

Paris Symposium on Conflict Sensitive Education

Declaration

We, the participants of the High Level Symposium co-organised by the Inter-agency Network for Education in Emergencies (INEE) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP) in Paris, are;

Concerned about the long term impact that conflicts have on girls, boys, young women and men, and particularly on the delivery and quality of education;

Aware that education is not neutral and can either mitigate or exacerbate conflicts; and of the critical need to strengthen education systems to effectively address conflicts and their dynamics;

Committed to supporting children's and youth's access to safe and quality education in conflict-affected and fragile contexts that meets the INEE Minimum Standards for Education; and

Motivated to promote a common approach to conflict sensitive education that supports national education goals and contributes to Education for All Goals.

We, therefore:

Reaffirm that education is a human right that needs to be guaranteed and protected in situations of emergency and fragility;

Assert that the development and implementation of education policies and programmes need to be sensitive to conflict or the risk of conflict;

Affirm that education policies and programmes need to support the prevention of violence and the development of competencies for responsible citizenship, conflict transformation and resilience;

Encourage governments responsible for education in collaboration with partners to ensure appropriate training for teachers and other education personnel, and develop, support and enable the delivery of education in situations of emergency and fragility that is safe, relevant, equitable and inclusive for girls and boys, and that results in relevant learning;

Emphasize the need for conflict and crisis sensitive education to be included in the post-2015 development agenda to support the eradication of poverty and sustained economic, social and political stability and development for all;

Welcome the development of tools for conflict- and crisis-sensitive education policies and programmes by INEE (such as the *Guidance Note on Conflict Sensitive Education* and the *Reflection Tool for Designing and Implementing Conflict Sensitive Education Programmes*) and other organisations;

Recommend that governments responsible for education in collaboration with partners use and disseminate the *INEE Guiding Principles on Integrating Conflict Sensitivity in Education Policy and Programming in Conflict-Affected and Fragile Contexts* (as elaborated in Annex I).

8 April 2013, Paris, France