

Gender & Education Post 2015

Mapping Global/Regional/Local Policy Platforms



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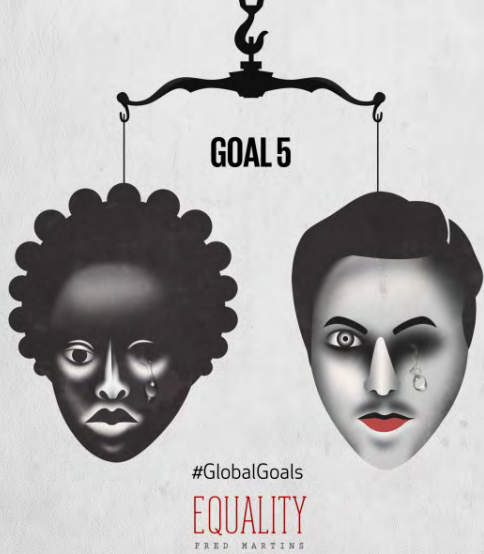
Introduction

ENHANCING LIFELONG LEARNING AND DECENT WORK FOR WOMEN

.....
THE GLOBAL COMMUNITY HAS AN OBLIGATION TO ENSURE WOMEN'S
EQUAL ACCESS TO & PARTICIPATION IN EDUCATION, TRAINING, LIFE
LONG LEARNING AND DECENT WORK
.....

The research maps the evolution of debates and positions leading up to the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals, with the aim of determining ways organisations can approach advocacy in the current global setting

- Introduction: Project
- Context
- Mapping Positions
- The process of key events and outcomes
- Discussion



**BY 2030 WE WILL ALL
HAVE EQUAL CHANCES
TO SUCCEED AT ALL
LEVELS OF PUBLIC LIFE**

**ECONOMIC
GROWTH DOESN'T
MEAN ANYTHING
IF IT LEAVES
PEOPLE OUT.
JACK KEMP**



GlobalGoals



November 2015

Zulaiha Shihab - WAVE/RMIT University

Sourced from Getty Images

“The People’s Goals”



– UN Secretary General Ban Ki Moon



THE GLOBAL GOALS
For Sustainable Development

4 QUALITY EDUCATION



5 GENDER EQUALITY



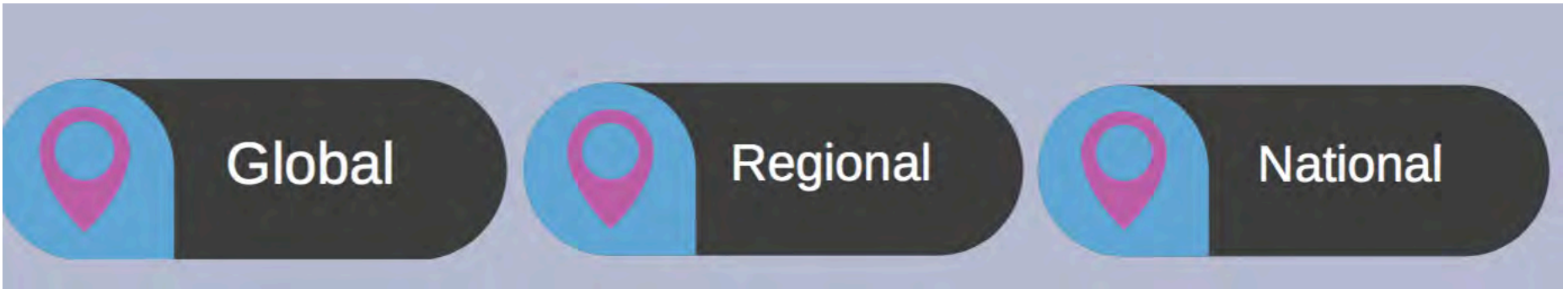
The research aimed to...

answer the questions:

- What are the critical points for global policy making for women, in relation to education and work?
- How do we move the agenda of lifelong learning for women forward?
- How should organizations approach advocacy in the current global setting?

