

# THE DEBT CRISIS DERAILING SDG 4

DFI/LATINDADD Policy Briefing, 30 October 2024

## SUMMARY

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG 4) aims to provide quality and equitable education to all by 2030. Progress has been slow and virtually nil post-COVID. As a result, only one in six countries is predicted to meet the goal. Post-COVID, gaps in education completion and learning outcomes between the global North and South are growing, and 84 million children may be out of school in 2030.

This briefing shows that a large and escalating debt crisis is already derailing SDG 4. Since 2015, the share of budgets devoted by governments to education has fallen from 14.4% to 13.7%, and only 13.1% in low-income countries. This is mainly because (as shown by the **Debt Service Watch** database) debt service is increasingly pushing aside other spending, absorbing an average of 42% of all government spending in 2024 (rising to 47% in 2025). Globally, debt servicing exceeds education budgets by 2.8 times. Among LICs and LMICs - who have the largest financing needs to meet SDG 4 – it is 2.9 and 3.1 times higher; and the same is true for the regions furthest behind on SDG4 – Africa (3.2 times) and Asia (2.9 times). In 16 countries, debt service is more than five times as high as education spending.

The UN Global Education Monitoring report has estimated that the financing gap for meeting SDG 4 (in LICs and LMICS) is US\$100 billion a year during 2024-2030. DFI calculates that a debt relief package that brought down debt service to 10% of budget revenue for lower-income debt distressed countries (and reduced borrowing costs for countries which have to access global markets regularly to fund their budgets) could generate US\$500 billion a year, or more than 4 times this financing gap. There can be no recovery for SDG 4 without urgent action to tackle debt. To move forward, the education community must join others in calling for urgent and bold international action to sharply reduce debt service through enhanced debt relief, together with more concessional financing and enhanced budget revenue collection, to fund SDG4.

This policy briefing is being launched during UNESCO's 2024 Global Education Meeting (GEM) and the G20 Education Ministers' Meeting, which the Brazilian government will host in Fortaleza, Brazil, on October 31 and November 1, 2024. It was produced by Development Finance International (DFI), based on its **Debt Service Watch** database,<sup>1</sup> in collaboration with Latindadd. The briefing was written by Jo Walker, with inputs from Patricia Miranda and Matthew Martin, and based on data compiled by David Waddock and Maria Holloway. DFI is very grateful to Norwegian Church Aid and UNAIDS for financing the DSW database and resulting analysis. For more details on the work of DFI and Latindadd see <https://development-finance.org> and <https://latindadd.org/>



## SDG 4 Is Far Off-Track

SDG 4 aims to provide quality and equitable education to all by 2030. Since its adoption in 2015, progress has been sluggish. Specific targets show how far there is to travel:<sup>2</sup>

- **Completion rates** have barely shifted since 2015. Primary school completion only increased from 85% to 88%, lower secondary from 74% to 78%, and upper secondary from 53% to 59%. Sub-Saharan Africa had the second-lowest growth rate: barely two in three children are completing primary school. Progress in raising secondary completion rates has slowed or stalled in Asia and Oceania post-COVID-19, and only in Latin America has some progress been maintained.
- **Out-of-school** rates have also barely shifted. In 40% of countries, no progress has been made since 2015. Globally, 84 million children are still at risk of being out of school by 2030.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> In this briefing and the DSW database, debt service includes principal and interest on external and domestic debt.

<sup>2</sup> Unless otherwise stated, all SDG4 data are from UNSD [The Sustainable Development Goals Extended Report 2024, SDG 4](#).

<sup>3</sup> *Goal 4 – Quality Education*. [online] United Nations Sustainable Development. Available at: <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/goal-of-the-month-goal-4-quality-education/>.

- **Gender parity.** About 40% of countries have not achieved gender parity in primary education. Nevertheless, girls are now completing education at higher rates than boys in all regions except Central and Southern Asia, and Sub-Saharan Africa.
- **Pre-primary.** 70% of children globally attended one year of pre-primary school in 2022, no change from 2015. In North Africa, sub-Saharan Africa, and Western Asia, less than half attend pre-primary.
- In terms of results, the average **progress in reading** at the end of primary education since 2015 has been only 0.4 percentage points per year. By 2030, an estimated 300 million children and young people will still lack basic numeracy and literacy skills.
- **Teachers.** To achieve SDG4, 44 million additional primary and secondary teachers are needed.<sup>4</sup> Only 8 of 10 teachers in LAC, and 7 of 10 in Sub-Saharan Africa, are trained to minimum standards.

