

Workshops EFA GMR Conference

1. The teachers perspective on EFA

After 15 years of working towards EFA, what are the lessons we can learn from the teachers' point of view? Education International surveyed 14.000 teachers and education support staff in 125 countries and brought together over 80 national education unions in workshops all around the world to share their views and experiences on what happened since the adoption of the EFA goals in Dakar. After a short presentation of the main results of this research (to be published shortly), the workshop will focus on ways to incorporate these findings in our future work on the new Sustainable Development Goals.

With Jefferson Pessi.

Facilitation by Trudy Kerperien, international secretary General Union of Education (AOB)

2. Role of education in refugee integration

A country of seven million, Jordan has struggled socially and economically to accommodate an estimated one million Syrian refugees since unrest began four years ago. For refugee families who have lost everything, the pressure to earn money can force young people into child labor and early marriage, taking them out of school and making them less likely to ever return. Save the Children supports Syrian refugees in host communities through the improvement of local education facilities and activities to integrate children and their families. The Netherlands also hosts numbers of Syrian refugees, although on a much lower scale. How can we ensure that key barriers to the education of refugees are addressed? What can be done to facilitate integration of Syrian families and their children?

With Lia van Nieuwenhuizen.

Facilitation by Aart van den Broek, head education programmes Edukans

3. Education with a soul: on radicalisation, polarisation and new ideals

Radicalism and fundamentalism has been of all ages and all continents. Yet, recent developments throughout the world have increased the urgency of countering violent extremism. Today, radicalisation and polarisation have risen to the front of the political agenda both in Pakistan and in the Netherlands. Are our societies hampered by a lack of inspiring peaceful ideals? And what is the role education can play in fostering mutual understanding, intercultural dialogue and global citizenship?

With Jos Leenhouts and Frits Brouwer

Facilitation by Esther van Duin, Dutch Youth Representative to UNESCO

4. Education and inequality

Education is considered essential in the fight against inequality. However, if education systems reinforce unequal power relations, they may augment existing social and economic inequality. And what is the effect of private schools?

With Priyadarshani Joshi.

Facilitation by Jeanne Roefs, coordinator Global Campaign for Education Netherlands

5. Quality of education

This year, 2015, EFA goals and MDGs on education will be evaluated: more children have accessed education. With more children attending school, the quality issue is coming up. What is the main aim of children's education, what defines the quality of their education? How is this addressed in the new Sustainable Development Goals and EFA goals up to 2030? The new EFA framework sets new targets and indicators. How can these capture quality? Does a strong focus on measurable learning outcomes enhance the quality of education, or is it counterproductive?

With Hendrien Maat.

Facilitation by Helmke Hofman, Edukans