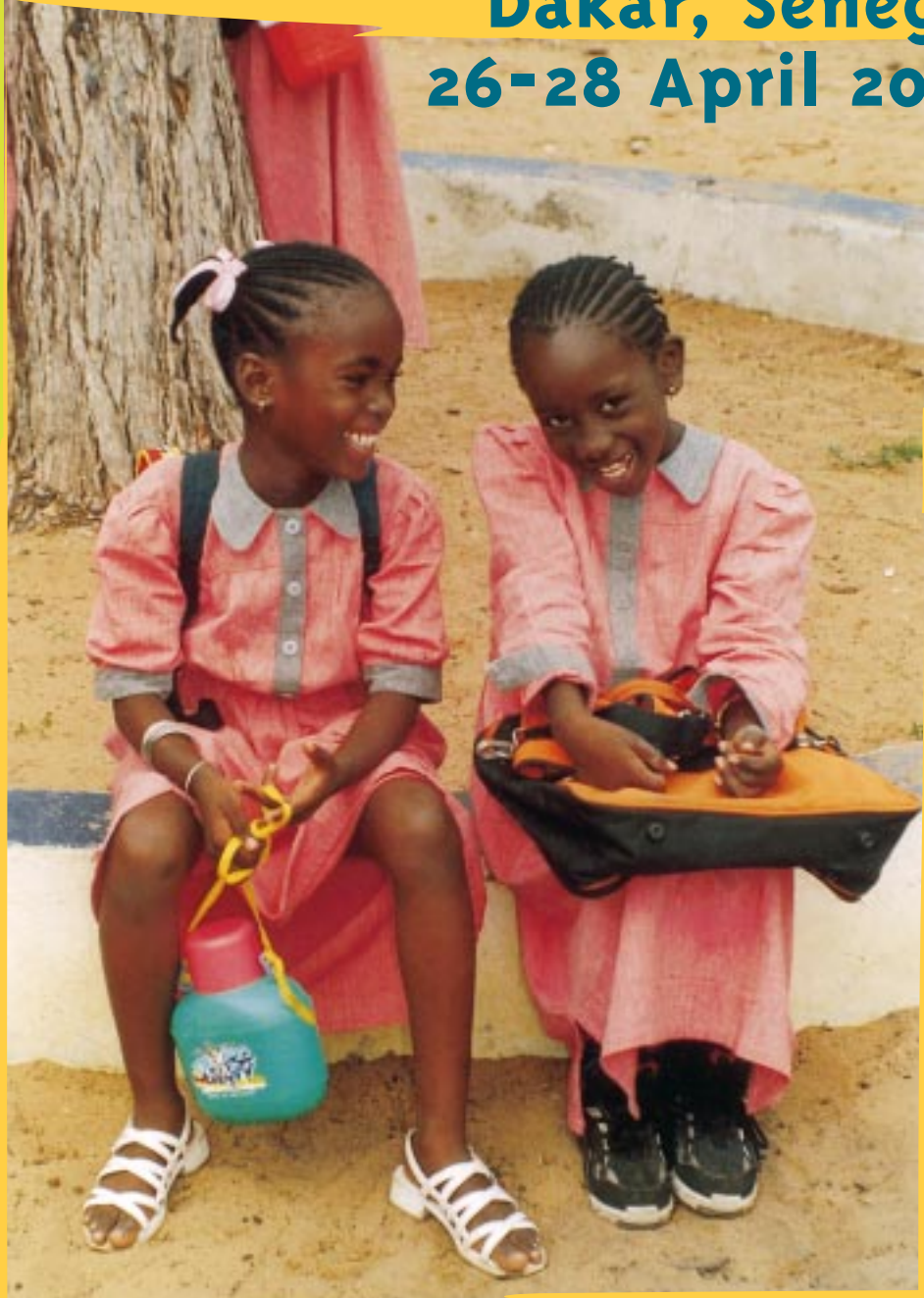


Education World Forum



**Dakar, Senegal
26-28 April 2000**



International
Consultative Forum
on Education for All
convened by UNDP,
UNESCO, UNFPA, UNICEF
and the World Bank



Education for All: the possible dream

In 1990 the international community set itself a monumental challenge: to provide basic education for all the people of the world and reduce illiteracy. Ten years later great steps forward have been made yet much still remains to be done.

At the dawn of a new millennium the world community has a unique opportunity to examine how much nearer it is to achieving its goal of Education for All (EFA) and to set priorities for the next century. How well have countries delivered on their EFA commitment? Which strategies accelerate the provision of basic education? How can countries make the EFA dream a reality?

To answer these questions, hundreds of national leaders, United Nations agency heads, education policy-makers

and practitioners will gather at the World Education Forum in Dakar, Senegal, in April 2000. Brought together by UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNICEF and the World Bank, delegates will examine the findings of the most in-depth assessment of basic education ever undertaken and set out plans to meet the basic learning needs of all in the new century.



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Michel Renaudeau

The rise of Education for All

The Education for All initiative began in 1990 in Jomtien, Thailand, where representatives of 155 governments, 33 intergovernmental bodies and 125 non-governmental organizations pledged to work towards the goal of education for all. Now, at the close of the decade, more than 180 countries are undertaking a two-year audit of their basic education programmes. The World Education Forum will provide the first opportunity for the international community to examine the worldwide results of the EFA 2000 Assessment.

In preparation for the Forum, six regional conferences will examine country reports (see box). The findings and recommendations of each regional group, together with a global synthesis report, will be presented to the Forum to provide the clearest picture possible of basic education around the world.