Overall, with just six years remaining, progress falls far short of what is required to meet the SDGs.

**Without additional measures, only one in six countries will meet the goal, and a new child will need to be enrolled in school every two seconds until 2030.**<sup>5</sup>

## RESULTS FROM THE LATINDADD LAC ATLAS OF VULNERABILITIES 2024

The Latindadd vulnerability report highlights the education challenge created by the COVID-19 fallout, comparing the Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) region to High-Income Countries (HICs). The Atlas shows big gaps in access and completion: on average, 12.7% are out of school in LAC, compared to only 2.4% in HICs. On average, 64% of students complete secondary education in LAC, against 89% in HICs.

COVID-19 has had a huge negative impact. In LAC, restrictive pandemic response measures were introduced, including the highest global percentage of school closure days (82%). Yet only 53% of households had access to digital or remote learning, with a major digital gap between low- and high-income households (by comparison, 87% of HIC households had access). Remote/online education has left a legacy of education vulnerabilities, particularly for lower-income households. Among COVID's most profound and long-lasting impacts is on learning; 59% of 10-year-olds in LAC cannot read and understand simple texts. World Bank projections estimate that "learning poverty" could reach 80%, up from 50% pre-pandemic. For HICs, this indicator has risen only from 8% to 14%.

Clearly, the children and youth of LAC have greater learning vulnerability than their counterparts in high-income countries. But the debt crisis is stopping governments from reversing this - in 2025, LAC debt service will be on average 292% of education spending.

## The World Is Going Backwards in Financing SDG 4

Without massive investment in scaled-up action, SDG 4 will remain elusive: yet the world is going backwards. To finance SDG 4, the UN recommends allocating 15-20% of each country's budget, or 4-6% of GDP, to education. In many low- and middle-income countries, with a growing youth population and far from the targets, 20% and 6% are needed.<sup>6</sup> Yet since 2015, the average **global share of budgets spent on education has fallen from 14.4% to 13.7%, and the share of GDP from 4.5% to 4.1%.**<sup>7</sup>

Most of the reduction in education budgets has occurred since COVID-19.<sup>8</sup> Indeed, **two-thirds of low- and middle-income countries cut public funding for education immediately after COVID.**<sup>9</sup> Low-income countries have dipped even further below minimum thresholds for achieving SDG 4, going from 3.3% to 3.1% of GDP and 13.9% to 13.1% of budgets between 2018 and 2023. Many regions have also seen reductions; between 2018 and 2023, the budget share in Latin America and the Caribbean fell from 16.8% to 14.7%, and in Sub-Saharan Africa, the budget share fell from 16.1% to 14.9%.

<sup>4</sup> UNESCO Global Monitoring Report (2023) [Can countries afford their national SDG 4 benchmarks?](#)

<sup>5</sup> UNESCO Global Monitoring Report (2023) [SDG 4 mid-term progress review: progress since 2015 has been far too slow](#)

<sup>6</sup> See background paper for the Global Education Monitoring report (2015). [Reaching education targets in low and lower middle-income countries: Costs and finance gaps to 2030.](#)

<sup>7</sup> Data on spending in this section are authors own calculations using UNESCO Institute of Statistics (UIS) and DFI

