



Network for international policies and
cooperation in education and training

Réseau sur les politiques et la coopération
internationales en éducation et en formation

NORRAG Activity Report

January –December 2017



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INSTITUT DE HAUTES
ÉTUDES INTERNATIONALES
ET DU DÉVELOPPEMENT
GRADUATE INSTITUTE
OF INTERNATIONAL AND
DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

NORRAG Activity Report

January – December 2017

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1. Introduction and highlights

NORRAG's core mandate and strength is to produce, disseminate and broker critical knowledge and to build capacity for and with a wide range of stakeholders. These stakeholders inform and shape education policies and practice, both at national and international levels. NORRAG is an Associate Programme of the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva.

NORRAG builds on its distinctive global brand and network, representing academia, governments, NGOs, international organizations, foundations and the private sector. At the end of 2017, the network has more than 4,900 registered members in 171 countries, 48% from the global South. The network shares a vision of education development which:

- Conceives education as a life-long process and therefore supports education and vocational skills development in and out of school across a lifespan and in different educative sites
- Gives equal weight to knowledge and expertise from the global North/West and the global South/East and promotes the “voices of the South” and the “voices of the East” respectively
- Bridges policy and research by providing data-based policy advice and by carrying out policy-relevant analytical work and research

Our statement of purpose is to inform, influence and challenge international education policies and cooperation at the international, regional and national levels, with a particular focus on promoting the voices of the South/East. This mission translates into three objectives for our scope of work, which reflect NORRAG's global niche as it has developed over the last years, namely:

- To provide, build and disseminate timely, concise and evidence-based critical analysis and knowledge
- To bridge and broker knowledge at the interface between research, policy and practice while leveraging the NORRAG network
- To act as an incubator for novel perspectives and research projects

In doing so, NORRAG contributes to creating the conditions for more participatory, better informed and evidence-based policy decisions that improve equal access to and quality of education and vocational skills development (VSD). This will eventually contribute to the enhanced and contextualized implementation of the Education 2030 Agenda as our overall goal.

This NORRAG Activity Report 2017 presents the key activities and outputs delivered by NORRAG between 1st January and 31st December to reach these objectives. It also contains information on NORRAG's governance and collaborations.

2017 was an important year for NORRAG with the arrival of Professor Gita Steiner-Khamsi as the new Director and as Professor at the Graduate Institute, Geneva. The year was marked by key events organized in almost all regions of the globe, the launch of new initiatives and the continuation and acceleration of on-going projects. These included the further decentralization of our knowledge production and dissemination and the start of *NORRAG Special Issue* as successor of *NORRAG NEWS* with guest editors from the global South/East; the initiation of the NORRAG book series *International Education and Development*; the renewal of the blog; the inauguration of the Philanthropy in Education Series, with its first symposium held in Geneva as part of our new thematic area on innovative finance in education; the diversification and enrichment of our modes of communication through enhanced use of videos and social media and the revamping of our website and resource library; and finally, the renewal and expansion of our team with new staff members on key positions in programming, research and communication.

Annex 1 presents statistics and data used as indicators for our outcomes and impact in 2017. These indicators include the evolution and composition of our membership, as well as the use of our website and knowledge products. These indicators illustrate how our work has continuously contributed over the last year to enhanced innovative knowledge and dialogue. They also reflect our growing outreach and increasing role in knowledge exchange between and amongst our various stakeholders, partners and members - including researchers, practitioners and policy makers - through our different outputs, with increasing use of and contribution to our products from the global South/East.

Core sponsors of NORRAG in 2017 were the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, the Open Society Foundations and the Graduate Institute, Geneva. Project-specific funding was obtained, from the Al Qasimi Foundation for Policy Research, the Association for the Development of Education in Africa (ADEA) and the International Education Funders Group (IEFG), amongst others. We are grateful to our sponsors for their continued confidence and support.

The present report lists the detailed activities which are part of NORRAG's remit in line with our 3 main output categories and our 4 key thematic clusters, namely:

output categories	thematic clusters
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research, knowledge production & dissemination • Policy dialogue • Capacity development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International policy agendas and governance • Right to education/human rights based approaches in basic education • Private sector engagement in education and innovative financing • The basic education-vocational skills development nexus

2. Activity report

2.1. Policy dialogue

2.1.1. International policy agendas and governance

- Lecture as part of the ReformEd Project at the Master lecture “**Understanding Business Interest in International Large-Scale Student Assessment: A Focus on Pisa and TIMSS**” organised by the Autonomous University of Barcelona (Barcelona, Spain, 10 January with Gita Steiner-Khamsi)
- Moderation of a debate at the roundtable on “**Schools and Universities in Sub-Saharan Africa: What space for learner-centered education, innovation and research?**” organised by the Robert Bosch Academy in Berlin and Education Sub Saharan Africa (ESSA) (Berlin, Germany, 19 January with Michel Carton)
- Organisation of three panels and a reception at the CIES Annual Conference themed “**Problematizing (In)Equality: The Promise of Comparative and International Education**”, organised by the Comparative and International Education Society (Atlanta, GA, USA , 5-9 March with Alexandra Draxler, Gita Steiner-Khamsi, Kenneth King, Peliwe Lolwana and Joost Monks):
 - The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): What progress for education a year and a half later? (with UNESCO)
 - Seeing like the state, calculating like a business: PPP revisited. Part I Businesses speaking the language of public education (with OSF and EI)
 - Seeing like the state, calculating like a business: PPP revisited. Part II Public education and the adoption of business logic (with OSF and EI)
- Participation as discussant at the IIEP Strategic Debate “**Is real progress being made in the equitable provision of education? What do the last PISA results tell us?**”, organised by UNESCO IIEP (Paris, 13 March with Gita Steiner-Khamsi)
- Organisation of, and participation as presenter and moderator, at the inaugural lecture and panel discussion for Prof. Gita Steiner-Khamsi at the Graduate Institute “**International Education Development Challenges and Agenda 2030**” (Geneva, Switzerland, 14 March, with Gita Steiner-Khamsi, Nick Burnett, Mario Novelli and Joost Monks)
- Participation as keynote speaker and presenter at the “**Symposium on International Education Policy**”, organised by the University of Fribourg. (Fribourg, Switzerland, 24 March with Gita Steiner-Khamsi and Joost Monks)
- Co-organisation of and moderation of panel discussion at the International Seminar on “**the Belt and Road Initiative and 2030 SGDs in Education**”, in collaboration with the Institute of International and Comparative Education of Zhejiang Normal University (Jinhua, China, 7 May, with Kenneth King and Joost Monks)
- Organisation of a launch event of **NORRAG News #54 in Mandarin** hosted by Joost Monks of NORRAG and Dr Zhang, NORRAG News’ Chinese editor and researcher at Zhejiang Normal University (Jinhua, China, 7 May)

