



AEWG 2020: Year In Review

February 2021

Dear AEWG partners and supporters:

2020 marked the sixth full year of the Accelerated Education Working Group (AEWG), a year marked by global challenge and innovation. It has been a year that the AEWG, working to improve the quality of Accelerated Education (AE) globally, has thrived as a leader in the broader provision of education for out-of-school children and youth.

The COVID-19 pandemic, which left 1.6 billion children out of school worldwide, meant the world needed to rapidly scale up flexible education options to reach all learners. This global need mandated us to leverage our expertise in accelerating learning to provide guidance for donors, implementers, and education systems to help all learners catch up when schools reopen. Thanks to the agility of our working group, we were able to pivot to develop much needed principles, tools, and guidance to fill this gap.

In 2021, we look forward to expanding our COVID-19 work, pursuing our learning agenda, and supporting partners to guarantee the right to education for all children and youth.

In 2020, the AEWG prioritised five strategic areas, which will continue to guide our 2021 work plan:



Ministries of Education (MOE) and education leaders are supported to deploy AE and catch-up programmes in response to COVID-19



Quality of Accelerated Education Programmes (AEP) is improved



AE evidence base is strengthened



AEPs are better resourced by all key stakeholders for scale and quality



AEPs are included by more governments in national education plans and policies

All AEWG tools, guidance, and resources are available in English, Spanish, Portuguese, and Arabic on the [INEE Accelerated Education web page](#).

*The 2020 AEWG budget, made up of member contributions, was **\$97,000***



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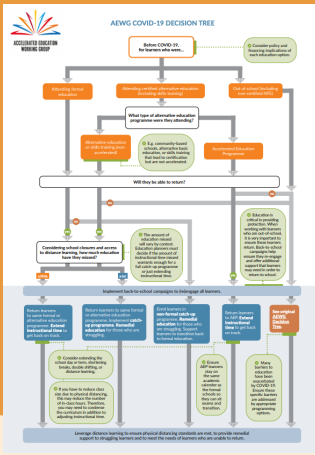


Strategic Area:

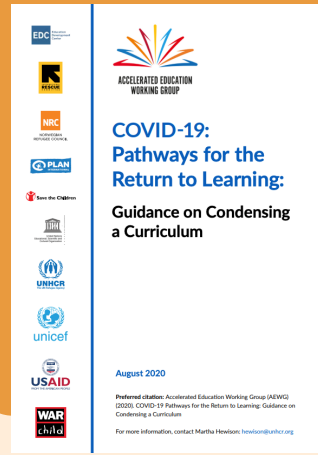
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COVID-19 RESOURCES



The **COVID-19 Decision Tree and Brief** helps education planners identify the appropriate education options to help learners catch-up on missed learning during and after COVID-19.



The **COVID-19 Guidance on Condensing a Curriculum** helps education planners condense a curriculum in order to support learners to develop priority competencies and catch up on lost learning.

- INEE Webinar with the Alternative Education Work Stream (21 May): **Alternative Education Beyond Accelerated Education: A Suggested Taxonomy and Programme Examples**
- INEE Webinar with the Education Policy Working Group (28 July): **Applying Accelerated Approaches in Response to COVID-19**
- INEE Webinar (10 August): **Condensing a Curriculum in Response to COVID-19**



COMING SOON!

10 Principles for Catch-up Programmes

The **10 Principles for Catch-up Programmes** (early 2021) describe best practices that distinguish catch-up programmes from other formal and non-formal education programmes, provides action points for education planners, and highlights exemplar catch-up programmes implemented during COVID-19 and other education disruptions.



Spotlight: Equity & Inclusion

The COVID-19 pandemic has been particularly hard on the most marginalised learners and families—the extremely poor, those in rural areas, girls, learners with disabilities, and those in areas affected by crisis and conflict. The AEWG COVID-19 materials were developed with the lens that all children and youth must have equitable and inclusive opportunities to return to learning and catch up.



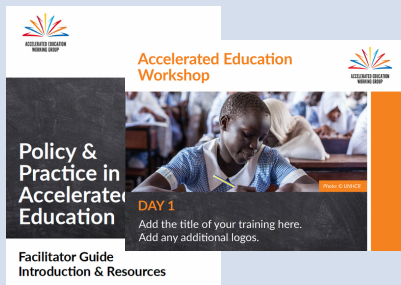
All COVID-19 resources are available in English, Spanish, Portuguese, and Arabic on the [INEE Accelerated Education web page](#).