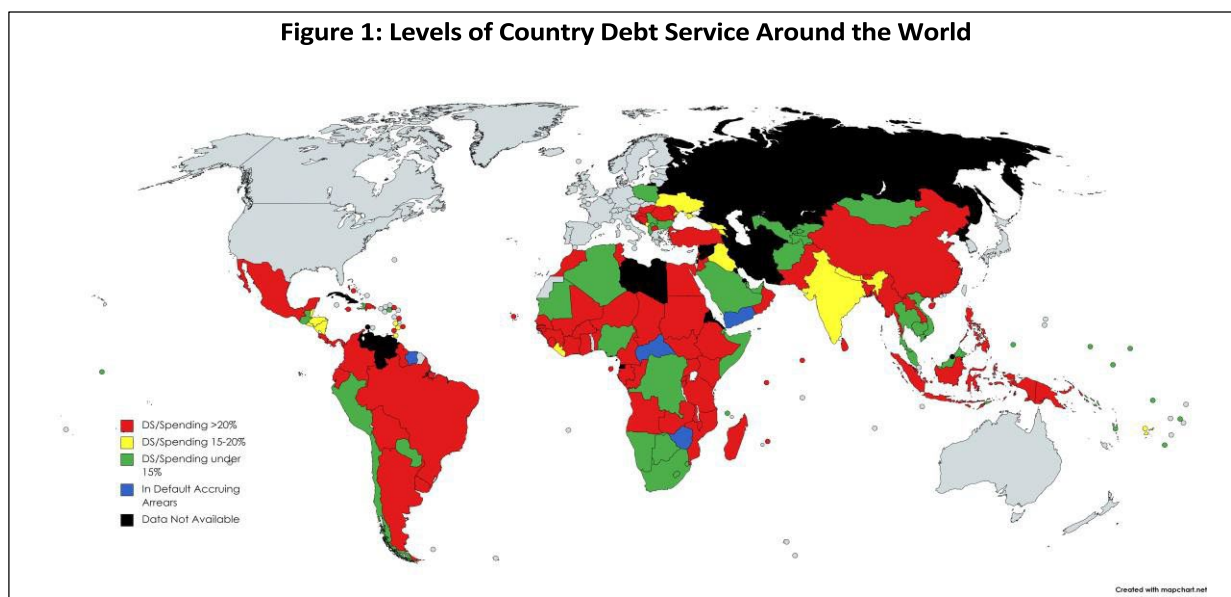
**Government Spending Watch** data (for the Government Spending Watch data, see [www.governmentspendingwatch.net](http://www.governmentspendingwatch.net))

<sup>8</sup> World Bank and UNESCO (2022) [Education Finance Watch 2022](#)

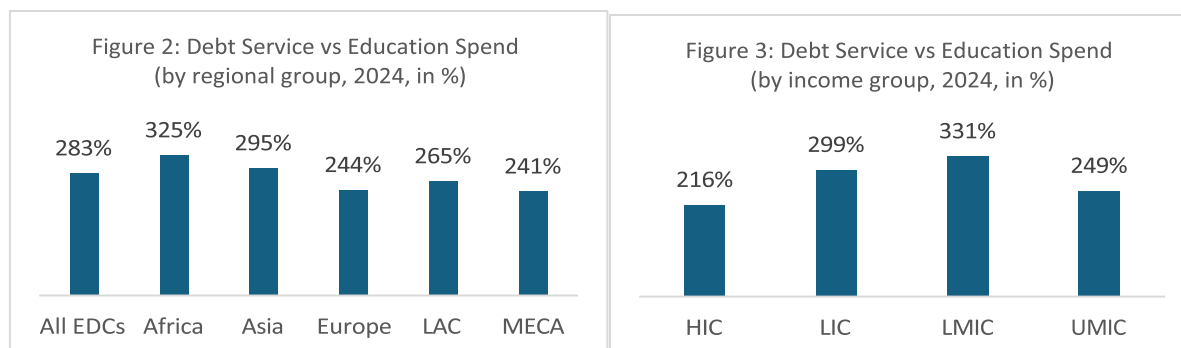
<sup>9</sup> World Bank and UNESCO (2021) [Education Finance Watch 2021](#)

