

## « Inequalities and higher education between public policies and private sector development »

Education plays a crucial role in the production and the fight against inequalities within and between countries, and in social cohesion. The question of inequalities in higher education has gained importance with the increase in enrolments in many countries in the world over the past twenty years. The rapid increase of the private provision of higher education in emerging and developing countries has taken part in the massification of higher education.

In this context, the multidisciplinary project (sociology, education science, economics, demography) aims at: (1) identifying to what extent and how public policies in developing countries take into account higher education inequalities, and which inequalities they try to redress; (2) analysing to what extent and how public policies take into account the extension or strengthening of the private provision of higher education and of its role in raising or reducing inequalities; (3) understanding how private higher education providers position themselves inequalities.

## An INTERNATIONAL AND COMPARATIVE PROJECT

ESPI project will take place from **2018 to 2020**. Gathering researchers from nine countries (see the map overleaf), the project is conducted in three African countries, two Latin American countries, and to Asian countries, with the same methodology. The project includes international and local scientific literature reviews, analyses of inequality indicators in public and private higher education from secondary sources, and interviews with public and private higher education stakeholders in the countries under study. Beyond the lessons that can be drawn from these analyses for public policies, the project aims at strengthening an international research network on inequalities in higher education, particularly related to higher education, in developing and emerging countries.

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