

Post-2015 Agendas: Northern Tsunami, Southern Ripple? The Case of Education and Skills



**Open Working
Group on
Sustainable
Development Goals**

Report

September 2014



**Can't afford
Realizing the Future We Want for All**
Report of the Secretary-General



September 2013



**UN-facilitated (not led)
Education Consultation**



Post-2015



**United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization**

unicef



**Kenneth King and Robert Palmer, University of Edinburgh
and NORRAG. Kenneth.king@ed.ac.uk / rpalmer00@gmail.com**

Partial Snapshot for Today

Reporting-on-the-Run

- Post-2015: a Northern, non-grassroots, pre-occupation?
- Surprisingly low profile of skills development in post-2015 goals and targets –also of teaching
- The sheer complexity of the route map to post-2015 MDGs and Education for All (EFA) Goals (cf. ODI's 'Goal Tracker' for 160 goals)
- For full paper (pp40) behind this ppt, ask Kenneth.King@ed.ac.uk; or check www.norrag.org after Dakar and Bali –end of March

Massive Intensity of Post-2015 Activity in Many OECD Countries

- “UK & Post-2015”; or ‘CIES –N.O. & post-2015’
- UK Prime-minister on High Level Panel (HLP); special post-2015 unit in DFID; House of Commons Intl. Devt. Committee
- Academic preoccupation in Overseas Devt. Institute (ODI) & Instit. of Devt. Studies (IDS)
- International NGOs -Save the Children, Oxfam, ActionAid etc – all have reports on post-2015
- **UKFIET Oxford 10.9.13:- 3 full days of post-2015!**

Southern Ripple on Post-2015?

- A degree of S. engagement in Northern-facilitated “consultations” by agencies & INGOs
- Some engagement with some 74 ongoing UNDP-facilitated “national” consultations; 8 in pipeline
- **My World** citizens’ survey on future development priorities = much higher interest in N than S, and W than E. [Check out: www.myworld2015.org)
- BRICS register low interest in 2015 except Brazil
- One exception is B’desh +People’s Forum on MDGs & Southern Voice – a Southern think-tank network
- “Do let us know what you are planning for us now....”

Drivers of MDG (dis)Interest?

- UN decisions on MDGs are thought to have direct implications for aid funding, whether of N. INGOs or sectors in OECD devt. agencies
- Absence of well-staffed devt. agencies, consultancies and think-tanks in South on international devt. issues
- Even in highly aid-dependent countries, little apparent concern with MDG agenda-setting

Surprisingly Low Profile of Skills or TVET in Post-2015 Goals

- Despite economic recession, high youth unemployment (N&S), and links between skills devt & employability, few MDG Goals on skills
- No single skills lobby unlike schools and “learning”; but multi-ministry & multi-UN agency ownership of skills
- But transformative ideas from World TVET Report (May 2013) suggest a possible Skills Goal:
“Equitable access for all to quality skills for life, decent work and sustainable growth”

Suggest to who, how, when?

The High Road to Mount Olympus to Find the Golden (Education) Goals?

- After Dakar, the HLP final meeting end-March, final report May 2013, feeding into Sec. General's (SG's) report to UNGA Sept 2013
- The regional, electronic, and global thematic consultation process on Education ends mid-March in Dakar, but no accessible report yet
- The Sustainable Devt Goal (SDG) process is getting going in mid-March –see e-inventory
- The post-EFA process is scarcely underway (post-GMR 2015??)

Who, How & When to Influence What Level with What Results?

- Post-2015 Lobbies around Early Childhood, Literacy, Learning, Teachers, Lower Secondary, and Skills (a little).
- What interaction amongst the HLP, SG, SDG, 11 Global Thematic reports, and 70 + national consultations, not to mention the INGO and think tank reports?
- What is the evidence base for the various reports, goals, targets (see LRTF and LMTF)

Further Sources – beyond KK/RP current paper for CIES

NORRAG Occas. Paper 1: Education and Skills in the Post-2015 Global Landscape - King & Palmer (September 2012: www.norrag.org)

NORRAG Occas. Paper 5: What is the evidence base of post-2015 goals & targets – King & Palmer (August 2013: www.norrag.org)

NORRAG News 49 : On the Politics of Post-2015

(NN49 available at UKFIET Conf. 10-12 Sept.2013 on ***Educ.& Devt. Post-2015:***

www.cfbt.com/UKFIET/default.aspx) - **How many post-2015 mtgs are you going to before then??!**