



East Asia

PRC, DPRK, Japan, Mongolia, ROK

Session 4

Towards implementation: Examining implications opportunities and challenges
of the new education agenda

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Question 1 – Translating the global agenda into the national context

- Most of targets under SDG 4 are reflected in all countries' existing education sector plans.

E.g.

- China's 13th 5-year plan (2016-2020)
- DPRK's long-term education strategy up to 2032
- Mongolia's long-term 2030 strategic education plan (under preparation) is being aligned with SDG 4.



Question 2 - Priorities

- Quality of education is a priority for all countries.
 - Japan, ROK: social emotional wellbeing linked to ESD and GCED
 - China, ROK, DPRK, Mongolia: especially in higher education
 - DPRK: Learning Assessment
- ROK: TVET
- DPRK: Free compulsory education up to upper secondary level (12-year education)
- Japan: Addressing disparities between the poor and the rich



Questions 3 & 4 : Opportunities and Implementing Challenges

Opportunities

- Mongolia: increased government funding
- ROK, DPRK: ICT (introduction of K-Mooc in ROK; curriculum for e-learning in DPRK)

Challenges

- Financing:
 - Japan, ROK: difficult to increase allocation to education due to aging population and decreasing # of students
 - China: increased demand for pre-primary and primary education due to the end of the one child policy
 - DPRK: lack of finance
 - Competition among sub-sectors / education sector vs other sectors



Questions 3 & 4 : Opportunities and Implementation Challenges (2)

- Others
 - Mongolia: schooling for nomadic children (separation from parents)
 - Gender balance in higher education: Mongolia (female dominance), DPRK (male dominance)
 - Mongolia: policies not based on evidence; TVET under Ministry of Labour; low teacher status
 - China: Changing labor market needs
 - Japan, China: whether to make upper secondary education compulsory



Question 5 – lessons learnt from EFA and MDGs experiences

- Strengthening monitoring and evaluation mechanisms
- China, Mongolia, ROK, DPRK: Participation of relevant stakeholders (civil society, other ministries/sectors)
- China: effective national coordination mechanisms
- ROK: Advocacy on SDGs at country level