- Participation in and keynote speech at a seminar on “**The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): The Case of Education**” organised by the School of International Studies at Peking University (Beijing, China, 10 May with Joost Monks)
- Participation at the **Education 2030 Platform** organised by the Swiss Commission for UNESCO (Bern, Switzerland 13 June)
- Participation as panellist in the public conference on “**Forced Migration – How Higher Education contributes Pathways to Solutions**” organised by the Geneva Summer School on Higher Education in Emergencies, co-organised by InZone / University of Geneva and the UNHCR (Geneva, Switzerland 20 June with Michel Carton)
- Participation in and presentation at the European Conference on Educational Research (ECER) 2017 on “**Reforming Education and the Imperative of Constant Change**”, organised by European Education Research Association. (Copenhagen, Denmark, 22-25 August, with Patrick Montjouridès)
- Presentation and chair of a session at the 11th Pan-European Conference on International Relations on “**The Politics of International Studies in an Age of Crises**”, organised by the European International Studies Association (EISA) (Barcelona, Spain, 13-15 September, with Joost Monks)
- Participation in the International symposium “**Genève, une plateforme de l’internationalisme éducatif au 20ème siècle**” organised by Équipe de recherche en histoire sociale de l’éducation (ERHISE), Faculté de Psychologie et des Sciences de l’Éducation, Université de Genève & les Archives Institut J.-J. Rousseau (AIJJR) (Geneva, Spain, 14-15 September with Michel Carton et Patrick Montjouridès)
- Participation and presentation at UKFIET 14th International Conference on Education and Development on “**Learning and Teaching for Sustainable Development: Curriculum, Cognition and Context**”, (Oxford, UK, 5-7 September with Patrick Montjouridès)
- Presentation at the launch event of the Master of Advance Studies on “**Education Internationale et Recherche**”, University of Geneva. (Geneva, Switzerland, 28 September with Michel Carton)
- Participation in the conference “**Children and Youth in Crisis. Education in Emergencies**”, organised by RECI. (Bern, Switzerland, 16 November, with Paul Gerhard)
- Moderation of the Swiss launch of the **UNESCO Global Education Monitoring Report**, organised by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (Bern, Switzerland, 13 December, with Joost Monks)

2.1.2. Right to education/human rights based approaches in basic education

- Participation and presentation as independent evaluator for the SDC's portfolio in education at the launch of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation's (SDC) **Education Strategy on Basic Education and Vocational Skills Development** and the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs' (SECO) **Position Paper on Skills Development**. (Bern, Switzerland, 31 May with Gita Steiner-Khamsi)

2.1.3. Private sector engagement in education and innovative financing

- Co-organisation of, and panellist at, the symposium "**Economization, Commodification, Digitalization: The Emergence of a Global Education Industry**" organised by the Goethe University Frankfurt Am Main, University of Münster, Teachers College Columbia University and NORRAG (Frankfurt am Main, Germany, 16-17 February with Gita Steiner-Khamsi)
- Co-organisation of, and presentation at, the seminar "**Philanthropy in Education: Chinese Experience and Perspectives**", organised with the China Donors Roundtable. (Beijing, China, 9 May with Joost Monks)
- Organisation of a presentation by Dr Karen Mundy on "**Financing Education Systems: Change to Reach Every Child**", in collaboration with the Global Partnership for Education and the SDC Education Network (Geneva, Switzerland 20 June with Gita Steiner-Khamsi and Joost Monks)
- Participation in, and presentation at, the **International Conference of the European Association of Development Research and Training Institutes (EADI)**, organised by EADI, the Norwegian Association of Development Research, the University of Bergen and the Christian Michelsen Institute. (Bergen, Norway, 20-23 August, with Joost Monks)
- Participation in, and moderation at, the roundtable on "**Philanthropy and International Development Assistance**", organised by Agence Française de Développement, Overseas Development Institute, Center for Philanthropic Studies, MERSIC and National University of Singapore (Paris, France, 11 October with Michel Carton)
- Organisation of the Inaugural Symposium "**Philanthropy in Education: Global Trends, Regional Differences and Diverse Perspectives**", in collaboration with the Sheikh Saud bin Saqr Al Qasimi Foundation for Policy Research, the Open Society Foundations and the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies (Geneva, Switzerland, 22-24 November with Gita Steiner Khamsi, Aruhsi Terway, Alexandra Draxler, Michel Carton, Joost Monks)

2.1.4. The basic education-vocational skills development nexus

- Participation in the International Conference "**Pathways to Youth Employment – Apprenticeships and Work-based Training**", organised by the Global Apprenticeship Network (GAN), the South African government and the OECD (Johannesburg, South Africa, 6-7 April)
- Participation in, and moderation of, a technical workshop on Vocational Education and Training (VET): "VET schools transforming into goods and services production units, unfair competition or an opportunity for entrepreneurial learning?", organised by the European Commission, Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development, (Brussels, Belgium, 12 October, with Michel Carton)

2.2. Knowledge production and dissemination

2.2.1. Gita Steiner-Khamsi spring semester courses at the Graduate Institute

- Gita Steiner-Khamsi, joined in February as NORRAG Director and Professor at the Institute of International and Development Studies in the interdisciplinary programmes (spring semesters). Prof Steiner-Khamsi taught two courses: on the theory of international governance and education and on the tools and techniques of education development

