

Pledge from Tajikistan

GPE Replenishment, June 2014, Brussels

Greetings to all on behalf of the delegation of the Republic of Tajikistan. Our government is committed to reforming the education system in order to achieve the Millennium Development Goals. The constitution of the Republic of Tajikistan provides for a welfare state and more than 50% of the state budget is spent on social services. One of the priorities of the national economy is education. As such, education as a pathway for social and economic development is a key pillar of the National Development Plan 2020.

As a development priority, Tajikistan is focused on improving the quality of education. In 2014, the education budget was 18.1% of the national budget which represents 5.2% of GDP. According to its education sector plan 2020 Tajikistan plans to increase spending on education to 7%. Presently 80% of the education budget is directed to primary and secondary education. This high level of spending on primary and secondary will continue to be sustained.

To further strengthen and reinforce sector interventions, the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Tajikistan intends to use evidence and analysis to develop and articulate its education sector medium-term plan for the 2015 – 2017 period.

Equity and access to quality education is a fundamental priority of the ministry. Particular attention is being paid to the development of inclusive education. Data reflects that over time the number of children with disabilities who attend public schools and those who have access to health services has increased. The Ministry is implementing an inclusive education agenda by ensuring an enabling environment for children with disabilities including strengthening the legal and regulatory framework, impacting attitudes including those of teachers. Further efforts are planned including developing and making available teaching, learning materials, visual aids and equipment for children with special needs.

Equity in education measures are also aimed at addressing issues of gender in education. The Republic of Tajikistan has adopted legislation aimed at protecting the rights of all children especially girls to acquire education including access to secondary school. The Ministry will continue to implement and strengthen its inclusive education measures.

The Ministry has established an Education Management Information System that will help to strengthen education sector planning and budgeting. Each year the Ministry publishes statistical compilation of data containing detailed information about the state of the education system. By 2016, the Ministry plans to consolidate data from different sources into one comprehensive system. The Ministry will also provide the data according to the UNESCO Institute for Statistics guidelines.

The Ministry is also focused on improving learning outcomes. As such the Ministry intends to introduce a competency based curriculum. The revision of the curriculum will be complimented with introducing new standards, subjects and a focus on strengthening pedagogic approaches. The implementation of the new standards and curriculum requires the establishment of a

comprehensive system for continuous teacher training and development, and the establishment of a student assessment system.

Thank you for your attention!