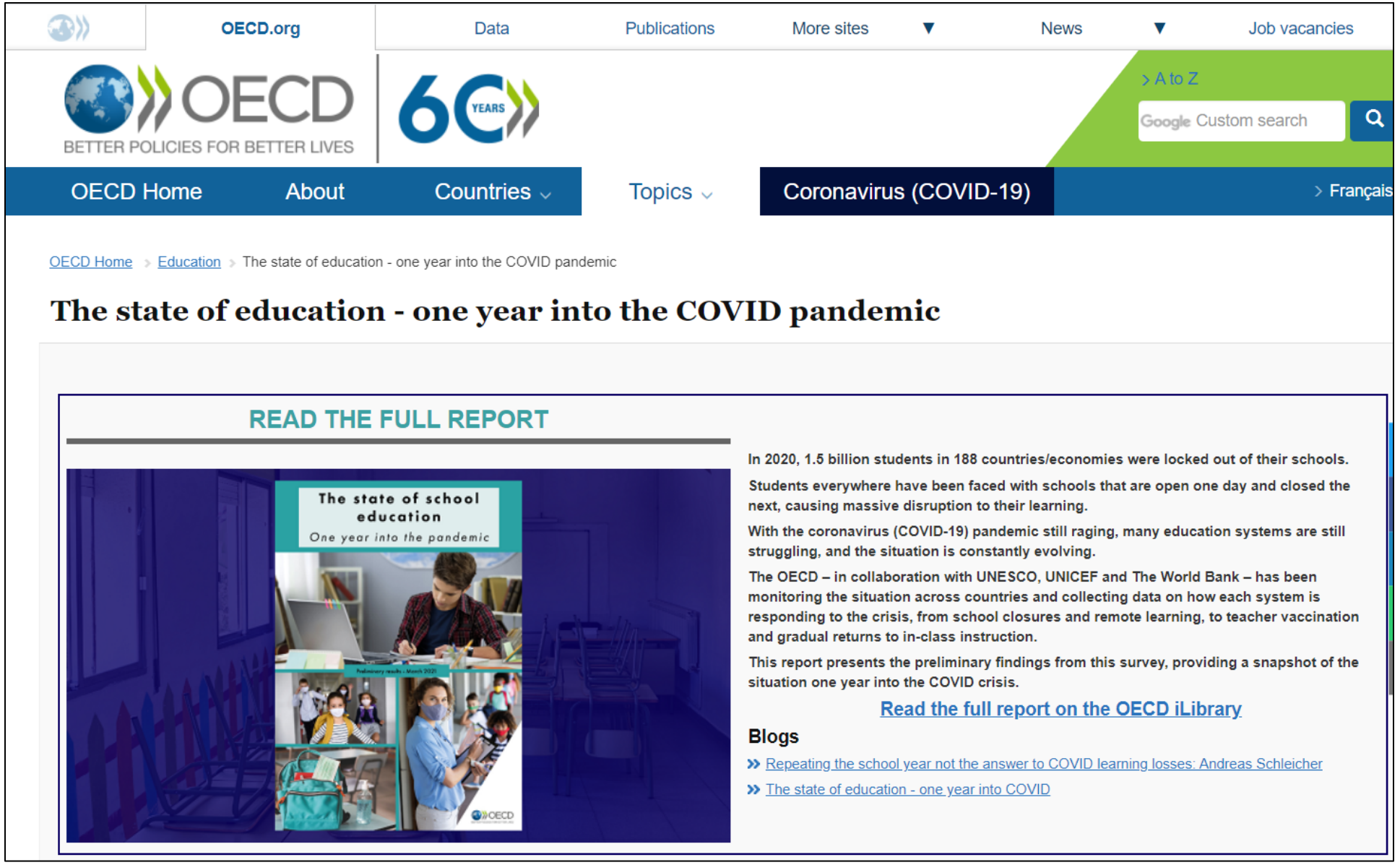
147 MILLION CHILDREN

MISSED OVER HALF OF IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION IN 2020-2021

ENTRENCHED INEQUITIES IN EDUCATION HAVE ONLY WORSENED DURING THE PANDEMIC



THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS REPORT 2022: UNSTATS.UN.ORG/SDGS/REPORT/2022/



https://www.oecd.org/education/state-of-school-education-one-year-into-COVID.htm

Elizabeth Hidson + 9 • 7mo

Post-Covid Education Project

An interactive Padlet map to show and share initial selection of countries for our project

