

RISE Community of Practice Workshop Building Up Without Falling Short: Pathways to Integrating Foundational Skills with National Education Aspirations

Tuesday 17 November, 10-11:30am Eastern Standard Time (EST)

Despite convincing evidence that countries need to [prioritize universal, early, conceptual and procedural mastery of foundational skills](#) in order to give children the surest start in their education, there remains strong resistance to altering instruction, policy, and classroom practice to make it a reality. Governments and schools are right to have high aspirations for children's progress. Yet research increasingly suggests that doing too much, too quickly can have harmful consequences for children's long-term attainment.

Members of the extended RISE community have long been proponents of prioritizing foundational skills, with many implementing programs that aim to align instruction with children's levels, and modes of instruction that facilitate mastery of these skills. But efforts to integrate these into the national education agendas are not always straight forward, competing with other priorities and sometimes struggling to gain traction with stakeholders at multiple levels—from global to local.

During this workshop, RISE's community will share their experiences on the road to bridging a foundational skills agenda with the national aspirations of their country, sharing on the following questions:

- What challenges have they experienced? What kinds of roadblocks emerge?
- How have they been working to overcome these? How has their organisation dealt with these challenges?
- What new opportunities are they seeing (for example, out of Covid-19) and how can these be capitalized on?

Programme

10:00-10:10am	Welcome, aims of the Community of Practice and this workshop
10:10-10:25am	Rapid-fire presentations: What challenges or road blocks? Efforts to integrate foundational skills with country aspirations Chair: <i>Yue-Yi Hwa, RISE</i> Presenters: <i>Nic Spaull, Funda Wandé (South Africa)</i> <i>Camila Cardoso Pereira, Lemann Foundation (Brazil)</i> <i>Anustup Nayak, Central Square Foundation (India)</i>
10:25-11:05am	Breakout to groups
(10:25-10:45am)	Breakout one: What challenges or roadblocks has your organisation experienced?
(10:45-11:05am)	Breakout two: How have you overcome these? What new opportunities are you seeing, and how can these be capitalized on?
11:05-11:25am	Report out to plenary from breakouts
11:25-11:30am	Closing