2.2.2. Policy papers

- **January 2017:** AREB, CEPED and NORRAG Policy Brief #2: “La Place de l'évaluation des Apprentissages dans les Systèmes Educatifs d'Afrique Subsaharienne: Le Cas du Burkina Faso”, in cooperation with the Atelier de Recherche Éducation au Burkina Faso (AREB)
- **February 2017:** Compendium Report: “Un Compendium des Experiences Africaine sur le Continuum Education-Formation: Une Analyse Transnationale de l'état des Politiques et Pratiques dans 13 Pays”, in connection with the Association for the Development in Africa (ADEA) Inter-Country Quality Node (ICQN) 2016 Abidjan Conference and in cooperation with ADEA-ICQN / TVSD

2.2.3. NORRAG News

- **May 2017: Chinese version of NORRAG News 54** launched at the Institute of International and Comparative Education of Zhejiang Normal University (ZJNU). This is the fifth edition of the Chinese version of NORRAG News.
- **November 2017: Translation and contextualisation in French of a selection of articles from NORRAG News 53.** The selection of articles completes the English version of NORRAG News 53 published on occasion of the World Humanitarian Summit in 2016. These texts were brought together under the initiative of AREB (Atelier de Recherche en Éducation au Burkina)
- **July 2017: Arabic version of NORRAG News 54** launched with the support of Sheikh Saud bin Saqr Al Qasimi Foundation for Policy Research

2.2.4. Forthcoming publication series

- Launch of a new NORRAG book series with Edward Elgar Publishers (London): “**International Education and Development**”, with a first book on public-private-partnerships to be published in early 2018
- **Launch of NORRAG Special Issue** as the successor of NORRAG News, based on increased decentralisation of NORRAG's knowledge production and working with guest editors from the South. The production of a series of articles on the topic ‘Right to Education’ was completed in 2017 with guest editors Archana Mehendale, Professor from the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, India and Rahul Mukhopadhyay, Visiting Faculty at the Azim Premji University, Bengaluru, India. The first issue of the new NORRAG flagship publication series was launched in a new format and design in January 2018

2.2.5. NORRAG Blog

The NORRAG Blog was re-launched in 2017 on a new technical platform and with a new format articulated around two main categories – NORRAG Highlights and NORRAG Debates. NORRAG's Blog aims to provide a platform for education stakeholders, particularly those from the global South and East, to give voice to their expertise and experience.

- NORRAG Highlights aims to provide overviews of current trends and development in the global education community
- NORRAG Debates Stream seeks to foster dialogue between all stakeholders around specific topics, with 2 streams launched in 2017:
 - The Right to Education (RTE) Debate stream highlights questions surrounding the realization of RTE as countries make progress towards the fulfilment of SDG 4
 - The Philanthropy in Education Debate stream contributes to the on-going dialogue help unpacking the questions, issues and arguments concerning philanthropy in the education sector

The following table lists the blog posts published in 2017:

Title	Author	Tags	Stream	Date
"Philanthropic and Education Stakeholders Gather in Geneva for the Inaugural Symposium 'Philanthropy in Education: Global Trends, Regional Differences, and Diverse Perspectives'"	Joost Monks and Arushi Terway, NORRAG	Innovative Financing, NORRAG Debates, Philanthropy, Private sector	Philanthropy in Education	20/12/2017
"Building Bridges to Link Global and National Learning Assessments"	Silvia Montoya	Data Learning Outcomes NORRAG Highlights UNESCO		30/11/2017
"GERM Policies in Early Childhood: Infecting our Youngest Citizens and Threatening the Right to Education"	Helge Wasmuth and Elena Nitecki	Early childhood education NORRAG Debates Right to education	Right to Education	28/11/2017
"NORRAG Prepares to Welcome Participants to Geneva for the Inaugural Symposium on Philanthropy in Education"	Gita Steiner-Khamsi, Joost Monks and Arushi Terway	Innovative Financing Philanthropy Private sector		15/11/2017
"Human Rights Guiding Principles on the Obligations of States with regards to the Delivery of Education Public and Private Operators: Balancing Freedom of Education and Free Education"	Maria Smirnova	Global governance NORRAG Debates Private Schools Right to education	Right to Education	30/10/2017
"Education amidst Fragility, Conflict and Violence"	Stephen Commins	Conflict Education in Emergencies NORRAG Highlights Right to education Violence		24/10/2017
"News from Hamburg: Big Steps Forward Towards Reliable Metrics to"	Silvia Montoya and Dirk Hastedt	Agenda 2030 Indicators		28/09/2017

Harmonise Learning Assessment Data Globally”		Learning Outcomes NORRAG Highlights Sustainable Development Goals		
“NORRAG Debates: Can the Right to Education Finally be Achieved?”	NORRAG	Agenda 2030 Global governance NORRAG Debates Right to education SDG 2030	Right to Education	26/09/2017
“Presentation NORRAG at UKFIET 2017 on the Contribution of Large Scale Assessments to the Monitoring of SDGs”	NORRAG	Agenda 2030 Data Global governance Indicators NORRAG Highlights		08/09/2017
““Learning, if you use it, increases”: a database of African education research to inform policy and practice”	Rafael Mitchell and Pauline Rose	Africa Data Learning Outcomes NORRAG Highlights		07/08/2017
“Towards a Learning Generation in Africa: From the Nairobi Workshop, a Newfound Value for ‘Ruthless Prioritization’”	Veronica Dzeagu	Africa Agenda 2030		18/07/2017
“Everything is in Place to Track Global Progress on Education: Except the Data”	Silvia Montoya and Dankert Vedeler	Agenda 2030 Data Human Development Learning Outcomes		29/06/2017
“The Pressure is On! Powering Ahead with the Technical Cooperation Group for SDG 4 – Education 2030 Indicators”	Silvia Montoya and Jordan Naidoo	Agenda 2030 Data Indicators Learning Outcomes		12/06/2017
“Creating Productive Jobs for Africa’s Youth: A Huge Challenge with Global Implications”	Birger Fredriksen	Skills development, Africa, TVET		08/06/2017
“Skin in the Game: Employer’s Ownership in Skills Training for an Emerging Workforce”	Santosh Mehrotra	TVET		05/06/2017
“We Need a Wide Range of Providers to Quickly Overcome the Huge Shortage of Schools Across Africa”	Marcus WLEH	Africa Private Schools		30/05/2017
“Russia and Education Assistance: Searching for its Role as a Returning Donor”	Tuomas Takala and Nelli Piattoeva	Emerging donors		23/05/2017
“As Liberia Privatizes its Schools An Unforeseen Result: Hungry Students”	Ashoka Mukpo	Africa Private Schools		18/05/2017
“The Education SDG and Leaving No One Behind: Training Teachers Matters”	Monica Mincu	Teachers, SDG 2030		04/05/2017
“The Cost of Ignorance Revisited: A Reply”	Silvia Montoya	Data, SDG 2030		04/05/2017