Syria
Syria

South Korea
South Korea

Egypt
Egypt

China
Post Covid-19 Education in China

Croatia
Croatia

Γαλλία
France Γαλλία

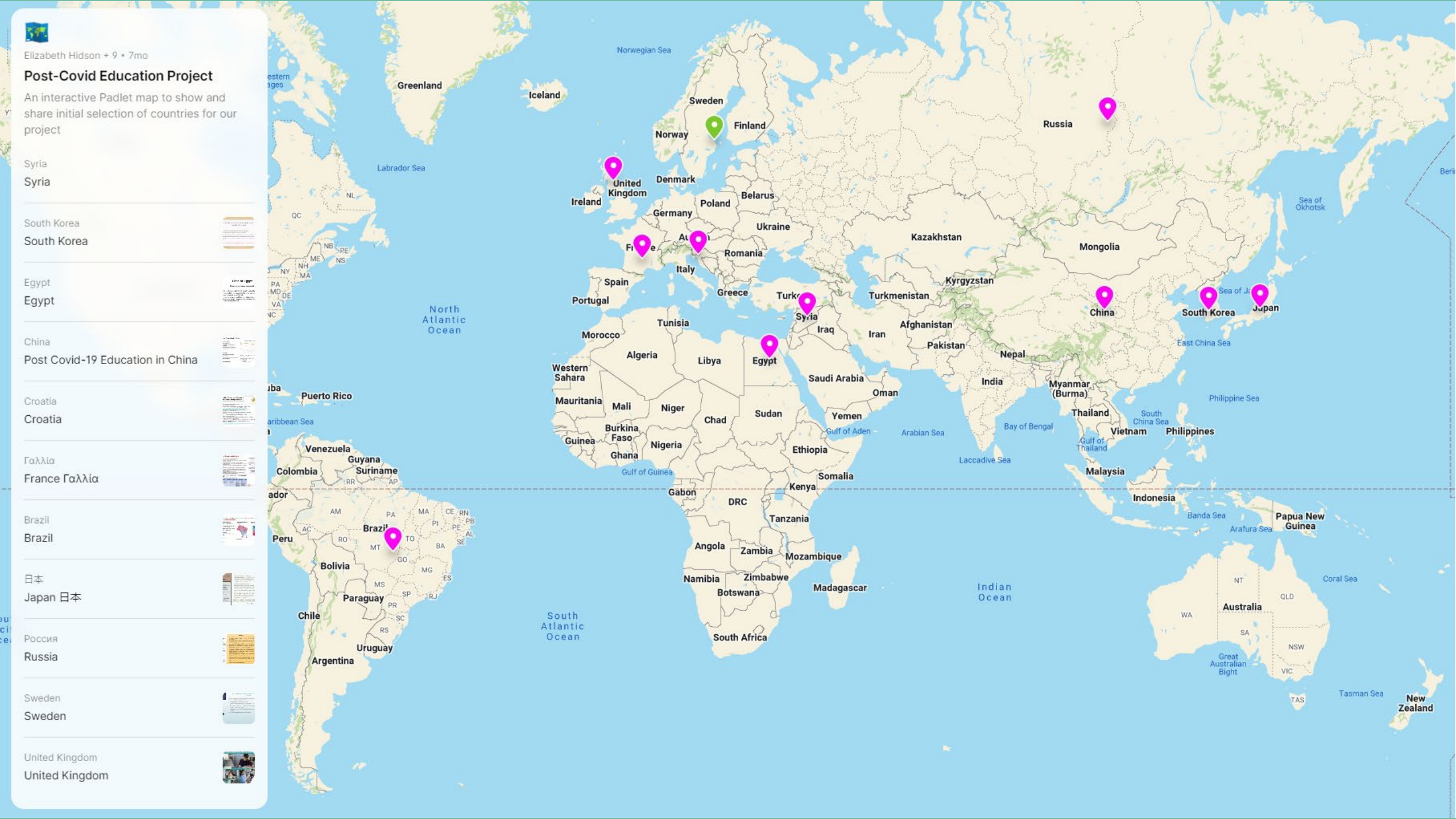
Brazil
Brazil

日本
Japan 日本

Россия
Russia

Sweden
Sweden

United Kingdom
United Kingdom

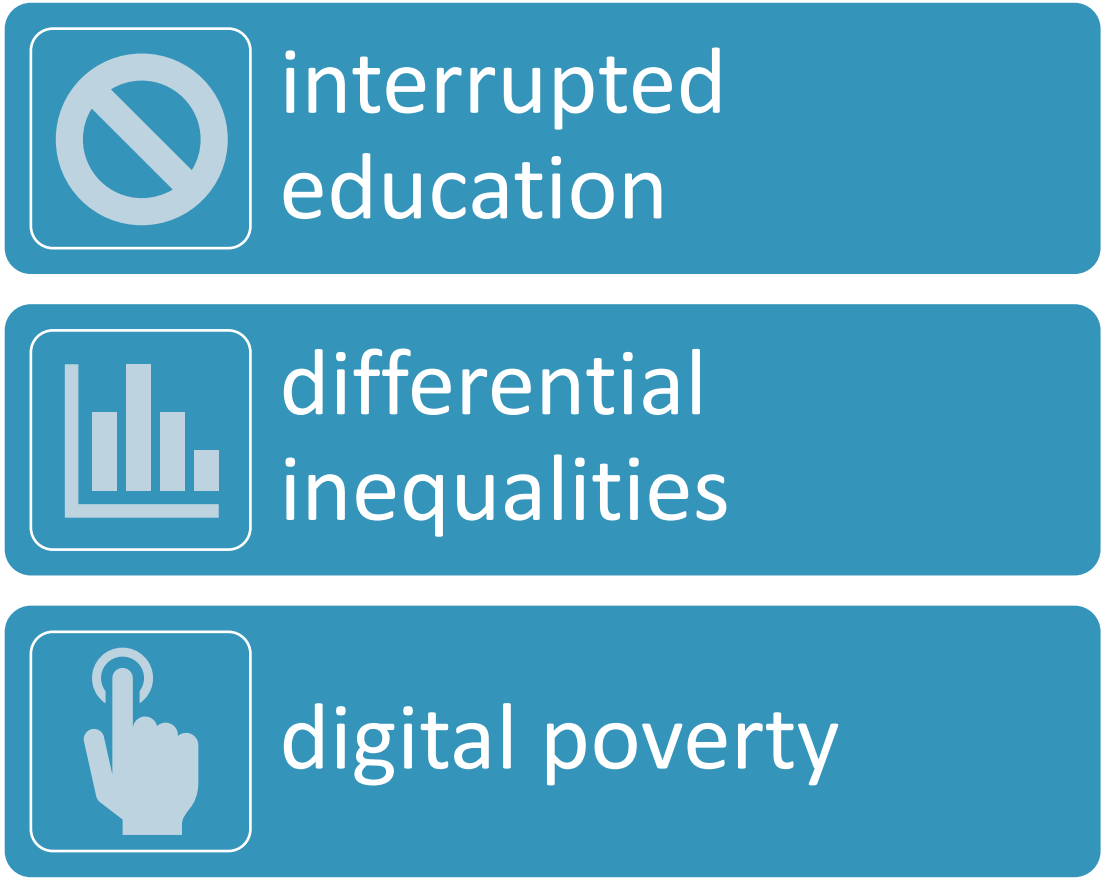


Personal and professional interest

- Baseline of the 2020-2021 school year, working from Jan 2020 as the beginning point of the **pandemic**
- Starting by **disaggregating** and exploring published secondary data
- **What is happening now** and what are the plans to address education post-Covid? Has Covid UNDONE any previous gains?
- Re-applying a **critical lens** to individual countries and exploring their contexts
- Preliminary report to identify **key themes**

Interim findings

- Three major **themes** emerging from initial review
- Thematic **heat map**
- **Interview protocol** underpinning the second stage of the research to be carried out with teachers in each of the ten countries
- International **survey**



Next steps

- BAICE Compare Journal - **forum paper** – “an informed and critically reflective contribution to a topic drawing from different experiences, which may include researcher and practitioner.”
- International **survey**
- Follow-up semi-structured online **interviews**
- This will allow for a series of triangulated international **case studies** to illuminate high-level quantitative data using a mixed methods **joint display** analysis approach
- Face-to-face meeting in **Bologna** to review data and work on findings
- Collaborative **article**

The work of the network continues

- **Opened** recruitment to new ISA students
- **Broadened** the scope to include more academics
- **Wider** range of invited guest speakers
- **Alignment** with other SDG work at University of Bologna
- **Expanding** the reach

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CIERN

COMPARATIVE AND INTERDISCIPLINARY EDUCATION RESEARCH NETWORK

https://ciernetwork.wordpress.com/

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