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D3 Proposal

The purpose of this visual tool is to analyze the education sector using the growth diagnostics methodology[[1]](#footnote-1). This analysis is used by a number of donor agencies and research organizations including: the Harvard Center for International Development, the Millennium Challenge Corporation, the World Bank, and USAID. The analysis aims to determine if education is a binding constrain to economic growth by first benchmarking variables related to education, and then critically assessing the sector through four analytical tests. The benchmarking exercise requires comparator countries.

The user first selects a country of interest. Next, the user selects a type of comparator: regional or income group. For example, if the country of interest is Bolivia and the comparator type is regional, then the comparator countries are those in Latin America. If the comparator type is income group, then the countries of interest are those categorized as lower middle income. The region and income classifications are from the World Bank.

Based on these selections, five graphs are generated with accompanying text to explain how to interpret the graphs and determine if education appears to be a constraint. Depending on the country of interest, there may be no interesting patterns if education is not a constraint. For all encodings, I expect to have scroll-over labels with the country name and year of data. Additionally, it may be valuable to add an interactive feature in which the user can check a box, to show a country in which education is a constraint. For example, for returns to schooling, if the user selects “show me a constraint”, then a country in which returns to school are very high will appear in the graph. This will help give the user an idea of what kind of patterns to look for when analyzing their own country of interest.

1. Hausmann, R., Rodrik, D. & Velasco, A., 2005. [Growth Diagnostics](https://growthlab.cid.harvard.edu/publications/growth-diagnostics-0). [↑](#footnote-ref-1)