New Global Data on Teachers!

New UIS/GMR Policy Note

Wanted: Trained teachers to ensure every child’s right to primary education

POLICY PAPER 15 / FACT SHEET 30

How many teachers are needed to help every child realise their right to a primary education?

Universal primary education (UPE) will remain a distant dream for millions of children living in countries without enough teachers in classrooms. Current discussions of the post-2015 development agenda include a target to balance the supply and training of teachers as part of efforts to ensure that every child learns in a stimulating and supportive classroom environment.¹ To help formulate and monitor progress post-2015, the UIS has released a new set of projections of the demand and supply of primary teachers at the global and national levels.²

According to this data, countries will need to recruit a total of 4 million teachers to achieve universal primary education by 2015 (see Figure 1). Of this total, 2.4 million will replace teachers who retire, change occupations or leave the workforce due to illness or death. The remaining 1.4 million will be needed to universalise access to primary education and ensure adequate quality by ensuring that there are no more than 40 students for every teacher.

UPE will not be achieved by 2015, however, as 58 million children are still out of school. Additional teacher training will be required to achieve UPE.

Click on the World Teacher's Day 2014 link at: www.uis.unesco.org

UNESCO Teachers E-Atlas

Map projections of teacher demand and view country profiles to 2030
Primary teachers needed to achieve universal primary education (in millions)

Source: UNESCO Institute for Statistics database
SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA NEEDS THE MOST NEW TEACHERS

More than 7 in 10 countries don't have enough teachers today

Shortages will get worse with population growth

6.2 million more teachers are needed by 2030
of which 2.3 million are new positions to be created

Source: UNESCO Institute for Statistics Database
Countries reaching UPE by 2015 or 2030

Source: UNESCO Institute for Statistics database
UNESCO eAtlas of Teachers

Women in the teaching profession

Indicators

- Percentage of female teachers in primary education
- Gender parity index for the gross enrolment ratio for secondary education
- Gross enrolment ratio for secondary education

Year: 2013 (or latest available)

Data by the UNESCO Institute for Statistics

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This paper, jointly released by the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS) and the Education for All Global Monitoring Report (GMR) on World Teachers Day, shows that there are shortages and persistent teacher shortages, especially in well-trained teachers. These tensions will continue to delay the fundamental right to primary education for millions of children in decades to come if concerted action is not taken.

According to the data, countries will need to recruit a total of 4 million teachers to achieve universal primary education by 2015. Of this total, 2.6 million will replace teachers who retire, change occupations or leave the workforce due to illness or death. The remaining 1.4 million will be needed to universalize access to primary education and enhance primary education quality by ensuring that there are no more than 42 students for every teacher.

UNESCO Teachers E-Atlas

Map projections of teacher demand and view country profiles to 2030

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