## High Debt Service Is a Huge Barrier to Financing SDG 4

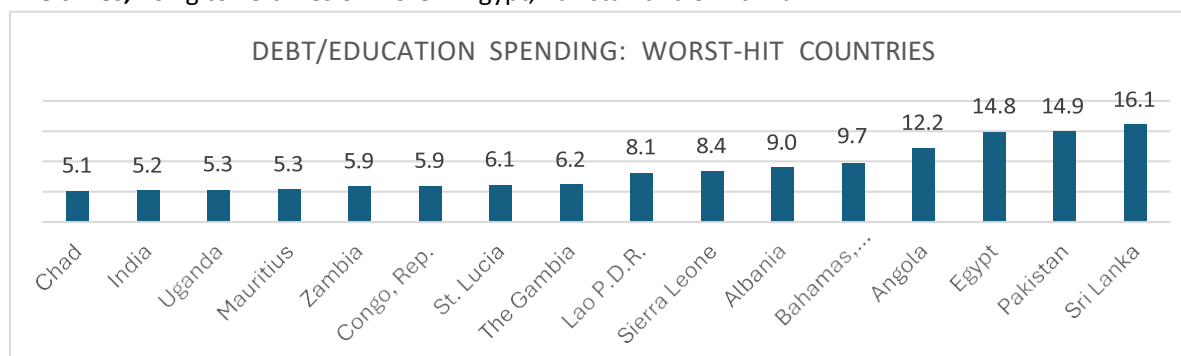
An escalating debt crisis threatens to derail SDG 4 further. DFI's 2024 *Debt Service Watch* database (drawing on IMF and budget data) shows that, **when measured by the burden of debt service, we are in the middle of an unprecedented global debt crisis.**<sup>10</sup> This is very widespread; as Figure 1 shows, there are exceptionally high debt service ratios (more than 20% of budgets) in 112 countries.<sup>11</sup> In 2024, debt service will absorb 41.5% of budget revenues, 41.6% of spending, and 8.4% of GDP.<sup>12</sup>



On average, this means that **debt servicing exceeds education spending by 2.8 times**. As Figure 2 shows, this gap is even higher in the regions furthest from meeting SDG 4: 3.2 times in sub-Saharan Africa, 2.9 times in Asia; and 2.6 times higher in LAC; and 2.4 times higher in Europe, Middle East, and Central Asia. The same is true for poorer countries: LICs and LMICs which have the furthest to go to meet SDG 4 and the largest financing needs, and debt servicing 2.9 and 3.1 times their education spending.



In the 16 worst-affected countries (Figure 4), **debt servicing exceeds education spending by more than five times**, rising to 15 times or more in Egypt, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

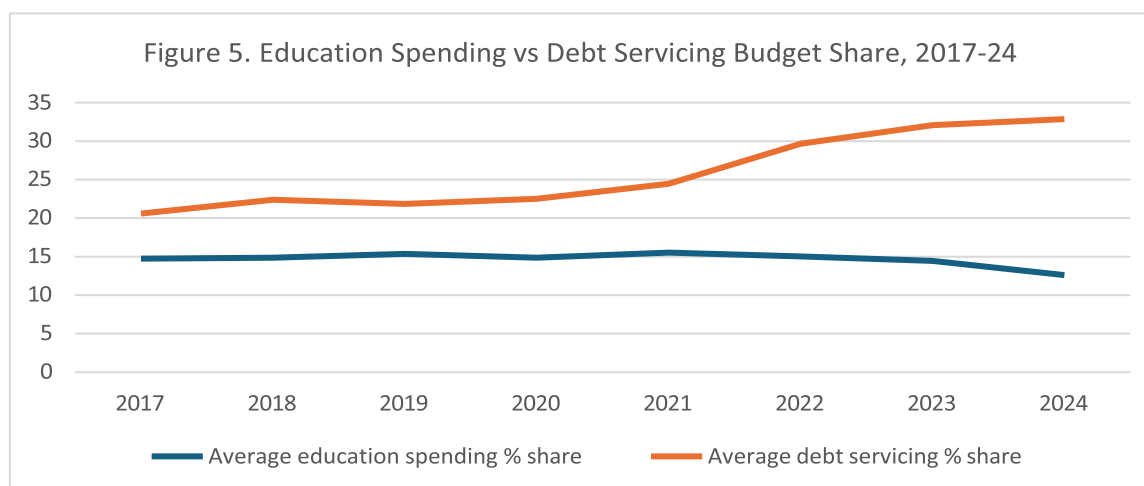


<sup>10</sup> DFI/Norwegian Church Aid (2024). *Resolving the Worst Ever Global Debt Crisis: Time for an Ambitious Initiative*

<sup>11</sup> Five other countries would have high ratios but are in default on most of their debt.

