



مسقط 2024
Muscat 2024



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ICESCO

ICESCO Education Ministers Conference

ICESCO EMC 3

Beyond Transforming
Education Summit:
from Commitments to Actions

Session 5:

United for Education in Times of Crisis

Muscat,
Sultanate of Oman

2-3
October

2024



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Organizers:

- Islamic World Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ICESCO)
- Education Cannot Wait (ECW)

Date & Time: October 2, 2024 (60 minutes)

Location: Muscat, Sultanate of Oman

Session Chair: Mrs. Yasmine Sherif, Executive Director, Education Cannot Wait (ECW)

Focus: This panel discussion will explore the challenges and opportunities of delivering quality education in Islamic countries experiencing emergencies and protracted crises. The focus will be on vulnerable populations like refugees, host communities, and children out of school. The discussion will explore collaboration among ICESCO Member States for funding, knowledge sharing, and technological advancements in education.

Target Audience: Ministers of Education from ICESCO Member states, Education policymakers, United Nations Agencies and funds, humanitarian actors, civil society representatives, and development partners from the Arab and Islamic world.



Introduction:

The Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ICESCO) and Education Cannot Wait (ECW) are proud to co-convene a key panel discussion titled: «**United for Education in Times of Crisis.**» This timely event will be held on October 2, 2024, in Muscat, Oman, during the first day of ICESCO's Ministerial conference. The discussion will bring together esteemed leaders and experts, including Education Ministers from ICESCO Member States, representatives from multilateral organizations, humanitarian and development agencies, and the private sector.

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Objectives:

- Explore the impact of emergencies and protracted crises on education systems across the Islamic world.
- Examine the impact of crises on vulnerable populations' access to quality education.
- Identify promising opportunities for ensuring continued education access during emergencies.
- Discuss the potential for collaboration among ICESCO Member States and global and regional partners in areas such as funding, knowledge sharing, and technological advancements for education in emergencies.

Format and Coordination:

- The moderator will deliver brief opening remarks to set the scene and provide an overview of the topic.
- The moderator will present a “main question” to each panelist, allowing 5 minutes for each to respond.
- The moderator will then facilitate a focused discussion with one targeted question for each panelist based on their country or area of expertise. This will be followed by a Q&A from the audience.

Outcomes:

1. Increase education support for refugees, internally displaced persons, host communities, and out-of-school children.
2. Develop strategies to ensure continued access to education during emergencies.
3. Strengthen collaboration among ICESCO Member States and their partners to secure funding, share knowledge, and advance technological solutions in education.
4. Mobilize resources from the private sector, foundations, and philanthropic organizations to establish a regional mechanism for education in emergencies and protracted crises.

Session Timetable: 16:10-17:00

Opening remarks delivered by the moderator

Providing an overview of the impact of crises on the progress of education in the Islamic world, and addressing education as an investment in peace, prosperity, and resilience. Additionally, emphasizing the importance of supporting marginalized groups in times of crisis, highlighting ICESCO's role in promoting solidarity and dialogue among countries, and pointing out the need to transform the ideas from this session into practical actions.

H.E. Dr. Amjad Saad Suleiman Dababat,
Minister of Education and Higher Education, State of Palestine

Main question: Could you kindly share with us your vision for the future of education in Palestine? How can the educational system equip the next generation of Palestinian children and youth with the skills, resilience, and hope they need to succeed?

Discussion question: How is the current crisis in Palestine impacting your vision for the future? What steps can the ICESCO community take to help mitigate these challenges?

H.E. Dr. Tareq Salem Saleh Al-Akbari,
Minister of Education, Republic of Yemen

Main question: Yemen is facing a range of complex challenges such as conflict, climate change, and displacement. How are these challenges affecting children's education in Yemen? What policies or measures are you implementing to ensure the continuity of education and the provision of educational opportunities during crises?

Discussion question: In light of the current challenges, what can ICESCO members and their partners do to strengthen the solutions you are proposing in Yemen? How can the international community provide effective support to help you achieve your educational goals?

Dr. Mohamad Alshiriakah,
Chairman, Gulf Arab States Educational Research Center

Main question: How does GASERC support education initiatives as part of its wider humanitarian response efforts, and why is this a priority for the Centre?

Discussion question: How can ICESCO Member States work together to ensure that education is prioritized in humanitarian responses to emergencies in the region?





Ms. Adele Khodr,
Regional Director for the Middle East and North Africa, UNICEF

Main question: How can education systems across the Islamic world be strengthened to be more responsive to emergencies and protracted crises? What specific challenges do refugee and internally displaced children face in accessing quality education, and how can these be addressed?

Discussion question: UNICEF has decades of experience supporting children and adolescents impacted by emergencies. How can ICESCO and its partners work together to share knowledge and innovation that can advance the right to education in crisis contexts across the Islamic world?

Mr. Fahed Al-Sulaiti,
CEO, Education Above All (EAA)

Main question: EAA has done amazing work to support out-of-school children in emergencies across the Islamic world. What have been the main lessons learned from this long-standing commitment, and how can ICESCO and its partners support this initiative?

Discussion question: What roles can the private sector, foundations and philanthropy play, alongside ICESCO Member States, to help fill the financing gap for education in emergencies across the Arab and Islamic worlds?

Dr. Abdulrahman Almedaries,
Director General, UNESCO Regional Center of Quality and Excellence in Education (RCQE)

Main question: RCQE is focused on advancing a culture of quality and excellence in education systems. How can we ensure 'quality' education in times of crisis when resources and systems are so strained?

Discussion question: Why is regional cooperation on the topic of education in emergencies so important, and what lessons can we learn from the experience of RCQE as a regional body?

16:40-16:55

Discussion

- The session chair will pose 'discussion questions' to foster dialogue among panelists and receive audiences' questions if time permits.
 - This will be a chance for the audience to ask questions and for panelists to respond to each other.
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16:55-17:00

Closing Session:

- Recap of key takeaways from the panel.
- Overview of call to action for collaboration among ICESCO Member States.
- Link to wider global agenda, including ECW's role as a catalyst.



We invite you to join us for this important discussion and contribute to shaping a future where all children, regardless of circumstance, have the opportunity to learn and thrive.

For further information, please contact:

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