



SIDE EVENT LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND: ENSURING INCLUSIVE AND EQUITABLE QUALITY EDUCATION AND PROMOTING LIFELONG LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

22 MARCH 2019
8:30 – 9:45 A.M.

**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
CENTRE GENEVA (CICG) - ROOM 17**

Photo: GirlsGoIT, Moldova

SANDWICHES AND LIGHT DRINKS WILL BE SERVED AT 08:15 AM

NOTE ABOUT THE SIDE EVENT

Organized by the National Commission of Romania for UNESCO, in collaboration with UNESCO and UN Women, the side event will provide a platform to discuss intersections between gender equality and education in the UNECE region, based on the UNESCO report “The intersection of gender equality and education in South-East Europe: A regional situation analysis of the nexus between Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4 (quality education) and SDG 5 (gender equality)”, and the UN Women SDGs monitoring report “Turning Promises into Action: Gender Equality in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”. Bringing together governments, civil society, beneficiaries of UN programmes and youth, the event will identify and agree on how the intersectionality and the interlinks between SDG 4 and SDG 5 could be addressed by the States.

BACKGROUND

SDG 4 aims at ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education and promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all. It is an important step to the realization of peaceful and inclusive societies in the region while building societies with inclusive and sustainable economic growth. However, gender inequalities in educational access and attainment strongly jeopardize the achievement of SDG 4. To sustain this Goal, there is the necessity to acknowledge the central role played by gender equality (SDG 5) in having a multiplier effect on the accomplishment of all SDGs, particularly SDG 4. Understanding the interlinks between gender equality and education is crucial.

OBJECTIVES

- Highlight and identify the interlinks between SDGs 4 and 5 and recognize the contribution of gender equality to the accomplishment of inclusive and equitable quality education and vice versa.
- Understand the main trends and gaps resulting from the analysis of regional data on gender equality in education.
- Suggest approaches for overcoming these barriers and bottlenecks to sustainable development.

OUTCOME

The event will highlight key areas of concern in the interlinkages between SDGs 4 and 5, including recommendations for enhancing gender equality both in and through education. These messages will be delivered during the round tables of the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development, in particular the Round Table on SDG 4 “Learning without Limits: Lifelong Learning and Inclusive Education”.



PARTICIPANTS

Representatives of government entities including ministries responsible for education, ministries responsible for gender equality and national statistical offices, relevant UN entities, gender advocates from the countries of ECA region, the youth.

AGENDA

Moderator: Alia El-Yassir, *Regional Director, UN Women Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia*

Time	Activity
Opening remarks	
08:30-08:45	<p>H.E. Adrian Cosmin Vierita, <i>Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Romania to the UN Office in Geneva and other international organizations in Switzerland</i></p> <p>Alia El-Yassir, <i>Regional Director, UN Women Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia</i></p> <p>Ana Luiza Massot Thompson-Flores, <i>Director, UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe</i></p>
Overview of the UNESCO report “The intersection of gender equality and education in South-East Europe: A regional situation analysis of the nexus between SDG 4 (quality education) and SDG 5 (gender equality)”.	
08:45-09:00	Sarah Fuller , <i>Consultant</i>
Key note statements from partners and beneficiaries	
09:00-09:15	<p>Iris Constantin, <i>Expert at the National Commission of Romania for UNESCO</i></p> <p>Natalia Duminica, <i>Roma Education Fund/ Roma National Center, Moldova</i></p> <p>Lejla Omerovic, <i>High-school student studying IT in Bosnia and Herzegovina</i></p>
09:15-09:35	<p>Questions and answers</p> <p>Moderated discussion</p>
09:35	<p>Closing remarks</p> <p>Ana Luiza Massot Thompson-Flores, <i>Director, UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe</i></p>