<sup>12</sup> UN (2024) *The Sustainable Development Goals Extended Report 2024: SDG4, quality education*

Debt service has also grown enormously over the last seven years, pushing aside social spending. Using statistical tests, we have found very strong correlations between the rise in debt service and fall in education spending across all countries since COVID-19, as can be seen graphically in Figure 5 below.



## Debt, Austerity and SDG 4

The debt crisis has also vastly increased the number of countries with IMF programmes, often leading to austerity spending cuts to reduce deficits and debts. The IMF has set “floors” within its programmes to shield social spending, but evidence shows this may not safeguard education - especially not teachers’ wage levels, undermining the need for many additional qualified teachers.<sup>13</sup> In most cases, IMF programmes allow only minor education spending increases – not the huge rises needed to reach SDG 4.

In 2023, in recognition of the key role financing will play in meeting international targets, the UN Heads of State ‘Transforming Education Summit’ highlighted the importance of addressing debt and austerity: ‘It is clear that action on debt ...urgently needs to be accelerated. Any country that spends more on debt servicing than on education ought to be prioritised.’<sup>14</sup>

## Rescuing SDG 4 Requires Major Debt Relief Action

The 2023 UN Global Education Monitoring Report calculated that achieving SDG 4 will cost \$460 billion annually up to 2030 in LICs and LIMCs alone. It estimated that most of this gap could be met – mainly through large domestic revenue rises - but an annual gap of around US\$100 billion would remain.

To close this gap and allow countries to progress to SDG 4, urgent action to tackle debt is essential. Recent debt relief agreements are leaving countries still paying an average 48% of their budgets on debt service through to 2030, and freeing virtually no spending room for SDG 4.<sup>15</sup> Some have suggested that the crisis is short-term and a temporary postponement of service will suffice: but the data show that for virtually all countries, high levels of debt service persist into the mid-2030s. As a result, postponing service (and adding more interest on top of it) will just make countries’ debt service problems even worse in future and undermine chances of sustainable education spending and results.

Some other “solutions” currently being proposed have nowhere near the ambition needed to free up spending. A good example is debt swaps,<sup>16</sup> which in almost all cases provide only short-term small capital injections into government budgets, when education needs long-term large-scale recurrent spending.<sup>17</sup> The prospects for debt swaps freeing any substantial sums for education or other sectors are very limited, especially in lower-income countries, by the composition of countries’ debt and the fact that

<sup>13</sup> Oxfam International (2023), *IMF Social Spending Floors: A Fig Leaf for Austerity?*; and ActionAid, Education International and Public Services International (2021), *The Public Versus Austerity: Why Public Sector Wage Bill Constraints Must End*.

<sup>14</sup> See: <https://www.un.org/en/transforming-education-summit/transforming-education-documents>

<sup>15</sup> See DFI/Norwegian Church Aid (2024). *Resolving the Worst Ever Global Debt Crisis: Time for an Ambitious initiative*

<sup>16</sup> Debt swaps are agreements between a creditor and a debtor where the existing debt is replaced with a new financial instrument or commitment. They have been championed by some in the education sector, such as the [Debt2Ed programme](#) proposed by the Global Partnership for Education

<sup>17</sup> For a summary of evidence, see Eurodad (2023), *Miracle or mirage? Are debt swaps really a silver bullet*.

the debt is trading at almost 100% of its original value.<sup>18</sup> They have also shown an alarming lack of transparency and accountability, requiring the introduction of principles for integrity/against corruption.<sup>19</sup>

Many countries in the Global South need another major round of debt service or stock cancellation if they are to have any chance of meeting SDG 4 (and virtually all of the other SDGs). DFI has calculated using the Debt Service Watch database that two key measures could close the SDG4 (and other social sector) financing gaps for lower-income developing countries. Reducing borrowing costs by half for countries which have to access bond markets regularly to fund their budgets, and cutting debt service payments to 15% of budget revenue for other lower-income countries (the level targeted under the HIPC/MDRI initiatives of the 2000s) would save more than US\$500 billion a year of debt service, providing ample funding for education, the social sectors and other emergency SDG priorities like climate and nature as demanded by the UN Secretary General and endorsed by world leaders at the Summit of the Future.<sup>20</sup>

To move forward, the international community must work together to take urgent and bold steps to fill the financing gap for SDG4. Reducing debt service sharply can play a key role in this process, together with additional concessional financing and enhanced efforts to mobilise tax revenue across the globe. Only with these steps can we provide the funding needed to save SDG 4.

