



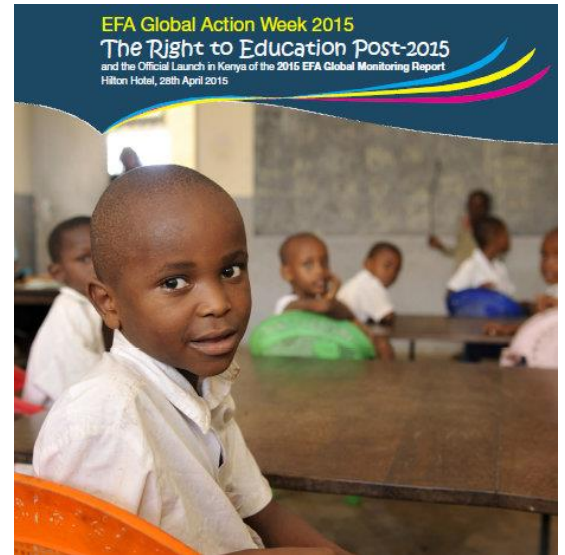
PRESS RELEASE

Kenyan event calls for a ‘Vote for Education’ for the next generation

EFA Global Action Week and Official Launch in Kenya of the EFA Global Monitoring Report

NAIROBI, Kenya, 28 April 2015: In 2000, during the World Education Forum in Dakar, Senegal, 164 governments agreed on six-cross cutting goals in order to achieve Education for All by 2015. Kenya was amongst those who committed to the EFA goals. Despite making significant progress, improving access to school for both poor and rich, a new UNESCO report shows it has failed to realise its pledge.

The Report will be launched at an event on 28 April at the Hilton Hotel in Nairobi during this year’s EFA Global Action Week under the theme ***The Right to Education Post-2015***. The event is officiated by the Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Education Science and Technology, Hon. Prof. Jacob Kaimenyi, and co-hosted by UNESCO, UNICEF and the Kenya National Commission for UNESCO. Invited participants include government officials in the education sector, UN and NGO dignitaries, civil society, partners and other stakeholders, called upon to ‘vote for education’ for the next generation from 2015-2030.



The annual report highlights that, globally, just one third of countries have achieved all of the measurable Education for All (EFA) goals set in 2000. None achieved them in sub-Saharan Africa, and only seven countries in the region achieved even the most watched goal of universal primary enrolment.

“To reach the goals as it set out to do, Kenya should focus on addressing the remaining challenges on EFA related to equity, quality, access, and monitoring. For example, the policy on Free Basic Education in Kenya should be enhanced to reduce those education costs that continue to burden households - so that all children across the country, regardless of gender, socio-economic or geographical considerations, are guaranteed their right to quality education,” states Mohamed Djelid, Director, UNESCO Regional Office for Eastern Africa.

The event will include a **panel discussion on the right to education Post-2015**, particularly looking at achievements and challenges in Kenya within the framework of the human rights-based approach of the 4 A’s: ***acceptability, availability, adaptability and accessibility***. It will concentrate on the need for education to be free at all levels, the need for better data in order to help make the marginalised more visible and policy solutions more effective, and the need for greater accessibility of schools for some of Kenya’s poorest children.

UNICEF Kenya Acting Representative, Pirkko Heinonen says that, “Quality education and learning from early childhood through secondary education and beyond are imperative to build empowered, healthy and economically stable and more equitable societies. For every last child to learn, education must begin early and continue throughout childhood, be adapted to context, and provided to all children without discrimination, including those marginalized by poverty, conflict, gender and other forms of discrimination. Moreover, advancing gender equality and investing in girls is critical if the world is to eradicate poverty and discrimination, and become more equitable and sustainable.”

This year, the world will agree on new frameworks – for education and for sustainable development more broadly – that will help set the tone and the focus for government policy and action from now until 2030. It is critical for Kenya, and Sub Saharan Africa as a whole, to set the pace in making education a reality for all.



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Useful links:

EFA Global Action Week 2015: <http://www.campaignforeducation.org/en/global-action-week/global-action-week-2015>

EFA Global Monitoring Report: <http://www.efareport.unesco.org>

Ministry of Education, Science and Technology Website: www.education.go.ke/

KNATCOM Website: <http://www.unesco.or.ke/>

UNESCO Regional Office Website: <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/nairobi>

UNICEF Kenya Website: <http://www.unicef.org/kenya/>