"The Cost of Ignorance Revisited: Imitating the OECD or Learning to Be Critical?"	Hikaru Komatsu and Jeremy Rappleye	Data Learning Outcomes OECD PISA Sustainable Development Goals UNESCO		12/04/2017
"Lost in Translation? Is the Road to an SDG Heaven – or to the Other Place – Paved with Inadequate Global Indicators? "	Kenneth King	Sustainable Development Goals		10/04/2017
"Why we need a Flagship Indicator for Education: all Children in School and Learning"	Bridget Crumpton and Silvia Montoya	Learning Outcomes Sustainable Development Goals UNESCO		23/03/2017
"Unfinished Business in Global Education"	Nicholas Burnett	Global governance Innovative Financing Learning Outcomes Private Schools UNESCO		13/03/2017
"Taming Educational Privatization"	Fazal Rizvi	Private Schools Private sector		03/03/2017
"Outsourcing Liberia's Education System: A New level of Absurdity in Education Provisioning"	Salim Akojee	Africa Private Schools Private sector World Bank		21/02/2017
"The Education Commission Report: Will We Achieve EFA and the Education SDG?"	Steven J. Klees	Donors EFA Financing Sustainable Development Goals		08/02/2017
"Transversal Competencies and their Assessment: Perspectives from the Asia-Pacific"	Ramya Vivekanandan	Asia Learning Outcomes		31/01/2017
"Financing Education and All the Other SDGs: Global Taxation is Needed"	Steven J. Klees	Agenda 2030 NORRAG NEWS article Sustainable Development Goals		26/01/2017
"Agenda 2030 – SDG4 Education 2030 – One Year On: Challenges and Opportunities"	Jordan Naidoo	Agenda 2030 NORRAG NEWS article Sustainable Development Goals UNESCO		24/01/2017
"Do the SDGs Matter? A Teacher's View"	Desmond Bermingham	Agenda 2030 NORRAG NEWS article Sustainable Development Goals Teachers		23/01/2017
"For Global Learning Metrics, Ask Cognitive Scientists"	Helen Abadzi	Agenda 2030 Learning Outcomes Sustainable Development Goals		17/01/2017
"2017: Reshaping the Landscape for	Kenneth King	Agenda 2030		09/01/2017

International Policies and Cooperation in Education and Training”		Donors ODA / Aid Refugees & Migration Sustainable Development Goals		
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2.3. Capacity development and partnership outputs

- Organisation of a workshop and presentation on collaborative programmes and Policy Brief : **"La place de l'évaluation des apprentissages dans les systèmes éducatifs : le cas du Burkina Faso"**, (Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, 16 May with Michel Carton and Amado Kaboré)
- Organisation of a seminar and capacity building sessions, **"Reaching the Unreached: Skills Development Policies and the Promise of ICT"**, in collaboration with The REAL Center at Wits University and Ammachilabs. (Johannesburg, 4 April, am, with Stephanie Allais, Joost Monks, Peliwe Lolwana, Rao R. Bhavani, Marloes de Munnik and Srividya Sheshadri)
- Organisation of a panel discussion, **"Education, Training and Agenda 2030 - What Progress? Perspectives from South Africa"**, in cooperation with The REAL Center at Wits University (Johannesburg, 4 April, pm, with Joost Monks, Stephanie Allais and Rao R. Bhavani)
- As part of the ongoing partnership with AREB, Research Workshop on Education in Burkina Faso (Atelier de Recherche Éducation au Burkina Faso – AREB) hosted by the National Institute for Social Sciences (INSS) in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso:
 - A formal launch event took place on 16 May 2017 in Ouagadougou, during which two policy briefs were launched: AREB & NORRAG Policy Brief #1 **"Research as a means of fulfilling the need for knowledge on education: Looking back on research experiences in French-speaking Africa"** (also available in French) and AREB & NORRAG Policy Brief #2 **"La place de l'évaluation des apprentissages dans les systèmes éducatifs d'Afrique subsaharienne: le cas du Burkina Faso"**
 - AREB conference Ouagadougou on 29-30 November 2017 (co-sponsored with Agence Française du Développement and Bosch Foundation), with a panel organised by AREB and NORRAG on education and training policies and programs of Burkina Faso-based bilateral and multilateral development cooperation agencies and how these policies are articulated with SDG4
- As part of the on-going partnership, organisation of a project meeting and capacity building sessions with Ammachi Labs and the REAL Center on a scoping study, **"Reaching the Unreached: Skills Development Policies and the Promise of ICT – A Scoping Study from India and South Africa"**, as well as high-level follow up meeting in Delhi (Amritapuri, India, 26-28 August)
- Partnerships with REAL at Witwatersrand University in South Africa and with AREB in Burkina Faso to be evaluated early 2018 in view of their possible renewal

2.4 NORRAG website

In May 2017, NORRAG launched a revamped version of the NORRAG website. The website uses a new technical infrastructure (WordPress) and presents the various activities of NORRAG as well as its thematic area and partnerships in a clearer format.