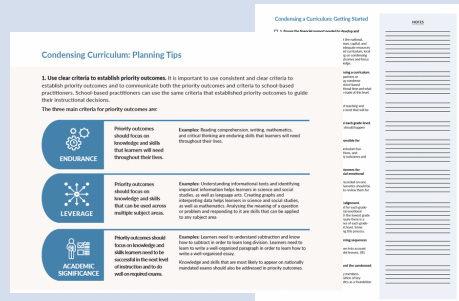
Strategic Areas:
Quality of AEPs is improved
AE evidence base is strengthened



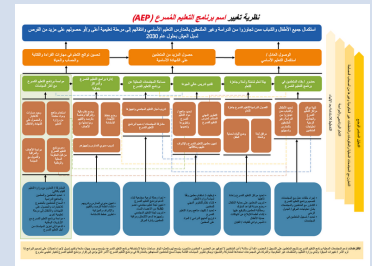
NEW RESOURCES!



The **AE Workshop Facilitation Guide** provides instructions, resources, and activities for a five-day workshop to build the capacity of MOEs, implementing partners, donors, and other education stakeholders to design and implement AEPs. The workshop materials consist of a facilitation guide with step-by-step instructions, plus an editable PowerPoint for each day and an overall facilitation guide.



Guidance on Condensing a Curriculum for AEPs (early 2021) expands on the COVID-19 guidance. It supports MOEs, curriculum developers, implementers, and other stakeholders to budget, plan, and condense a curriculum specifically for an AEP. The guidance gives step-by-step instructions on prioritising learning outcomes, sequencing and pacing lessons, and developing lesson plans.



The **AE Monitoring & Evaluation M&E Toolkit** has been translated into French, Spanish, and Arabic. The M&E Toolkit helps AE practitioners adapt or develop their own M&E framework and aligns with global priorities and AE learning objectives. The M&E Toolkit includes an adaptable Theory of Change, objectives and indicator menu, and sample LogFrame, M&E Plan, and Indicator Monitoring Table.

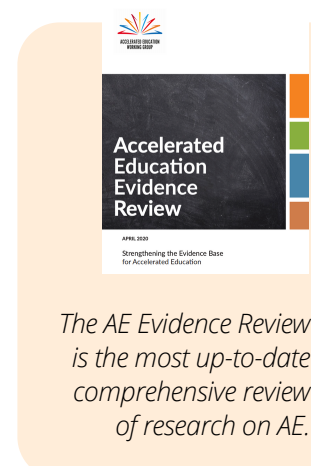
LEARNING AGENDA

foundational, accredited literacy, numeracy, and life skills. Key to the successes of AEPs have been their condensed and accelerated curricula, inclusive and flexible teaching approaches, and strong protection and community engagement measures.

However, there are gaps in the integration of AEPs within national education systems, particularly in legislation and funding. This is a significant barrier to supporting a global commitment to ensuring all young people access and complete high-quality education.

- INEE Webinar (9 June): **Latest Evidence for Accelerated Education**

The recent **AEWG evidence review** highlights the successes of AEPs in helping millions of out-of-school children and youth return to education and gain



The AE Evidence Review is the most up-to-date comprehensive review of research on AE.

Accelerating Systems-level Change for AE Integration

In 2021, building on the findings of the evidence review, the AEWG will partner with the University of Auckland and Dubai Cares to understand the process of policy change—to understand *who* needs to be involved, *when*, and *why*—so key levers for policy-level engagement can be effectively harnessed in the AEWG’s ongoing advocacy efforts. This research will contribute to the **AEWG Learning Agenda**.