The EFA 2000 Assessment will provide vital information on all types of programmes, activities and services that aim to meet the basic learning needs of children, youth and adults. At the country level, it will enable governments and their partners to consider a comprehensive picture of their progress towards EFA goals and identify effective strategies for progress. At the international level, it will provide the basis for dialogue and cooperation for years to come.

Six regional Education for All conferences will examine country findings and make recommendations to the World Education Forum:

6-10 December 1999
Johannesburg, South Africa
The sub-Saharan Africa conference, organized back-to-back with the biennial conference of the Association for Development of Education in Africa

17-20 January 2000
Bangkok, Thailand
Regional EFA meeting for Asia and the Pacific

24-27 January 2000
Cairo, Egypt
Regional EFA meeting for the Arab States and North Africa

2-4 February 2000
Recife, Brazil
Ministerial review meeting of the nine high-population countries (E-9)

6-8 February 2000
Warsaw, Poland
Regional EFA meeting for Europe and Northern America

10-12 February 2000
Santo Domingo, the Dominican Republic
Regional EFA meeting for the Americas

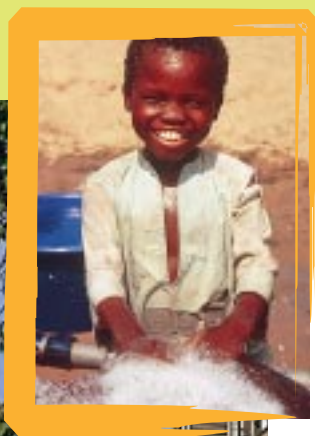
World Education Forum Objectives

► "Every person - child, youth and adult - shall be able to benefit from educational opportunities designed to meet their basic learning needs." So begins Article 1 of the World Declaration on Education for All, a document that remains the touchstone for all education development and is as pertinent today as when it was adopted in 1990.

► The aim of the World Education Forum is to help turn the vision of the Declaration into reality. Delegates will be invited to adopt a new Framework for Action, a bold, practical document designed to help nations meet the basic learning needs of all by 2015.

► The new Framework for Action will redefine strategies and set clear operational goals and strategic objectives. It will build on the findings of the EFA 2000 Assessment and help develop partnerships between governments, civil society and the international community to meet measurable education targets.

► The new Framework will be widely distributed to interested parties and communicated to major United Nations development conferences taking place in 2000 and 2001.



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Venue

The World Education Forum will take place at the conference centre of the Le Méridien Président Hotel, Dakar, from 26 to 28 April 2000. Set in a 35-acre coastal park only 15 minutes outside the city centre, the hotel will provide an excellent location for the deliberations of the Forum.

In hosting the event, the Government of Senegal recognizes the great importance of basic education for national progress. Sub-Saharan Africa faces some of the greatest challenges in education, yet many African countries have pursued their EFA goals, launched several bold initiatives and registered some notable successes. The Government of Senegal hopes the Forum will provide renewed momentum to all nations to expand educational opportunities for all and reduce adult illiteracy.

Participation

The heads of the five convening agencies are inviting 900 heads of state, government ministers, education decision-makers, NGOs, business leaders, donors, grassroots workers and journalists to join them in formulating a plan to develop basic education more vigorously in the next century. The Forum will provide delegates from more than 180 nations with an exceptional opportunity to influence the future of education in their own countries and internationally.

Further information

For further information, visit the Education for All website on <http://www.education.unesco.org/efa> or contact the EFA Forum Secretariat at UNESCO, 7, Place de Fontenoy, 75352 Paris 07 SP, France Fax: (33) 1 45685629 • E-mail: efa@unesco.org



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Programme

The World Education Forum will provide a stimulating mix of general and specialized discussions, covering the full spectrum of Education for All issues, in plenary sessions and roundtables.

Opening Ceremony:

- ☑ Welcome by the President of Senegal
- ☑ Keynote address by **Kofi Annan**, Secretary-General of the United Nations
- ☑ Presentation of the EFA 2000 Assessment results

Plenary Sessions:

- ☑ Improving the Quality of Basic Education
- ☑ Making Effective Use of Resources
- ☑ Expanding the Space for Communities and Civil Society
- ☑ Promoting Education for Democracy and Citizenship
- ☑ Fulfilling Our Shared Commitment to Education for All

Roundtables organized by specialist agencies, non-governmental organizations and other groups will examine such topics as:

- ☑ Girl's education, eliminating child labour, fighting poverty, health and nutrition, HIV/AIDS, technology for education, special needs, private business in education, improving school management, role of the media, and many more

Closing Ceremony:

- ☑ Adoption of a new Framework for Action
- ☑ Rapporteurs present key findings
- ☑ Formal closing ceremony

Invited Speakers:

Hillary Clinton,
First Lady of the United States;

Graça Machel,
Former Education Minister,
Mozambique;

Gabriel García Márquez,
Nobel Prize Winner for Literature;

Salim Ahmed Salim,
Secretary General, Organization
of African Unity;

Amartya Sen,
Nobel Prize Winner for
Economics;

Carol Bellamy,
Executive Director, United Nations
Children's Fund (UNICEF);

Mark Malloch Brown,
Administrator,
United Nations Development
Programme (UNDP);

Gro Harlem Brundtland,
Director-General, World Health
Organization (WHO);

Koichiro Matsuura,
Director-General, United Nations
Educational, Scientific and Cultural
Organization (UNESCO);

Nafis Sadik,
Executive Director,
United Nations Population
Fund (UNFPA);

Juan Somavía,
Director-General,
International Labour
Organization (ILO);

James Wolfensohn,
President of the World Bank

(NB: Not all speakers have confirmed)