Methodology

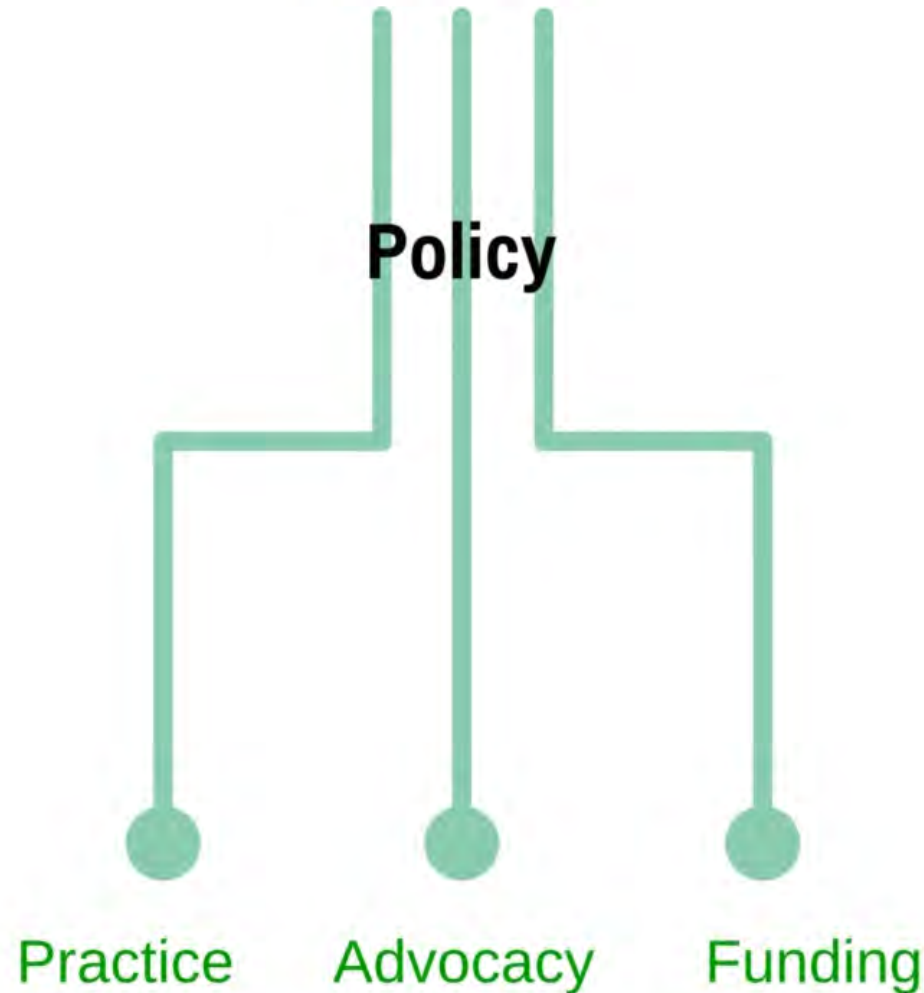
Mapping



Sources

- organisational outcome documents,
- public statements and
- speeches by organisation and government officials,
- position papers of CSOs and think tanks
- Interviews

International Agendas (SDGs)



Context



MDGs + EFA + BPFA

Limits and achievements :

- Gender parity in primary and secondary level enrolment has been achieved, in the Asia Pacific Region. (UNDP 2015)
- At the expiration of the MDGs, at least 781 million adults are still denied the right to literacy, two-thirds of them being women. (UNESCO 2015)



Context contd...

A Limited Framework?

Gains in terms of enrolment of girls in primary and secondary school in a number of countries, but progress in technical training and vocational education for women remains weak

(Global Monitoring Report – Education for All 2000-2015)

Limited scope of MDG 3 linked to slow progress in areas not covered under the goals, such as disproportionate share of unpaid work & access to reproductive health.

(UN Women Post 2015 Position Paper)

The Road to gender equality in Education in the 2030 Agenda

- Renewed interests in popular culture
- Education as a right – Education as a tool for sustainability and peace.
- More voices = Broader scope

So what did these actors want?

Mapping positions - Global

- Focus on more than parity in education.
- Both a stand-alone goal on gender equality and to have gender mainstreamed throughout all goals.
- Agenda that addresses deep-rooted discrimination that women face
- Integration of the BPFA
- Recognition of unpaid work
- A stand-alone education goal that focused on both access and quality
- **UN Women**
- **UNESCO**
- **Post 2015 Women's Coalition**
- **Women's Major Group**
- **International Council for Adult Education (ICAE)**
- **International Trade Union Confederation**
- **Global Partnership for Education (GPE)**
- **Global Campaign for Education (GCE)**



Mapping positions - Regional

- Education ranked in top 5 development priorities in the region.
- Beyond formal education to Lifelong learning.
- New goal to enshrine EFA goals.
- **Asia Development Bank (ADB)**
- **Asia South Pacific Association for Basic Adult Education (ASPBAE)**
- **Asia Pacific Women's Alliance**



Mapping positions - National

- Address the “forgotten group” of post school age and adult learners.
- Twin track approach.
- **Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT)**
- **Office for Women (OfW)**
- **Australian Council for International Development (ACFID)**
- **Australian Council for Education Development (ACED)**