The NORRAG Blog has also been integrated in the website and content (posts and comments) have been migrated from the previous location at wordpress.norrag.org to norrag.org/blog. The old NORRAG Newsbyte has been archived.

In November 2017, the second phase of the relaunch of the NORRAG web platform included the NORRAG Library. The library is integrated with a new NORRAG Member platform that will be launched in the first quarter of 2018. The library features a wide range of original NORRAG publications and a number of collaborative works, including publications dating as far back as 1986. The library is publically available online with many documents available to download in multiple languages, including Arabic, French, German, Mandarin and Spanish. All documents in the library are tagged thematically and tags can be used to link from the NORRAG website to specific sections of the library. The idea is to create a mesh of knowledge with easy access to content from not only the library but also other parts of NORRAG's web presence.

Forthcoming:

In 2018, additional functionalities are planned, including a closer integration of the library with the NORRAG website, improved search functionalities for the NORRAG library and migration and integration of the NORRAG Member database with the redesigned infrastructure. This will allow the provision of exclusive content for NORRAG members and encourage new visitors to join NORRAG and become a member.

3. Governance

The NORRAG Consultative Committee met in Geneva in March 2017 and was composed of the following members, reflecting NORRAG's diverse constituencies:

- Nicholas BURNETT: Managing Director, Results for Development, Washington DC
- Gilles CARBONNIER: Professor in the Department of International Economics and Director of Studies, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva
- Wijnand DE WIT: Regional Director for Europe, Dalberg, Geneva
- Ritah MUYAMBO: Head of Programmes, World Young Women's Christian Association, Geneva
- Mario NOVELLI: Professor in the Political Economy of Education and Deputy Director of the Centre for International Education, University of Sussex
- Sobhi TAWIL: Chief of Section - Partnerships, Cooperation and Research, UNESCO, Paris
- Martina VIARENGO: Assistant Professor in the Department of International Economics, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva

The Consultative Committee serves as a "sounding board" for NORRAG's strategic development and endorses NORRAG's annual Activity Reports.

As the term of the present Consultative Committee is coming to an end, a renewed and expanded consultative committee is in the process of being set up for 2018.

4. Collaborations

Collaborative Programmes:

- South Africa: the Centre for Researching Education and Labour (REAL) at Witwatersrand University, Johannesburg
- Burkina Faso: the Research Workshop on Education in Burkina Faso (AREB) hosted by the National Institute for Social Sciences (INSS) in Ouagadougou

The collaborative programmes with REAL in South Africa and with AREB in Burkina Faso will be evaluated early 2018 in view of possible renewal.

Other key collaborations:

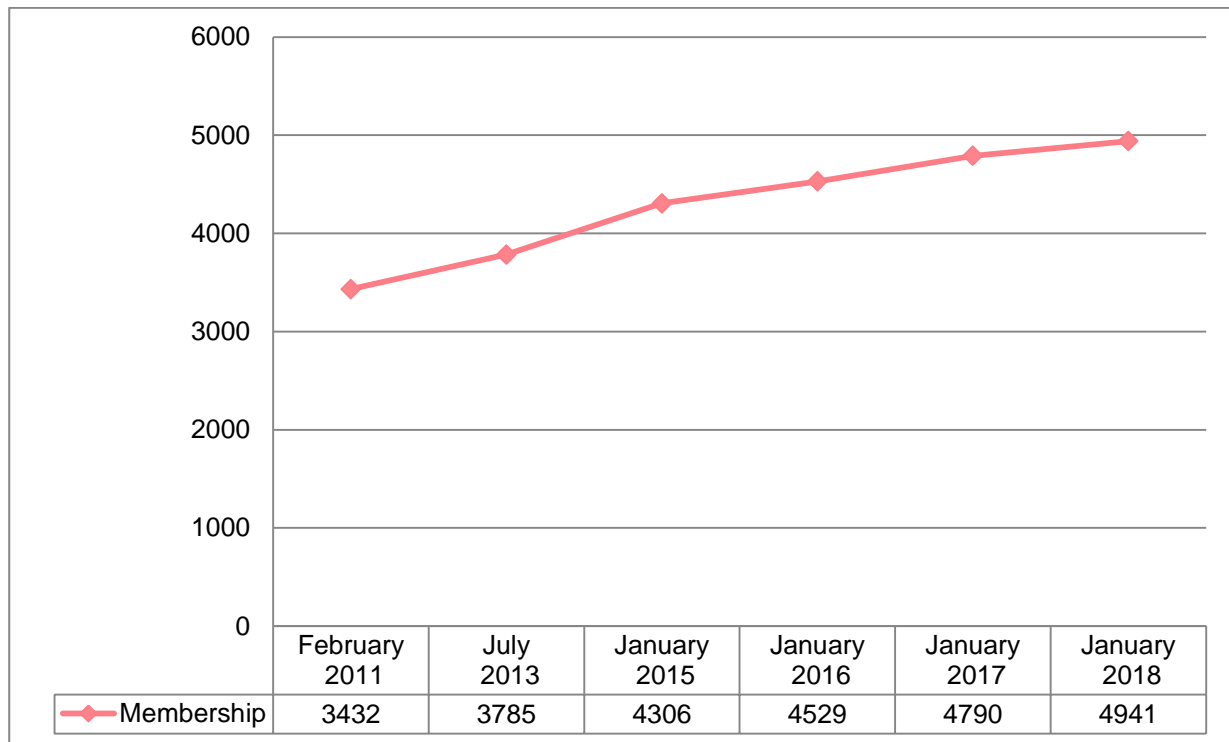
- **Al Qasimi Foundation for Policy Research:** The first project of this collaboration is the launch of a series of events on Philanthropy in Education. Parallel to this, the Al Qasimi Foundation translates NORRAG News and its successor NORRAG Special Issue into Arabic, including local editions and the organisation of local launch events
- **Association for the Development of Education in Africa (ADEA):** Inter-country Quality Node on Technical and Vocational Skills Development – Support in the preparation of background documents for the Ministerial Conferences
- **AREB/INSS, Bosch Foundation, French Agency for Development:** Development of a joint project for the re-launch of the Research Workshop on Education in Burkina Faso (AREB) hosted by the National Institute for Social Sciences (INSS) in Ouagadougou, and replication of the AREB experience to support exchange and capacity development on educational policies and politics in a number of other African countries
- **China Global Philanthropy Institute:** Collaboration for the development of the China event of the Symposium series on Philanthropy in Education
- **Columbia University Teachers College:** Collaboration in the submission of joint tenders and for the Symposium series on Philanthropy in Education
- **European Association of Development Research and Training Institutes (EADI):** Collaboration in the area of Development Studies and International Education and Development
- **Global Partnership for Education (USA):** Joint presentations and first research collaboration through joint research on teacher policy
- **International Education Funders Group:** Support and collaboration for the Geneva symposium on Philanthropy in Education
- **21st Century Education Research Institute (Beijing, China):** Collaboration for the dissemination of NORRAG's knowledge product in China and collaboration for the development of the China event of the Symposium series on Philanthropy in Education
- **Open Society Foundations:** Various areas of collaboration and joint events including at CIES and the set-up of the Philanthropy in Education series

