



**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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56 Countries represented | 56% Female Participants

Hello Lima!



This year's conference got off to a buzzing start, with great weather and tangible energy. Over 350 participants gathered in the beautiful city of Lima to discuss what Alan Winters reminded us is a cross cutting issue that affects us all. And while he iterated that this conference can't possibly answer all the vast questions about education and development, it will go a long way in discussing what has been working, the research being conducted and in providing fruitful discussion across the four main themes: Skills for



Tomorrow| Education Policy and Finance| Enhancing Educational Outcomes| Research and Policy.

[Read the full timetable](#)



What did the day bring?

Jaime Saavedra, Minister of Education in Peru, made a compelling case as to why we need to be discussing education. He said that education is an obsession in Peru, and that it has to be, given the daunting challenges ahead across all levels of education. For instance, teachers' salaries in Peru are now one third (in real terms) of what they were 40 years ago, when his mother was a teacher.

The first session did not disappoint, presenting the audience with a range of interesting questions about the state of education around the globe. The panelists challenged us to explore the complexities of education and the mismatch between the education and the skills needed for employability.

Goolam Mohamedbhai, Former Secretary General of the Association of African Universities, delved into the causes for graduate unemployment in Africa and the link to higher education while Santosh Mehrotra focused on the importance of vocational and technical education for skills training across South and East Asia. Samuel Berlinski made a strong case for investing more in early childhood development in Latin America, but with a focus on the quality of interaction between children and nursery teachers rather than just expanding enrollment.

There was a call to promote innovative ways of enhancing education public policy. Educational institutions play a critical role in enabling access to employment, however, concern is mounting over the mechanisms being used by youth to acquire life skills. The speakers all agreed that the education system for employment needs to work better to reduce the mis-match between students' skills and aspirations, as well as education providers' perception of what is required, the training they provide and the employers' needs. This, so that they no longer

live in parallel universes as Felipe Child from McKinsey pointed out.

As the day wound down the energy and levels of engagement in the auditorium remained high. The second plenary saw Ariel Fiszbein highlighting the need for Latin America to better allocate resources to education especially as the fiscal space is becoming reduced, implement better management systems and come up with incentives for change to happen.

The Minister of Education for Peru reinforced the need for 'Calidad & Equidad' (quality & equity) if education in Peru is to improve, particularly in teaching and highlighted the vast discrepancy between the cost per student in the public and private system in Peru (\$972 vs \$6750).

Barbara Bruns, from the Center for Global Development brought a refreshing approach to her presentation impersonating a the teacher in a class-room and then discussing effective teachers development and evaluation mechanisms.

The speakers highlighted that a concerted response is needed to meet the serious problems of education systems in many developing countries. Governments must drastically increase funding for education, while at the same time ensuring that resources are being used efficiently, and that policies are being properly implemented and executed. They must ensure that teachers are fairly compensated and that teacher evaluations are both fair, and result in higher quality teaching.

Finally, several sessions and speakers focused on higher education where enrollment has increased though still vast differences remain within the region with Argentina at one end and Guatemala at the other. Completion rates vary drastically and the students from disadvantaged backgrounds have much higher drop-out rates, so inclusion in this sense is a priority to address.

As day two begins, these conversations promise to continue and develop, providing new and valuable insights.

We were encouraged to experience Lima beyond the conference as well. With plenty of moments of laughter, we were also invited to have a literal taste of Peru. "If you can get out at least try one of the restaurants you will know why Peru is becoming a popular destination for everything," said Anwar Choudhury, British Ambassador to Peru .

Enjoy!

Thoughts from the floor

Highlights



Enhancement of teachers' status and education quality

Speakers concluded that reforms must reach all teachers



"THE GDN CONFERENCE IS AN EXCELLENT PLACE TO PRESENT THE RESEARCH THAT UNICEF HAS BEEN CONDUCTING ON STRONG SCHOOLS IN LATIN AMERICA- SHOWING THAT SAFETY AND SECURITY IN SCHOOLS ARE A PREREQUISITE TO LEARNING. "

DOMINIC RICHARDSON,
UNICEF RESEARCH CENTRE

"FANTASTIC TO BE HERE FOR THIS OCCASION, VERY ENCOURAGED BY THE WORK GDN AND GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN IS DOING IN EMPOWERING AND SHOWCASING NGO PROJECTS. IT IS SUSTAINABLE AND IS AN EXCELLENT WAY OF TACKLING DEVELOPMENT ISSUES, ONE NGO AT A TIME, THAT IS HOW SUSTAINABLE CHANGE HAPPENS."

HELENA NKOLE, THE WORLD BANK
(PICTURED WITH ICHIRO TANBO, JICA
RESEARCH INSTITUTE.)

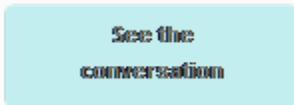
to guarantee quality and recognition.

"To improve teachers´ status, Peru has understood that a change of mind is needed. We have moved from recognizing seniority to valuing meritocracy." – Jorge Arrunategui

Today's Top Tweet

[@aganimian](#)

Ricardo Espinoza at [#GDNedu2016](#): "You can put all the top achievers in PISA in Argentina in one bus" - great graph!

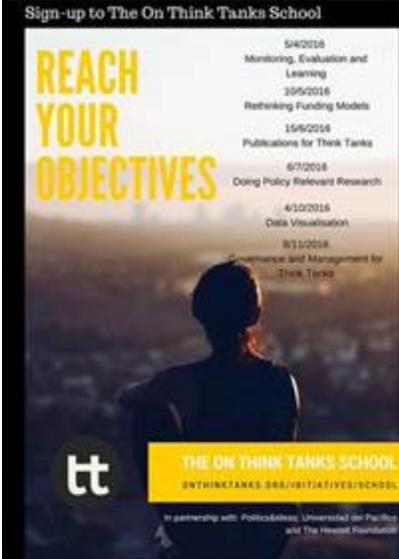


What's coming up today: Enhancing Education Outcomes| Assessing Inclusion in Education and Mechanisms to Promote it| The Role of the Local Community in Education for Development| Gender, Education and the Labor Market

Extra news...

The On Think Tanks School – a new platform, directed by Vanesa Weyrauch, to engage with and learn from cutting edge knowledge on key aspects of think tank management and performance - is offering a series of 6 Short Courses developed by experts and practitioners. Find out more: onthinktanks.org/initiatives/school. The courses starting 5th April 2016 include: 1) Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning, 2) Rethinking Funding Models, 3) Publications for Think Tanks, 4) Doing Policy Relevant Research, 5) Data Visualisations for Research, 6) Governance and Management.

On Think Tanks is offering a 30% discount to #GDNEdu2016 participants. Simply email info@onthinktank.org to request a DISCOUNT CODE or for more information.



Sign-up to The On Think Tanks School

REACH YOUR OBJECTIVES

5/4/2016	Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning
20/5/2016	Rethinking Funding Models
15/6/2016	Publications for Think Tanks
6/7/2016	Doing Policy Relevant Research
4/10/2016	Data Visualisation
8/11/2016	Governance and Management for Think Tanks

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Global Development Network

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