



Session 4: Report back

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

South and West Asia

(Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Iran, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka)

Discussion Group presentation by
Dr. Allah Bakhsh Malik, Pakistan
Chaired by Mr. Ahmed Shafeeu, Maldives



Taking into consideration your current national policies and priorities and development aspirations, how would you translate the global agenda into your national context?

- All countries are enthusiastic to implement SDG 4.
- Developing frameworks to for implementation.
- Preparing to implement global agenda at national level.



Which particular themes (i.e. equity and inclusion, quality, gender equality, lifelong learning, etc.) and/or targets of the new agenda are the most relevant to the sub-region or countries within the sub-region?

- Access, equity, quality, governance, and financing.
- Gender parity and inclusion.
- Lifelong learning strategies at national and sub-national levels.



What opportunities does the new agenda offer to countries in terms of driving national education development?

- Informed decision making and learning from experiences.
- Synergy among different nations.
- Holistic approach to implement SDG 4.
- Access to international funding resources and knowledge base.



What are the implementation challenges at the national level?

- Financial resources.
- Access, equity, and quality.
- Insecurity.
- Internally displaced persons.
- Natural disasters.
- Inclusion and institutional arrangements.



What insights and lessons can we derive from the experiences of implementing the EFA and MDGs (education)?

- Learning from experiences of implementation.
- Allocation of more resources.
- Accessing the international funding by UN agencies and multinational donors.
- Accelerate the pace of implementation.
- Public and private partnerships.
- Role of media for advocacy.
- Learning from each others at SAARC Forum.