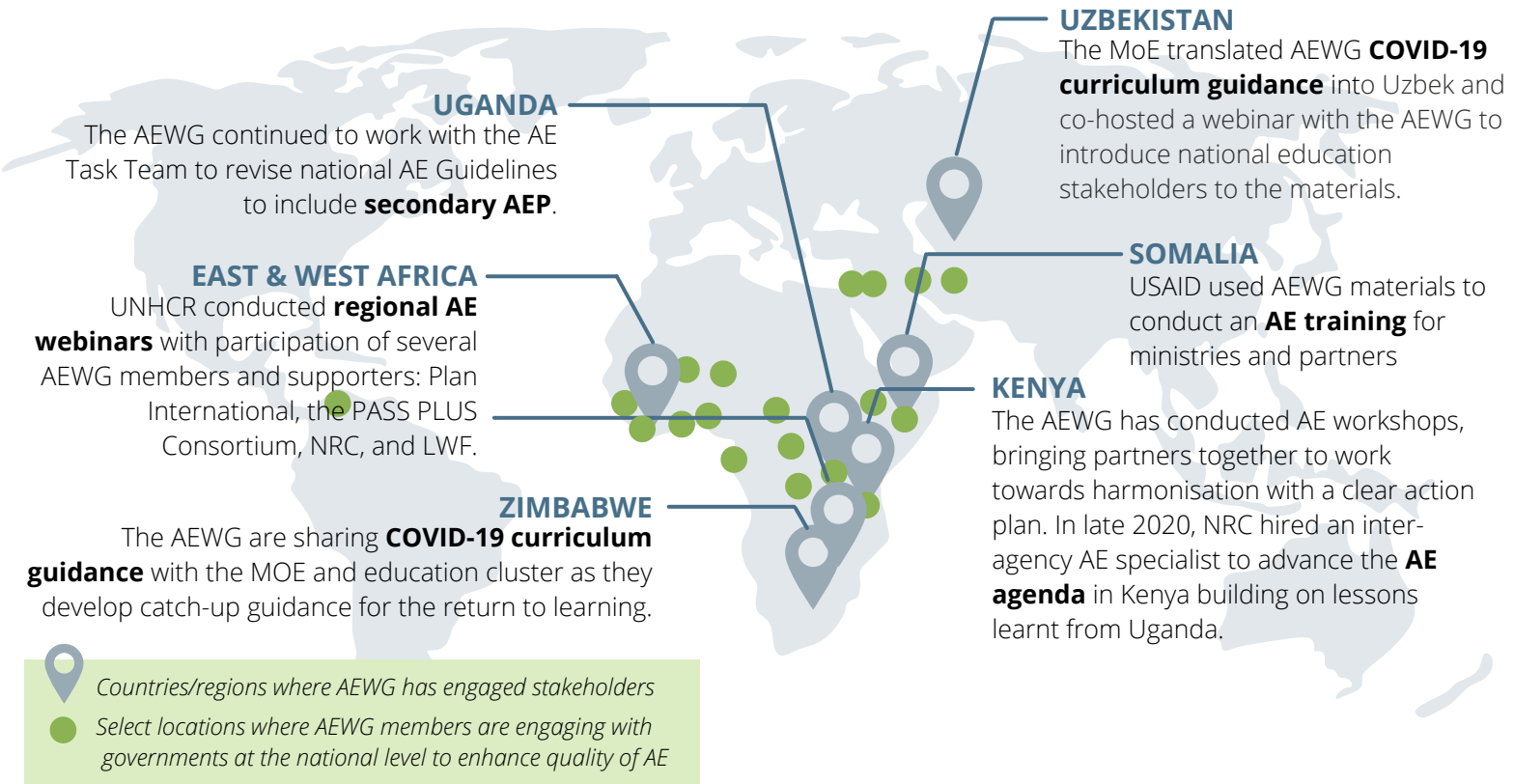
Strategic Areas:

AEPs are better resourced by all key stakeholders for scale and quality

AEPs are included by more governments in national education plans and policies



COUNTRY/REGIONAL ENGAGEMENT



GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

The AEWG led webinars and presentations in partnership with **INEE**, the **Global Education Cluster**, **Building Evidence in Education**.

The AEWG partnered with the **Inclusive Education Collaborative** to review our Principles and guidance to ensure they help education leaders to meet the needs of all learners, including the most marginalised.*

DG ECHO have referenced the AEWG tools and guidance in their Education in Emergencies policy. In addition the AEWG tools and guidance were mentioned in the 2020 humanitarian implementation plans.



The AEWG partnered with the **Humanitarian Data Exchange** to publish a global mapping of AEPs (data from 2019).*

The AEWG supported **INEE PSS-SEL Collaborative** and **Harvard's EASEL lab** to develop a Core Adaptive Framework and toolkit for PSS/SEL in Education in Emergencies. The tools will help education leaders incorporate PSS/SEL into education programming for learners in contexts affected by crisis and conflict.*

**This work is ongoing in 2021.*



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Humanitarian Aid

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Nina Weisenhorn



What's Next?

The AEWG meets bi-annually to consolidate the work plan, review progress towards strategic objectives, and prioritise funding and activities. In 2021, we will continue our work on several core projects:

- Piloting the AE **Teacher Training Pack**
- Disseminating and training on the **AE M&E Toolkit**
- Conducting regional/national **AE workshops**
- **Beginning research** on the key levers for policy engagement for AE integration
- And more!

LEARN MORE!

The AEWG aims to improve the quality of Accelerated Education (AE) through developing guidance and tools to support a more harmonised, standardised approach to AE provision. The AEWG is made up of education partners supporting and/or funding AE programming.

All AEWG guidance, tools, and resources can be found at: inee.org/collections/accelerated-education

For questions or to collaborate with the AEWG, contact Martha Hewison, Chair of the AEWG:

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