



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

CapEFA News

Highlights of the Capacity Development for Education for All programme

An extrabudgetary programme created in 2003 with the objective of strengthening national capacities in key areas of education: sector-wide policies and plans, literacy, teachers and skills for the world of work.

HIGHLIGHT OF THE MONTH

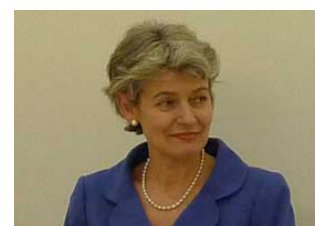
Annual Donors' Meeting

On 28 February 2013 at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris, the Education Sector hosted its Annual Joint Donors' Meeting for the Capacity Development for Education for All (CapEFA) programme. Representatives from donor countries (Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden) were joined by Director-General Irina Bokova, Assistant Director-General for Education Qian Tang, UNESCO education staff, and observers from Brazil and Germany to review the progress of activities in beneficiary countries and discuss the programme's future orientations.

In her opening remarks, Ms Bokova shared a personal account of what she had witnessed during her visits to countries currently benefiting from the CapEFA programme – notably Chad, Myanmar and Timor-Leste. "The CapEFA programme", she said, "is perhaps one of the best examples of how UNESCO's comparative advantages are translated into operational work at county level".

During the meeting, donors had the chance to receive direct feedback from beneficiary countries, as representatives of Myanmar and Malawi joined the discussions via video conference. Dr Myo Myint, Deputy Minister of Education of Myanmar, stressed the timeliness of CapEFA support at a crucial moment in his country's history, when major education reforms

are underway. Through the CapEFA programme, UNESCO is accompanying the government in conducting a Comprehensive Education Sector Review. This will result in a strategic, costed sector plan, and the development of national capacities in policy-formulation, planning and management.



Director-General Irina Bokova opened the meeting (©UNESCO).

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*Irina Bokova
Director-General of UNESCO*

The afternoon session began with presentations on the progress of activities within each thematic area of focus. All interventions were followed by question and answer sessions, allowing participants to engage in an informal dialogue and donors to appreciate the impact of the programme at country level.

This year's meeting was also the opportunity to present the programme's external evaluation, carried out in the second semester of 2012. Members of the evaluation team shared the main findings and recommendations, providing valuable inputs for participants to reflect on the way forward and on how to best position the CapEFA programme in the post-2015 agenda.

As key messages, the donor group acknowledged the long-term aspect of capacity development processes to ensure sustainability, emphasizing the need to expand the donor base. Donors also encouraged stronger coordination and alignment of activities at country level, with different partners and development actors to create synergies and scale up the impact of the CapEFA programme.



Dr Myo Myint, Deputy Minister for Education in Myanmar, joined the discussions via video conference (©UNESCO/Bruno Mesquita Valle).