UNESCO

Education 2030 Incheon Declaration

Incheon Declaration and SDG4 – Education 2030 Framework for Action

Sustainable Development Goal 4

Vision, rationale and principles

The Education for All (EFA) Extract and Summary

UNESCO is the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. It seeks to build peace through international cooperation in Education, the Sciences and Culture. UNESCO’s programmes contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals defined in Agenda 2030, adopted by the UN General Assembly in 2015. (https://en.unesco.org)

The Education 2030 Framework for Action was adopted by 184 UNESCO Member States on 4 November 2015 in Paris. Our vision is to transform lives through education, recognizing the important role of education as a main driver of development.

‘Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all’

It is inspired by a humanistic vision of education and development based on human rights and dignity; social justice; inclusion; protection; cultural, linguistic and ethnic diversity; and shared responsibility and accountability.

Importance of Education in 21st Century World Citizen

1. Education is a public good, a fundamental human right and a basis for guaranteeing the realization of other rights.

2. Education is essential for peace, tolerance, human fulfillment and sustainable development.

3. Education is the key for achieving full employment and poverty eradication.

4. Education facilitates intercultural dialogue and fosters respect for cultural, religious and linguistic diversity, which are vital for achieving social cohesion and justice. (P 26)

5. Education promotes mutual understanding, tolerance, friendship and peace. (P 28)

Education Key Roles-

1. Eradicating poverty- Education helps people obtain decent work, raises their incomes and generates productivity gains that fuel economic development.

2. Gender equality- Education is the most powerful means of achieving gender equality, of enabling girls and women to fully participate socially and politically, and of empowering them economically.

3. Healthy Society- Education saves the lives of millions of mothers and children, helps prevent and contain disease, and is an essential element of efforts to reduce malnutrition.

4. Fulfill needs of persons with disabilities- Education promotes the inclusion of persons with disabilities. It is also fundamentally protective for children, young people and adults whose lives have been devastated by crisis and conflict, and provides them with the tools to rebuild their lives and communities.
What is quality education?
Quality education fosters creativity and knowledge, and ensures the acquisition of the foundational skills of literacy and numeracy as well as analytical, problem solving and other high-level cognitive, Quality education fosters interpersonal and social skills. It also develops the skills, values and attitudes that enable citizens to lead healthy and fulfilled lives, make informed decisions, and respond to local and global challenges through education for sustainable development (ESD) and global citizenship education (GCED).

Education and Educated World Citizen
Statements of the Heads of the WEF 2015 Convening Agencies

Education is the key to a better life for every child and the foundation of every strong society – but far too many children are still being left behind. To realize all our development goals, we need every child in school and learning.

Anthony Lake, Executive Director, UNICEF

In our world, knowledge is power, and education empowers. It is an indispensable part of the development equation. It has intrinsic value – extending far beyond the economic – to empower people to determine their own destiny. That is why the opportunity to be educated is central to advancing human development.

Helen Clark, UNDP Administrator

Together we must promote and protect every person’s right to education, and ensure that quality education reaches all, and instils values of peace, justice, human rights and gender equality.

Babatunde Osotimehin, UNFPA Executive Director

Vision, rationale and principles

Education transforms the lives of individuals, communities and societies, leaving no one behind.

Humanistic vision of education and development, based on the principles of human rights and dignity, social justice, peace, inclusion and protection, as well as cultural, linguistic and ethnic diversity and shared responsibility and accountability. (P 24)

Features of SDG4-Education 2030
SDG4-Education 2030 agenda is embedded in its holistic and humanistic vision. Education is a fundamental human right and an enabling right.

Goal 4 is comprehensive -
1. Holistic,
2. Ambitious,
3. Aspirational
4. Universal,

SDG4-Education 2030 focuses on increased and expanded access, inclusion and equity, quality and learning outcomes at all levels, within a lifelong learning approach.

SDG4-Education 2030 agenda is that it is universal and is owned by the entire world, developed and developing countries alike.
Urgent need to focus on SDG4-Education 2030

1. To provide early childhood care and education to ensure children’s long term development, learning and health
2. To ensure that all children, youth and adults are learning and acquire relevant skills, including proficiency in literacy
3. To develop (for children, youth and adults) throughout life the flexible skills and competencies they need to live and work in a more secure, sustainable, interdependent, knowledge-based and technology-driven world
4. To ensure that all individuals acquire a solid foundation of knowledge, develop creative and critical thinking and collaborative skills, and build curiosity, courage and resilience
5. To develop education systems that are more resilient and responsive in the face of conflict, social unrest and natural hazards – and to ensure that education is maintained during emergency, conflict and post-conflict situations (P 27)

Education for all: access to inclusive, equitable quality education and lifelong learning opportunities

The new education agenda’s focus on inclusion and equity – giving everyone an equal opportunity, and leaving no one behind signals another lesson: the need for increased efforts especially aimed at reaching those marginalized or in vulnerable situations. All people, irrespective of sex, age, race, colour, ethnicity, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property or birth, as well as persons with disabilities, migrants, indigenous peoples, and children and youth, especially those in vulnerable situations or other status, should have access to inclusive, equitable quality education and lifelong learning opportunities. (P 25)

**United Nations agencies & other agencies**
The United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF)
The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP),
The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
UN Women and the World Bank; the Global Partnership for Education (GPE);
The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD);
Education International (EI); the Global Campaign for Education (GCE)
The Africa Network Campaign on Education For All (ANCEFA)
The Asia South Pacific Association for Basic and Adult Education (ASPBAE)

**Rajeev Ranjan**

Reference

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