## Annex 1: Debt Service vs Education Spending and Education Completion

|        |   |
|--------|---|
| Red    | Debt Service more than 2 x education budget |
| Yellow | Debt Service between 1-2 x education budget |
| Green  | Debt Service less than the education budget |

| Country              | Debt Service as % of Education Budget | Debt Service as % of all govt spend | SDG4 progress: Completion rate (%) upper secondary | Country          | Debt Service as % of Education Budget | Debt Service as % of all govt spend | SDG4 progress: Completion rate (%) upper secondary |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Afghanistan          | 0.10                                  | 1.20                                | 26.7   | Malawi           | 3.94                                  | 57.41                               | 15.48  |
| Albania              | 8.95                                  | 67.61                               | 60.41  | Malaysia         | 2.33                                  | 46.04                               | 97.8   |
| Algeria              | 1.58                                  | 20.94                               | 47.81  | Maldives         | 3.93                                  | 42.60                               | 40.26  |
| Angola               | 12.16                                 | 77.48                               | 18.26  | Mali             | 2.45                                  | 46.52                               | 7.51   |
| Antigua & Barbuda    | 4.84                                  | 47.40                               | 72   | Marshall Islands | na                                    | 3.30                                | na   |
| Argentina            | 3.13                                  | 15.82                               | 65.4   | Mauritania       | 0.81                                  | 16.28                               | 15.12  |
| Armenia              | 2.91                                  | 27.98                               | 77.99  | Mauritius        | 5.33                                  | 70.57                               | 69.49  |
| Azerbaijan           | 0.54                                  | 5.98                                | 84.8   | Mexico           | 2.82                                  | 44.33                               | 61.26  |
| Bahamas, The         | 9.69                                  | 112.42                              | 92.4   | Micronesia       | na                                    | 2.35                                | na   |
| Bangladesh           | 4.58                                  | 61.06                               | 29.36  | Moldova          | 0.64                                  | 13.61                               | 64.6   |
| Barbados             | 4.53                                  | 61.65                               | 94.12  | Mongolia         | 2.33                                  | 32.06                               | 77.29  |
| Belize               | 1.98                                  | 37.35                               | 49.44  | Montenegro       | 2.36                                  | 22.53                               | 88.36  |
| Benin                | 1.51                                  | 27.05                               | 12.52  | Morocco          | 2.41                                  | 57.58                               | 47.8   |
| Bhutan               | 1.75                                  | 34.29                               | 20.98  | Mozambique       | 1.67                                  | 23.48                               | 9.18   |
| Bolivia              | 0.35                                  | 6.52                                | 74.86  | Myanmar          | 1.98                                  | 27.80                               | 16.8   |
| Bosnia & Herzegovina | Na                                    | 10.89                               | na   | Namibia          | 2.73                                  | 67.84                               | 33.9   |
| Botswana             | 0.63                                  | 11.27                               | 60.9   | Nauru            | na                                    | 0.95                                | na   |
| Brazil               | 10.91                                 | 35.89                               | 73.53  | Nepal            | 4.07                                  | 44.67                               | 35.9   |
| Brunei Darussalam    | na                                    | 0.00                                | na   | Nicaragua        | 0.90                                  | 17.44                               | 41.31  |
| Bulgaria             | 0.63                                  | 5.89                                | 86.79  | Niger            | 4.85                                  | 83.68                               | 1.58   |
| Burkina Faso         | 1.55                                  | 29.72                               | 16.2   | Nigeria          | 3.66                                  | 21.06                               | 53.71  |
| Burundi              | 2.98                                  | 37.96                               | 7.16   | North Macedonia  | 2.21                                  | 24.34                               | 84.42  |
| Cabo Verde           | 2.39                                  | 32.08                               | 48.11  | Oman             | 1.66                                  | 23.47                               | 70.9   |
| Cambodia             | 0.71                                  | 5.61                                | 26.65  | Pakistan         | 14.07                                 | 110.04                              | 25.48  |
| Cameroon             | 2.29                                  | 31.64                               | 22.98  | Palau            | na                                    | 8.49                                | na   |
| Central African Rep  | 2.87                                  | 30.19                               | 5.58   | Panama           | 1.36                                  | 24.88                               | 73.73  |

