PHILANTHROPY IN EDUCATION
GENEVA 2017

PHILANTHROPY IN EDUCATION: WHAT’S THE COST?
FOCUS OF THE PRESENTATION

- THE CONTEXT OF INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- PHILANTHROPY INCLUDES ULTRA-RICH PHILANTHROPISTS; FOUNDATIONS, TRUSTS AND OTHER PHILANTHROPIC VEHICLES USED BY SUCH PHILANTHROPISTS; CORPORATE PHILANTHROPY
STRUCTURE OF THE PRESENTATION

- HOLLOWED-OUT STATE
- POLICY TRANSFER
- PHILANTHROPY AND ITS IMPACTS ON PUBLIC POLICY
- TENTATIVE CONCLUSIONS
LIMITATIONS OF THE PRESENTATION

- More empirical data and research required on processes and impacts of philanthropy in education
- Tentative conclusions are not applicable to all philanthropic activity
- Philanthropy has benefits as well as costs
HOLLOWED-OUT STATE

- THE NEW PUBLIC MANAGEMENT
- THE NEW POLICY AGENDA
- GLOBALISATION
NEW PUBLIC MANAGEMENT

- Downsizing of the State
- Decentralisation
- Privatisation of Service Delivery
NEW POLICY AGENDA

- Privatisation of the International Development Industry, including enhanced roles of private sector organisations

- Increased role of NGOs and other non-state actors in international development

- Competitive “contract culture” for provision of service delivery and patron-client relationships
GLOBALISATION

- INTERNATIONALISATION AND REGIONALISM
- EMERGENCE OF GLOBAL PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS
- ROLES OF INTERNATIONAL GOVERNANCE ORGANISATIONS
POLICY TRANSFER

- TRANSNATIONALISATION OF PUBLIC POLICY
- GLOBAL PUBLIC POLICY NETWORKS
- “TAKING” OF POLICY VERSUS THE “MAKING” OF POLICY
WHAT’S THE COST?

- Cheque-book activism and “Super Citizens” leads to distorted policy and practice

- Lack of policy fit to perceived policy problems – whose policy agendas prevail and why? One size fits all?

- Effectiveness of interventions may be problematic, especially regarding sustainability

- Challenges to governance of the public policy process

- Challenges to national sovereignty
TENTATIVE CONCLUSIONS

- The hollowed-out state is permeable to penetration by external policy actors, including philanthropic individuals and entities.

- External policy actors may challenge responsibility, accountability and transparency in the public policy process.
UNINTENDED AND INTENDED CONSEQUENCES OF “MUSCULAR PHILANTHROPY” INCLUDE DOMINATION OF PUBLIC POLICY SPACES AND DISCOURSES SUCH AS “POLITICISATION OF EXPERTISE” THROUGH FUNDING OF THINK TANKS AND CONSULTANCIES

ARE WE WITNESSING A FORM OF PHILANTHRO-COLONIALISM?
THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND ATTENTION

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