- **RECI-Swiss Network for Education and International Cooperation:** NORRAG is an active Committee member of RECI
- **SDC Education Network (Bern):** Various collaborations for joint events and providing of support
- **TATA Institute of Social Sciences (Mumbai, India):** Collaboration on the editing of NORRAG Special Issue on the Right to Education
- **Zhejiang Normal University (Jinhua, China):** Collaboration for the translation and contextualisation of NORRAG NEWS in Chinese and the organisation of local launch events

Appendix: Statistics

1.1 NORRAG Members

Figure 1 Evolution of total membership* (2011-2017)



- *All members with a valid email address who subscribed to the News Bulletin + members with a valid email address who have unsubscribed from the News Bulletin
- The number of NORRAG's members continues to grow with over 151 new members between January 2017 and December 2017, representing a 3.05% increase

Table 2: Members by country (>50 members in December 2017)

Ranking		January 2017	% of total		December 2017	% of total	% increase in 2017
1	United Kingdom	509	11.50	United Kingdom	521	11.52	2.36
2	United States	380	6.90	United States	420	9.29	▲ 10.53
3	India	271	6.10	India	288	6.37	▲ 6.27
4	Switzerland	232	7.30	Switzerland	245	5.42	5.60
5	South Africa	160	3.60	South Africa	164	3.63	2.50
6	France	158	3.60	France	160	3.54	1.27
7	Nigeria	117	2.60	Nigeria	119	2.63	1.71
8	Germany	110	2.50	Canada	108	2.39	0.93
9	Canada	107	2.40	Kenya	106	2.34	0.95
10	Kenya	105	2.40	Japan	101	2.23	2.02
11	Netherlands	99	2.30	Germany	100	2.21	-9.09
12	Japan	99	2.30	Australia	99	2.19	2.06
13	Australia	97	2.20	China	97	2.15	3.19
14	China	94	2.10	Ghana	97	2.15	5.43
15	Ghana	92	2.00	Netherlands	95	2.1	-4.04
16	Tanzania	67	1.50	Tanzania	69	1.53	2.99
17	Korea, Republic of	66	1.50	Bangladesh	68	1.5	4.62
18	Bangladesh	65	1.50	Korea, Republic of	68	1.5	3.03
19	Belgium	61	1.40	Italy	63	1.39	5.00
20	Italy	60	1.40	Uganda	63	1.39	6.78
21	Oman	60	1.40	Belgium	59	1.3	-3.28
22	Uganda	59	1.30	Oman	58	1.28	-3.33
23	Ethiopia	58	1.30	Ethiopia	57	1.26	-1.72
24	Pakistan	52	1.10	Pakistan	53	1.17	1.92

- The group of countries with 50 members and more is mostly similar to the year before
- The strongest relative members' increase between January 2017 and December 2017 are the United States, India, Switzerland, Uganda and Ghana

Figure 2 NORRAG Members by region

Based on December 2017 and for whom country data is available. Region classification based on United Nations Statistical Division country classification.