<sup>18</sup>S See Hurley, Gail and Martin, Matthew (2024), [Debt Swaps for School Meals: Opportunities and Constraints](#)

<sup>19</sup> The Galapagos debt for nature swap is currently being promoted as an example to emulate in other sectors, but has serious holes in its architecture <https://latindadd.org/arquitectura-financiera/galapagos-deal-an-ignominious-legacy/>, Based on this and other LAC experiences, LATINDADD has proposed clear [integrity principles for debt swaps](#)

<sup>20</sup> For details of these proposals, see DFI (October 2024) [Solving the New Debt Crisis: Three Proposals](#)

| Country            | Debt Service as % of Education Budget | Debt Service as % of all govt spend | SDG4 progress: Completion rate (%) upper secondary | Country                  | Debt Service as % of Education Budget | Debt Service as % of all govt spend | SDG4 progress: Completion rate (%) upper secondary |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Chad               | 5.12                                  | 65.52                               | 4.52   | Papua New Guinea         | 4.68                                  | 68.59                               | 16.89  |
| Chile              | 0.65                                  | 9.84                                | 92.75  | Paraguay                 | 0.56                                  | 9.73                                | 66.98  |
| China              | 4.59                                  | 69.42                               | 79.3   | Peru                     | 0.84                                  | 16.28                               | 89.77  |
| Colombia           | 1.52                                  | 18.58                               | 66.08  | Philippines              | 2.14                                  | 31.33                               | 72.99  |
| Comoros            | 0.50                                  | 8.15                                | na   | Poland                   | 1.62                                  | 17.10                               | 91.45  |
| Congo, Dem. Rep.   | 0.58                                  | 10.63                               | 31.14  | Qatar                    | 1.58                                  | 14.68                               | na   |
| Congo, Rep.        | 5.94                                  | 92.24                               | 23.09  | Romania                  | 2.57                                  | 20.54                               | 81.37  |
| Costa Rica         | 2.81                                  | 57.96                               | 77.75  | Rwanda                   | 1.70                                  | 26.46                               | 20.7   |
| Cote d'Ivoire      | 3.68                                  | 48.76                               | 17.47  | Samoa                    | 0.93                                  | 11.27                               | 59.01  |
| Croatia            | 0.51                                  | 5.50                                | 97.83  | Sao Tome and Principe    | 4.57                                  | 89.03                               | 32.18  |
| Djibouti           | 1.50                                  | 21.02                               | 39.76  | Saudi Arabia             | 0.28                                  | 5.30                                | na   |
| Dominica           | Na                                    | 18.72                               | Na   | Senegal                  | 0.88                                  | 20.90                               | 11.34  |
| Dominican Republic | 2.06                                  | 43.62                               | 60.12  | Serbia                   | 2.57                                  | 18.21                               | 81.67  |
| Ecuador            | 1.01                                  | 17.51                               | 75.25  | Seychelles               | 2.68                                  | 41.30                               | 43.8   |
| Egypt              | 14.84                                 | 156.88                              | 76.06  | Sierra Leone             | 8.41                                  | 93.70                               | 19.62  |
| El Salvador        | 1.07                                  | 15.39                               | 62.64  | Solomon Islands          | 0.13                                  | 4.01                                | 7  |
| Equatorial Guinea  | Na                                    | 59.26                               | na   | Somalia                  | 0.58                                  | 4.07                                | 10   |
| Eswatini           | 2.28                                  | 44.17                               | 30.28  | South Africa             | 2.26                                  | 45.43                               | 63.21  |
| Ethiopia           | 2.35                                  | 42.05                               | 15.54  | South Sudan              | 2.46                                  | 20.13                               | na   |
| Fiji               | 1.18                                  | 22.34                               | 54.57  | Sri Lanka                | 16.06                                 | 117.26                              | 32   |
| Gabon              | Na                                    | 46.09                               | na   | St. Kitts and Nevis      | na                                    | 41.31                               | na   |
