Regional Perspectives on the Post-2015 Education Framework for Action: South and West Asia

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Policy and Planning

1. To address issues of access, equity, quality, financing and governance in education, there is a dire need to formulate national plans of action to implement the post-2015 agenda.

2. National plans for action need to be integrated as part of educational sector plans and national education policies.

3. We had national coordinators for EFA and EFA forum at national levels. There is need to revitalize and operationalize these fora.
Coordination and Partnerships

1. Using existing platforms like ASEAN and SAARC, regional education ministers forum within the existing platforms focusing on education is proposed.

2. The role of CSOs/NGOs and private sectors is important but at times there is trust deficit which need to be bridged through transparent regulatory framework. There is need to move from command and control regime to connect and collaborate realm.

3. Engagement with all stakeholders in unison and synergy and creating partnership will help to ensure enrolment and reduction in drop-outs and improve quality.
Financing

1. 6% of GDP and 20% of the expenditures is proposed for education sector. There is a need to have strong advocacy at international and national levels to ensure allocation of resources in education sector.

2. Innovative financing is important but it should not shift the burden to those who are already disadvantaged.

3. Prioritize allocation of resources to underserved and less affluent sections of society especially minorities and other excluded groups.
Monitoring and Accountability

1. In order to have monitoring and evaluation and accountability, there is need to have secure, accurate and verifiable data. The establishment of National Education Management Information System – EMIS is essential.

2. Standing committees on education in national and sub-national legislatures help to ensure optimal resource utilization and value for money.

3. Instead of summative monitoring, there has to be a regular system of formative monitoring to keep the organizations on learning curve. Theory should inform practice and vice versa.