Relevant and inclusive education for young people on the move

Concept note

Side-event to the ECOSOC Youth Forum 2019

Organizers: Permanent Mission of Ireland to the United Nations, UNHCR, IOM and UNESCO
Date: Tuesday, 9 April 2019
Time: 10:00-11:30 am
Location: Conference room 12, UN Headquarters, New York

Background
The international community witnessed a significant normative breakthrough with the adoption of the New York Declaration, the Global Compact on Refugees and the recent adoption of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, as well as education improvements and countless innovations by countries such as Ireland, Canada, Chad, the Philippines, Turkey and Uganda. Yet, the right of displaced youth to quality education and lifelong learning opportunities is daily challenged in classrooms and schoolyards.

The two global compacts on migrants and refugees recognize education’s role and set objectives aligned with the global commitment to leave no one behind. In the same spirit, the 2019 Global Education Monitoring (GEM) Report, focused on migration and displacement, recommends to:

- Protect the right to education of migrants and displaced people
- Include migrants and displaced people in national education systems
- Understand and plan for the education needs of migrants and displaced people
- Represent migration and displacement histories in education accurately to challenge prejudices
- Prepare teachers of migrants and refugees to address diversity and hardship
- Harness the potential of migrants and displaced people
- Support education needs of migrants and displaced people in humanitarian and development aid.

Format
At the margins of the annual ECOSOC Youth Forum, the largest youth gathering at the United Nations, the Permanent Mission of Ireland to the United Nations, UNHCR and UNESCO will host a side-event on “Relevant and inclusive education for young people on the move”. The event will give voice to the experiences of young migrants, refugees and representatives of recipient countries.
The discussion will address the pressing challenges related to ensuring the right to education of migrants and displaced persons, in particular those related to languages, cost of education and recognition of prior qualifications.

Objectives

- Discuss the opportunities and challenges faced by migrant and displaced youth in pursuing education
- Share key evidence-based findings and recommendations from the 2019 GEM Report relevant to youth audience
- Highlight innovative practices in bridging the gaps in access to education
- Raise awareness of the platforms where young people can raise their voices to advocate for access to quality education for all regardless of migration status or background

Agenda

Welcome remarks by H.E. Ms. Geraldine Byrne Nason, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Ireland to the United Nations

Presentation of the 2019 GEM Report by Ms. Lily Gray, Senior Liaison Officer, UNESCO Office in New York

Presentation by UNHCR representative

Interventions by young migrants and refugees

Interactive discussion

Hashtag

#EducationOnTheMove #Education2030

Contact

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