











### **CONCEPT DOCUMENT**

## 1<sup>st</sup> International **UNESCO** Model "Inclusive and **Equitable Quality** Education for All

under the auspices of UNESCO

29-30, **APRIL** 2021

# Concept Document First International UNESCO Model "Inclusive and Equitable Quality Education for All"

#### Introduction

Many children, youth and adolescents are in need of education because they have to gain knowledge and skills to be able to live in this world. However, not everyone has the privilege to go to school because of exclusion or discrimination based on their disability, gender, or race. The topic of inclusive education has been a widely discussed topic among the ministers of education for many years with one of the first big UNESCO conferences taking place in 2008 (International Conference on Education "Inclusive Education: The Way of the Future").

The COVID-19 pandemic has led to the largest failure in functioning of the education systems in the entire history, which affected nearly 1.6 billion students in over 190 countries and on all continents. Closure of schools and other educational institutions affected 94 percent of the global student population, and in low-income and lower middle-income countries the figure is 99 percent (UNESCO, august 2020). The pandemic has greatly exacerbated existing education and social inequalities in the world. Children from low-income families, living in rural areas with poor infrastructure, from ethnic and linguistic minorities, with disabilities, children of migrants and refugees, children in conflict with the law, out-of-school children and adolescents, and boys and girls in difficult living conditions or living in domestic violence environment, already face significant barriers to participation in education and have a lower level of education and social achievement than their peers. If before, inclusive education encountered many challenges, then now the road towards inclusivity has become even more difficult.

Education should be at the core of all governments' recovery plans. Governments need to hastily get back on track with the commitments they made in 2015 through the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals to guarantee all children receive an inclusive quality primary and secondary education by 2030. As written in the Berlin Declaration on Education for Sustainable Development: "We are confident that education is a powerful enabler of positive change of mindsets and worldviews and that it can support the integration of all dimensions of sustainable development." Therefore, it is important to develop education and make it inclusive as it leads to the development of all other dimensions of sustainable development.

The First International UNESCO Model under the auspices of UNESCO is a platform where pupils and students will recreate the meeting of ministers of education of UNESCO Member States. All participants will act as representatives of their countries and will be able to share their perspectives towards challenges that come with making education inclusive.

**Organizers:** Kazakhstan Federation of Clubs for UNESCO, Suleyman Demirel University - UNESCO club.

**Supported by:** UNESCO, National Commission of the Republic of Kazakhstan for UNESCO and ISESCO, UNESCO Almaty Cluster Office.

**Date:** April 29-30, 2022.

**Format:** online (Zoom platform). **Geography:** UNESCO member states.

**Goal:** to empower young people for global dialogue on the development of education.

#### **Objectives:**

- to attract the attention of the youth around the world to the problem of development and access to education;
- confirm that education is a fundamental human right and a public good;
- show that sustainable development starts with education;
- promote the development of youth leadership through discussions and debates.

To participate in this event, we invite active and engaged young people (**Age: 16-22 years old**) from UNESCO Member States and UNESCO Clubs movement who want to share their thoughts on the importance of inclusive and equitable education. Each country is required to have one delegation consisting of up to 2 participants.

#### The model will cover:

- Report presentation of each member state. Topic: Strategic approaches to inclusive and equitable education.
- Interactive sessions where all participants will be able to share their thoughts on the topic of inclusive and equitable education and develop their analytical and public speaking skills.
- Resolution creation.

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