



EDUCATION FOR
DEVELOPMENT
QUALITY & INCLUSION
FOR CHANGING GLOBAL HUMAN CAPITAL NEEDS
#GDNedu2016



17-18 March 2016
LIMA, PERU



17th GDN Annual Global Development Conference

Lima, Peru 17th-18th March 2016

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As I pack for Lima, I have several things on my mind.

Our conference team is busy creating a buzz for the Global Development Network's forthcoming 2016 Annual Development Conference on the topic of "Education for Development, Quality & Inclusion for Changing Global Human Capital Needs." They tell me that interest is pouring in from far and wide for the event. With over 350 registrations, about 40% of whom are international participants, requests from local students, media interest in our experts, as well as a press conference in the offing, we are creating quite a stir!

Some excellent partnerships have brought this event to fruition. The Ministry of Education in Peru, the Group for the Analysis of Development (GRADE) and Universidad del Pacifico are all working closely with the Global Development Network (GDN), helping us spread the word far and wide. Without them, organising this conference in such a short span of time would not have been possible. Our call for experts from around the world has also borne fruit. We have over 40 expert panelists and 25 plenary speakers who have agreed to participate in the event.

I am also thinking about how Lima is proving to be such a great venue for the conference. Lima is a microcosm for much of the developing world. Although more children go to school in Peru

than ever before, many end up dropping out or graduating with low quality skills. According to a new report from the World Bank for instance, one in five youths in Latin America are out of school and out of work and that number is rising. This situation will only improve if we can seriously strengthen our education systems to deliver a highly skilled workforce, which can actively participate in an increasingly global market.

Education really is the one topic that touches all our lives. My own 5½ year old son has just passed a big test to get into school in Romania starting in September, and I am super proud of him. Given growing concerns with the quality of the education here and the performance of the state schools, I have opted for a private school, which would have been unheard of even ten years ago. In India, getting into school in the first place is a big ordeal, with the huge pressure on the system and in poorer districts where parents work hard to pay even small fees out of pocket, children reportedly still can't pass a basic reading comprehension or math test in grade 4. These decisions are a big part of all of our lives as parents, tax payers and citizens, as we train and equip tomorrow's leaders, specialists, white and blue collar workers in an inter-connected, globalised and highly competitive labor market. In many places, teachers can barely make a living and many are absent from the classrooms, the curricula does not equip students with the technical, social and emotional skills required, youth unemployment is rising, and yet employers report a lack of skilled workforce. In Finland, where education systems are very successful, I believe children don't even go to school until they are seven years old, there is no formal grading, schools have great autonomy and teachers are selected from among the top graduates and trained in top masters programs. Why are they doing things differently? What seems to be working well in terms of interventions around the world? I look forward to picking up several such invaluable insights about the world of education as I am certain all of you are. I am very grateful for the expertise we will have in the room to discuss these important topics.

Perhaps most importantly, I am excited about the opportunity to find fresh, innovative ideas about education through research, as well as to find ideas on how to take already-successful efforts to scale. I am inspired by the fact that both top experts and scholars, as well as young researchers from all corners of the world will be interacting with policy-makers and practitioners. I know from experience, that when you mix the two, it will spark rich, vibrant discussions and new ideas with the potential for real change. How wonderful!

I can't wait to catch my plane. It is likely to be warm weather when I arrive. Have I packed the right things? I must read a copy of that very useful [logistics note](#) we put on the website the other day, and get the GDN Mobile App everyone is talking about, to help me navigate the conference on-the-go.

Like me, are you ready for Lima?

Tell us @GDNint, #GDNedu2016 !

Ramona Angelescu Naqvi,

Highlights from the Agenda

Registration will begin at **8.00 am** on the first day.

The conference will open at 9.00 am.

In the opening ceremony, we will hear from:

Alan Winters, University of Sussex & GDN Board, **Jaime Saavedra**, Minister of Education, Peru, **Miguel Jaramillo**, Executive Director of GRADE, **Pierre Jacquet**, President of the Global Development Network, **Elsa del Castillo**, Rector of Universidad del Pacifico, and **Anwar Choudhury**, British Ambassador to Peru.

There will be **four plenaries** over the two days:

- Skills for Tomorrow
- Education Policy & Finance
- Enhancing Education Outcomes
- Research & Policy

There will also be **16 parallel sessions**, on a variety of topics related to the above themes. Topics include skills for life and work, enhancement of teachers' status and education quality, using synthesised evidence to improve education policy and programming, achieving quality and inclusion in higher education, monitoring and evaluation for education policy, assessing inclusion in higher education and mechanisms to promote it, gender, education and the labor market, the role of community in education for development, risks and opportunities for Latin America's Nini's, strong schools in Latin America and the Caribbean Region, as well as higher education and job training.

[Download the full agenda](#)

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THE JAPANESE AWARDS- 2016

The Japanese Awards for Outstanding Research in Development (ORD) and Most Innovative Development Project (MIDP) each have three potential First Prize Winners. Six finalists will be attending the conference to present on their respective projects and research.

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LIVE



Live streaming of key plenaries will be available when the conference begins.

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Global Development Network

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