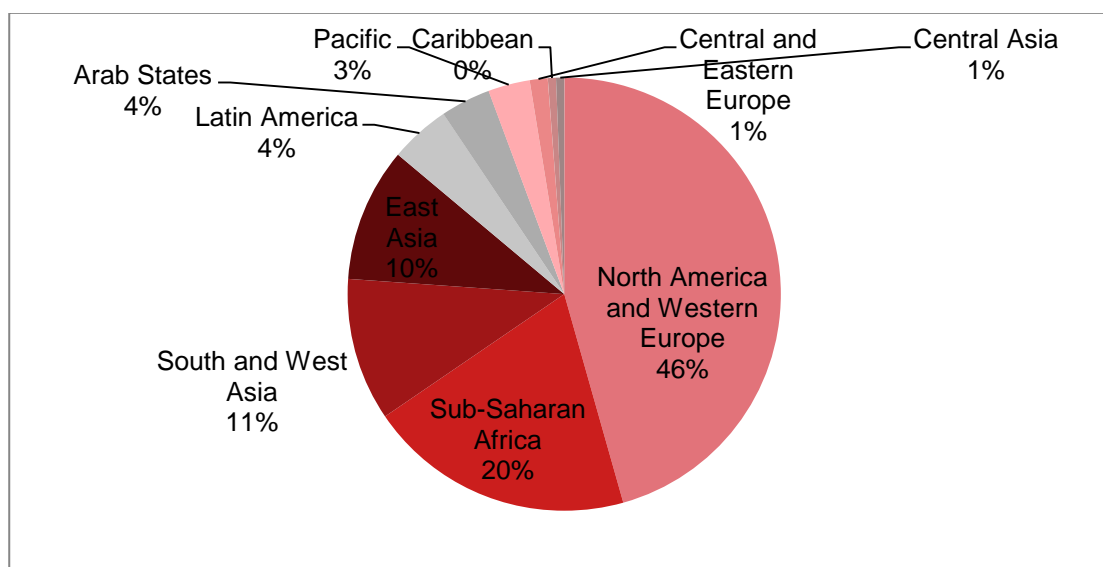


Table 3: NORRAG members' evolution by region

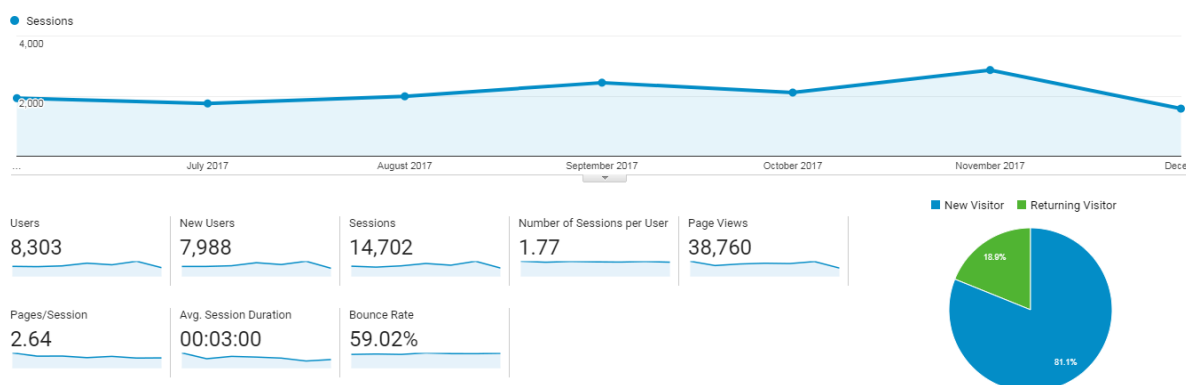
Number of active members by region in January 2016, January 2017 and December 2017 and evolution

Active Members by Regions	January 2016	January 2017	December 2017	growth rate
North America and Western Europe	1892	1987	2034	2.37
Sub-Saharan Africa	882	930	886	-4.73
South and West Asia	431	454	475	4.63
East Asia	425	434	445	2.53
Latin America	198	202	201	-0.50
Arab States	155	162	166	2.47
Pacific	134	133	139	4.51
Central and Eastern Europe	48	56	60	7.14
Caribbean	22	26	27	3.85
Central Asia	20	24	27	12.50

- Generally speaking, between January 2017 and December 2017 there has been a steady increase in membership across countries (between 2-12.5%). Overall, North America and Western Europe and Sub-Saharan Africa remain the regions in which the largest number of members can be found

1.2 NORRAG website

Figure 3: Website statistics



- Since the relaunch of the NORRAG website in May 2017, the following observations can be made (1 June – 31 December 2017):
 - Growth of sessions and users until the Philanthropy in Education Conference which featured the highest number of site visitors (2,869 sessions in November)
 - Webpage about the Inaugural Symposium Philanthropy in Education attracted the highest numbers of visitors (2,687 page views)
 - The most popular pages are: Home, About NORRAG, Blog and the Thematic Area pages. The least popular page is 'Become a Member'
- Due to the new technical infrastructure deployed on the NORRAG website (new WordPress server) and NORRAG Resource Library (Lavarel infrastructure), statistical data cannot be compared to previous years. Statistical data will be made available in future years using data from May 2017 as a baseline

Table 4: Frequency of visitation by country in 2017

Countries/Sessions	2017
Kenya	10045
India	6857
United States	6816
Switzerland	4449
United Kingdom	3875
Nigeria	3285
South Africa	2328
Philippines	2217
France	1901
Zambia	1656
Tanzania	1600
Pakistan	1458
Canada	1258
Germany	879
Uganda	831
Ghana	800

Malaysia	790
Australia	772
Mexico	672
Netherlands	551
Indonesia	405
Sudan	85

1.3 NORRAG News

NORRAG News	Full PDF Downloads	Online views	Date of publication
NN52			
English	329	4383	July 2015
Arabic	13	213	March 2016
Chinese	2	127	February 2016
<i>Total :</i>	344	4723	
NN53			
English	157	4382	May 2016
Arabic	0	81	January 2017
Chinese	0	1201	November 2016
<i>Total :</i>	157	5664	
NN54			
English	25*	*	December 2016
Arabic	1	*	July 2017
Chinese	0	*	May 2017
<i>Total :</i>	26	0	

- *The figures for NN54 in 2017 only accounts for the numbers after the launch of the NORRAG Resource Library in November 2017
- NORRAG Special Issue took over NORRAG News, with NSI01 launched in January 2018 and downloaded 819 times to date

1.4 NORRAG Resource Library

Launched in November 2017, the NORRAG Resource Library has the following top resources (by number of downloads – at the date of publication of the report):

Document	Article	Language	Downloads
Case Study - French	Analyse Critique des Politiques Educatives et de Développement du Burkina Faso de 1960 à 2012, Perspectives ante et Post 2015	French	2276
NORRAG Special Issue 01 - English	The Right to Education Movements and Policies: Promises and Realities	English	819
Compendium Report - French	Un Compendium des Experiences Africaine sur le Continuum Education-Formation: Une Analyse Transnationale de l'état des Politiques et Pratiques dans 13 Pays	French	127
AREB CEPED and NORRAG Policy Brief #2 - French	La Place de l'évaluation des Apprentissages dans les Systèmes Educatifs d'Afrique Subsaharienne: Le Cas du Burkina Faso	French	99
Project Summary	Reaching the Unreached: Skills Development Policies and the Promise of ICT: A Scoping Study from India and South Africa	English	80
Compendium Report - English	A Compendium of African Experiences in Promoting the Implementation of the Education and Training Continuum: A State-of-the Art Cross-National Analysis of Policy and Practice in 16 Countries	English	75
Article Selection	Social construction of the Labor Pathways of Young People in Latin America: Policies, Institutions, Mechanisms and Subjectivities	English	72
Panel Discussion Summary	Making Sustainability a Reality and the Role of Education and Skills Development Panel Discussion	English	62
Conference Policy Paper	The Governance of Education and Training: Agenda 2030 and Beyond	English	53

