National Learning Standards in Brazil
Why are National Learning Standards so essential in Brazil?

National Learning Standards are a path to:

- **set high-level expectations for what all Brazilian children and youth** should be learning, regardless of where they live or study (quality and equity);

- **focus on competencies and skills development** to prepare students for life and work in the 21st century (relevance);

- **structure a more coherent education system**, where the National Learning Standards are the primary reference for regional curricula, professional development, learning materials, and assessments.
Legal and policy framework

- **1988 - Democratic Constitution**: Minimum contents will be set for school education in order to guarantee common learning standards.

- **1996 – National Education Law**: Federal government will be responsible for establishing, in collaboration with the States and the Municipalities, competences and guidelines for early childhood education, primary and secondary education, which will guide the curricula and their minimum contents, in order to ensure common learning standards.

- **2014 – National Plan of Education**: To establish and implement, through an inter-federal agreement, pedagogical guidelines for school education and national learning standards, respecting regional, state and local diversity.
Non-partisan coalition of over 80 well-renowned people and institutions;

Imagined and started by Lemann Foundation in 2013;

Whose mandate is to support the development and implementation of Brazil’s first National Learning Standards, the BNCC or Base Nacional Comum Curricular.
2013/2014: Coalition Building and Advocacy

- Seminar “Leading Reforms in Education”, organized by Lemann Foundation and Yale University in two editions - one in New Haven (USA) and another in São Paulo (Brazil).
- Creation of Movement for Learning Standards with Seminar participants and other members working in the field.

2015: First Version - Public Consultation and Technical Collaboration

- Elaboration of the first version of the Standards by the National Ministry of Education.
- Public consultation.
- International Seminar “Learning Standards: What can we learn from national and international evidence”.
- Critical reviews of the document in partnership with teachers, national and international experts.
2016: Second Version - Building Consensus
● Elaboration of the second version of the Standards by the National Ministry of Education.
● Regional seminars to discuss the document with administrators, headmasters, teachers and members of boards of education from all 27 States.
● Production of technical recommendations to improve the Standards.

2017/2018: Third Version – Formal Approval
● Public hearings held by the National Board of Education.
● Political and social support.
● Approval of Standards.

2 presidents
8 ministers of education
300,000 educators directly enrolled
2019/2020: Curricula Alignment
• Beginning of implementation with states and municipalities aligning their curricula to the National Learning Standard (99.9% of districts adopting new curricula).

2021/2022: Implementation
• Creation of Observatory to monitor and support implementation.
• Guidance on teacher training and production of learning materials.
• Support to pos-Covid learning recovery aligned with National Standards.

79% of teachers positively perceive Standards’ impact on their professional behavior.

87% of principals positively perceive the Standards' impact on schools’ educational management.
Lessons Learned

The importance of:

1. Keeping focus, determination, flexibility, tolerance and resilience
2. Using robust technical expertise based on national and international evidence
3. Promoting broad participation of education community
4. Communicating wisely to raise awareness and gain public support
   1) Relying on crucial and continuous support of cross-sectoral coalition
   2) Constantly monitoring actions and results and making timely adjustments
Thank you!