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"ЯКІСНА ОСВІТА" ЯК ІНСТРУМЕНТ ЗАБЕЗПЕЧЕННЯ СТАЛОГО РОЗВИТКУ СУСПІЛЬСТВА

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"QUALITY EDUCATION" AS A TOOL TO ENSURE SOCIETY SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The United Nations (UN) is a leading international organization currently in the world and so its policies, agenda, visions etc. are the basis for other international/ state/ local organizations in creating their own programs in different areas of life. Today the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are widely discussed at the meetings of all levels worldwide. One of the SDG is Goal 4 – “Quality Education” (“Ensure inclusive and quality education for all and promote lifelong learning”). “Quality Education” is seen as the foundation to improve people’s lives and sustainable development.

Some facts and figures that explain in brief why SDG 4 is of great importance nowadays [1]:

enrolment in primary education in developing countries has reached 91 per cent but 57 million children remain out of school;

more than half of children that have not enrolled in school live in sub-Saharan Africa. And this region has a very young population so it will have to provide basic education to 444 million children between the ages of 3 and 15 in 2030, which is 2.6 times the numbers enrolled today;

an estimated 50 per cent of out-of-school children of primary school age live in conflict-affected areas;

103 million youth worldwide lack basic literacy skills, and more than 60 per cent of them are women.

So we clearly understand the importance of “Quality Education” goal establishment and necessity of its implementation. Sustainable Development Goal 4 has seven targets which are expected outcomes and three targets which are means of achieving these targets [2<https://en.unesco.org/node/265600>]:

- Universal primary and secondary education.
- Early childhood development and universal pre-primary education.
- Equal access to technical/vocational and higher education.
- Relevant skills for decent work.
- Gender equality and inclusion.
- Universal youth literacy.

- Education for sustainable development and global citizenship.

Three means of implementation the SDG 4 targets are as following:

Effective learning environments (build and upgrade education facilities that are child, disability and gender sensitive and provide safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all).

Scholarships (by 2020, substantially expand globally the number of scholarships available to developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States and African countries, for enrolment in higher education, including vocational training and information and communications technology, technical, engineering and scientific programs, in developed countries and other developing countries).

Teachers and educators (by 2030, substantially increase the supply of qualified teachers, including through international cooperation for teacher training in developing countries, especially least developed countries and small island developing States) [2].

UN emphasises, that “Education is the key that will allow many other Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to be achieved. When people are able to get quality education they can break from the cycle of poverty. Education therefore helps to reduce inequalities and to reach gender equality. It also empowers people everywhere to live more healthy and sustainable lives. Education is also crucial to fostering tolerance between people and contributes to more peaceful societies” [3].

References

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3. “Why it Matters Goal 4 “Quality Education”. Available at: https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/ENGLISH_Why_it_Matters_Goal_4_QualityEducation.pdf