1.5 NORRAG Blog

Top most-viewed posts on the NORRAG Blog from May 2017 to present:

Rank	Title	views
1	“Learning, if you use it, increases”: a database of African education research to inform policy and practice by Rafael Mitchell and Pauline Rose (7/08/2017)	580
2	GERM Policies in Early Childhood: Infecting our Youngest Citizens and Threatening the Right to Education by Helge Wasmuth and Elena Nitecki (28/11/2017)	433
3	Philanthropic and Education Stakeholders Gather in Geneva for the Inaugural Symposium ‘Philanthropy in Education: Global Trends, Regional Differences, and Diverse Perspectives’ by Joost Monks and Arushi Terway, NORRAG (20/12/2017)	295
4	News from Hamburg: Big Steps Forward Towards Reliable Metrics to Harmonise Learning Assessment Data Globally by Silvia Montoya and Dirk Hastedt (28/09/2017)	277
5	Human Rights Guiding Principles on the Obligations of States with regards to the Delivery of Education by Public and Private Operators: Balancing Freedom of Education and Free Education by Maria Smirnova (30/10/2017)	266
6	NORRAG Prepares to Welcome Participants to Geneva for the Inaugural Symposium on Philanthropy in Education by Gita Steiner-Khamsi, Joost Monks and Arushi Terway (15/11/2017)	249
7	NORRAG Debates: Can the Right to Education Finally be Achieved? (26/09/2017)	238
8	Building Bridges to Link Global and National Learning Assessments by Silvia Montoya (30/11/2017)	177
9	Education amidst Fragility, Conflict and Violence by Stephen Commins (24/10/2017)	146
10	Towards a Learning Generation in Africa: From the Nairobi Workshop, a Newfound Value for ‘Ruthless Prioritization’ by Veronica Dzeagu (18/07/2018)	135

1.6 NORRAG Social Media

1.6.1 Twitter

In 2017, NORRAG secured a new twitter handle moving from NORRAG_NEWS to @norrage. The change was seamless for our Tweets and followers as all data was simply transferred. There was a sharp increase in our followers in Q4 of 2017 due to the name change and higher visibility of the NORRAG twitter account.

Table 5: Tweets and likes since launch of @NORRAG_NEWS (now @norrage) (at the date of publication)

Launch	Tweets	Likes
June 2010	4112	95

Table 6: Twitter followers in 2016 and 2017

EN	FOLLOWERS 12/2016	FOLLOWERS 12/2017
@norrage	1443	2003

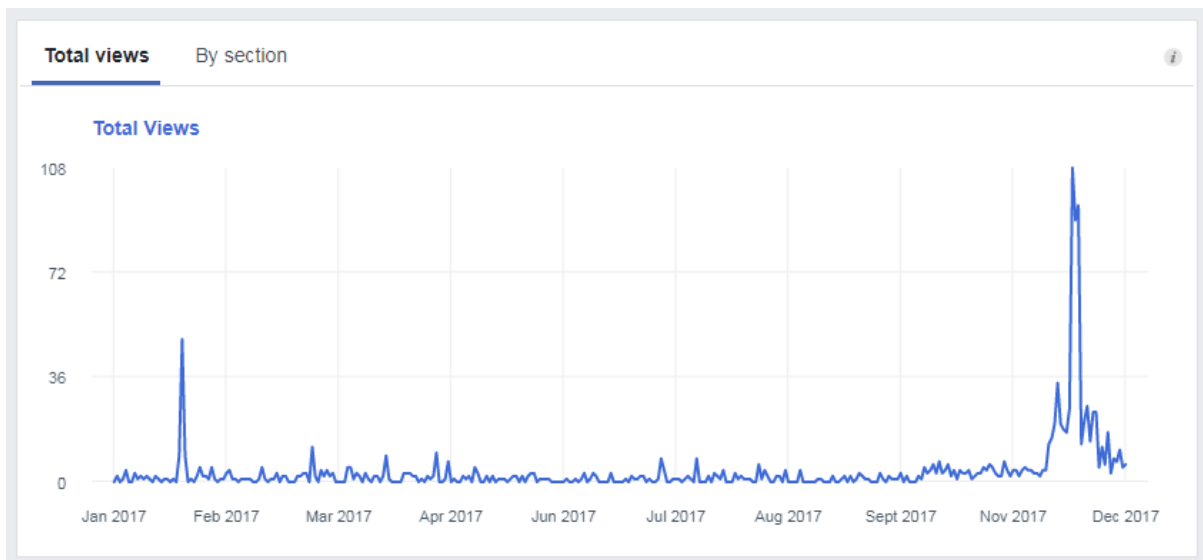
Table 7: Statistics for 2017

Tweets	impressions	engagements	retweets	likes	user profile clicks
266	110524	1928	240	363	185

- Impressions: Number of times users saw the Tweet on Twitter
- Engagements: Total number of times a user has interacted with a Tweet. This includes all clicks anywhere on the Tweet (including hashtags, links, avatar, username and Tweet expansion), retweets, replies, follows and likes.

1.6.2 Facebook

In 2017, NORRAG secured a new name for its Facebook page: @norrage.network. In Q4 of 2017, there was a strong increase in page views for @norrage.network, due to increased advertisement of the page during the Inaugural Symposium: “Philanthropy in Education”. All main plenaries and keynotes were streamed live via Facebook, drawing increased traffic.



As of December 2017, 816 people liked the page, a 20 per cent increase since January.



1.6.3 LinkedIn

In Q4 of 2017, there was a strong increase in page views of the NORRAG LinkedIn account due to increased advertisement of the page during the Inaugural Symposium: "Philanthropy in Education". A name changed to @norrage also improved the visibility of NORRAG LinkedIn page: @norrage.