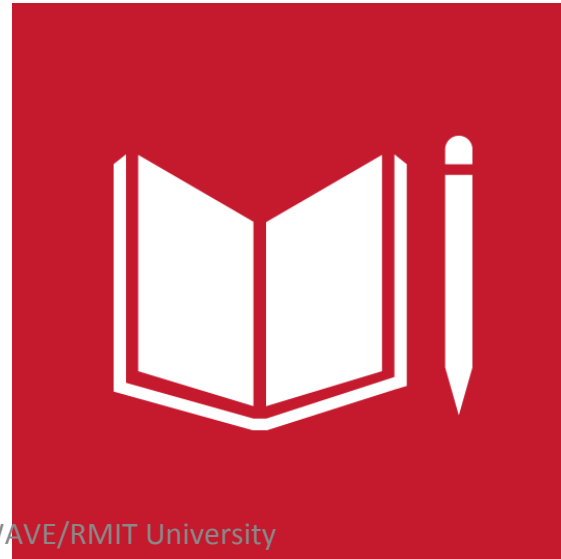
THE PROCESS OF KEY EVENT & OUTCOMES



1. RIO +20 AND THE PROPOSED GOAL.

- The Open Working Group on Sustainable Development released 17 proposed SDGs and 169 targets.

Goal 4: *“Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.”*



- Goal 5: *“Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls”*.

Gender equality objectives are also present in targets within other goals:

- Ending Poverty (Goal 1)
- Food Security (Goal 2)
- Health and Wellbeing (Goal 3)
- Water and Sanitation (Goal 6)
- Employment and Decent Work (Goal 8)
- Reducing Inequalities (Goal 10)
- Peace and Justice (Goal 16)
- Means of Implementation (Goal 17).



2. BEIJING +20 AND CSW 59



- 20th Anniversary of BPfA
- International political commitment to end gender inequality by 2030
- The process overall has however been criticized for limiting nongovernmental engagement.
- This lack of civil society inclusion can be tied to a weakening of language

3. WORLD EDUCATION FORUM (WEF)



- The *NGO Forum Declaration Towards the right to Inclusive Quality Public Education and Lifelong Learning Beyond 2015*

Incheon Declaration, Education 2030: Towards inclusive and equitable quality education and Lifelong Learning.

- Recognition of the importance of gender equality in achieving the right to education, including a commitment to supporting gender-sensitive policies, planning and learning environments.
- Specific mentions on the commitment to ensure all women and girls have access to gain literacy, numeracy and life skills.
- An affirmation that the fundamental responsibility for implementing this agenda lies with the State.
- Urging adherence to spending at least 4-6% of GDP and/or allocating at least 15-20% of total public expenditure to education.
- GPE was recognized as a key body to be involved in a future global coordination mechanism.

4. THE ADDIS ABABA SUMMIT: THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT



- Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA)
- “social protective system”
- The role of aid & the private sector in education funding?
- While the agenda includes commitments to improve capacity in terms of technical training, no agreement was reached on resourcing for broader adult literacy as the paragraphs on education focus on children and overlooks adults.
- Does not address the flaws of the international financial policy such as an effective tax system.

Consensus & Adoption

- *“Transforming our world: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”*.
- Analysts say agenda is said to cost between \$3.3 - \$4.5 trillion a year in state spending, investment and aid.
- No confirmation on how to fund the education agenda.
- Gender does feature greatly in the agenda .
- Weaker language in education goal...

Incheon declaration calls for

- *“ensuring that all youth and adults, especially girls and women, achieve relevant and recognized functional literacy and numeracy proficiency levels and acquire life skills, and that they are provided with adult learning, education and training opportunities”*

The final text states

- *“substantially increase the number of youth and adults” – (target 4.4)*
- *“substantial proportion of adults” –(target 4.6)*

Discussion

- *“Sometimes advocacy is about holding the line so it doesn’t fall back and sometimes you have to push even to maintain the line”*

– Bernard Lovegrove, ASPBAE Australia.

(2015, pers. comm)

- *“Women often rely on that second chance opportunity for education”* – Susan Hopgood, Education International & AEU

(2015, pers. Comm)

Advocacy Partnership



- Through partnership & regional/global alliances small civil society networks can ensure that their focus & positions are represented in the caucus & also relayed to their respective government at the particular event/forum/assembly.
- Continuous engagement with national governments on negotiating international policy to ensure that agreements are upheld, resourced and implemented.
- Ensure public awareness nationally & engagement to promote ownership of goals through social media, public education campaigns and similar.

Cross sectorial Collaboration

- Advancement of the education & gender goals is necessary for success in other goals and so need to be integrated into all SDGs.
- Cross sectorial partnership is needed to ensure goals do not become silos.
- The greater level of consensus on mainstreaming gender through the agenda can suggest that women's rights and education organisations can approach promoting education goals through the gender goal.





Thank you

Questions?