

Protecting Education in Emergencies

ECOSOC Humanitarian Segment Side Event



We had to leave behind all of our possessions. The only thing we could bring with us is what we have in our heads, what we have been taught—our education...



...education is the only thing that cannot be taken from us. Woman who fled from Darfur to Chad, 2004 (Women's Refugee Commission)

The right to education is a right that children and youth do not forfeit when emergencies strike, and is one that must be protected at all times. Education must be an essential component of any comprehensive humanitarian response, and is identified as a priority by children, youth, parents and communities. Educational services provide safe spaces as well as information and skills that protect, sustain and save lives while bolstering resilience and promoting recovery.

Through presentation and discussion, this side event will focus on ways the humanitarian community, together with key education partners and the Education Cluster, can:

- emphasize the importance of access to and quality of education;
- take practical steps to uphold the right to education in emergencies;
- advocate for the inclusion of education in all humanitarian responses including support by donors, governments, INGOs and UN agencies to further enable local and international mechanisms to support the rapid provision of quality education in emergencies.
- prioritize the need for and informed and coordinated educational response.

Date and Time: 19 July 13:15 – 14:45
Light lunch and refreshments will be provided

Venue: Palais des Nations, Bldg E, Room XXIV, Geneva, Switzerland

By focusing on the issues and challenges facing the provision of education in a humanitarian context, this event calls on the global community to reinforce commitments to protect and provide for education in emergencies, particularly in countries affected by chronic crisis and conflict.

UNICEF, Save the Children and the Inter-Agency Network on Education in Emergencies (INEE) are key actors in promoting and ensuring the right to education for children, youth and adults in emergency situations.