| Georgia            | 1.31                                  | 15.98                               | 77.27  | St. Lucia                | 6.13                                  | 76.86                               | 86.81  |
| Ghana              | 4.61                                  | 56.94                               | 35.74  | St. Vincent & Grenadines | 1.47                                  | 18.87                               | na   |
| Grenada            | Na                                    | 19.54                               | na   | Sudan                    | na                                    | 10.00                               | na   |
| Guatemala          | 0.96                                  | 19.25                               | 26.33  | Suriname                 | na                                    | 33.03                               | 23.36  |
| Guinea             | 1.63                                  | 24.25                               | 16.4   | Tajikistan               | 0.44                                  | 8.19                                | 77.45  |
| Guinea-Bissau      | 3.87                                  | 38.45                               | 19.19  | Tanzania                 | 3.03                                  | 40.63                               | 11.5   |
| Guyana             | 1.98                                  | 23.38                               | 95.13  | Thailand                 | 4.18                                  | 46.93                               | na   |
| Haiti              | 1.52                                  | 18.99                               | 18.1   | The Gambia               | 6.16                                  | 73.82                               | 32.21  |
| Honduras           | 1.64                                  | 21.78                               | 50.7   | Timor-Leste              | 0.19                                  | 1.40                                | 52.94  |
| Hungary            | 2.95                                  | 30.53                               | 85.96  | Togo                     | 2.21                                  | 31.76                               | 21.27  |
| India              | 5.16                                  | 44.13                               | 50.5   | Tonga                    | 0.76                                  | 11.34                               | 86.47  |
| Indonesia          | 2.02                                  | 28.54                               | 69.61  | Trinidad & Tobago        | 2.10                                  | 23.53                               | 87.71  |
| Iraq               | 1.07                                  | 10.49                               | 32.13  | Tunisia                  | 3.06                                  | 42.79                               | 48.78  |
| Jamaica            | 3.46                                  | 48.96                               | 81.98  | Turkiye                  | 2.73                                  | 24.00                               | 55.87  |
| Jordan             | 4.98                                  | 57.72                               | 60.05  | Tuvalu                   | 0.04                                  | 0.57                                | 54.48  |
| Kazakhstan         | 0.72                                  | 17.43                               | 98.34  | Uganda                   | 5.27                                  | 54.17                               | 15.68  |
| Kenya              | 3.31                                  | 53.82                               | 58.86  | Ukraine                  | 3.00                                  | 25.43                               | 95.5   |
| Kiribati           | 0.03                                  | 0.58                                | 20.39  | United Arab Emirates     | 0.20                                  | 3.18                                | 96.7   |
| Kosovo             | 1.00                                  | 12.36                               | na   | Uruguay                  | 1.18                                  | 18.21                               | 43.39  |
| Kuwait             | 0.04                                  | 0.57                                | na   | Uzbekistan               | 0.74                                  | 15.65                               | 98.61  |
| Kyrgyz Republic    | 1.35                                  | 16.30                               | 83.36  | Vanuatu                  | 0.52                                  | 7.79                                | 8.9  |
| Lao P.D.R.         | 8.08                                  | 73.32                               | 31.09  | Vietnam                  | 1.28                                  | 19.72                               | 57.89  |
| Lebanon            | 1.78                                  | 16.00                               | 46.1   | West Bank and Gaza       | 1.76                                  | 35.98                               | 72.79  |
| Lesotho            | 1.33                                  | 14.12                               | 31.87  | Zambia                   | 5.90                                  | 90.81                               | 28.15  |
| Liberia            | 1.35                                  | 20.58                               | 19.42  | Zimbabwe                 | 1.12                                  | 19.86                               | 13.97  |
| Madagascar         | 2.21                                  | 35.73                               | 14.04  |                          |                                       |                                     |  |