What are the bold actions being taken by the Government to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals in Tajikistan?

Quality education is often the foundation to improving people’s lives and sustainable development. Globally, major progress has been made towards increasing access to education at all levels, but more efforts have to be made to achieve quality education for all.

In Tajikistan, the Government conducted national consultation meetings on Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG4) on Quality Education and its localization, which culminated in the Sub-regional Meeting on SDG4, organized by the UNESCO Cluster Office for Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan in February 2017. The participants of those meetings included the Ministry of Education and Science and other Ministries, the National Statistics Office, representatives of NGOs and development partners, researchers and teacher unions.

During the Central Asian meeting, the Tajikistani delegation, consisting of seven high-level representatives of the Ministry of Education and Science, Academy of Education, UNESCO Cluster Office for Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan in February 2017. The participants of those meetings included the Ministry of Education and Science and other Ministries, the National Statistics Office, representatives of NGOs and development partners, researchers and teacher unions.

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Research Centre, Association of Adult Education, and Open Society Institute, presented an analysis of the current SDG4 localization process to key actors in Central Asia.

The Tajikistani representatives identified key themes of the Education 2030 programme and explored best possible ways to improve education in the country by learning from other countries’ approaches to implement SDG4. As a result of the meeting, the Government of Tajikistan developed a future action plan, including the designation of SDG4 focal point within the Government and the establishment of a SDG4 working group. The country also set a timeline for operating education partnership projects, following up and reviewing progress to be made in the process of achieving the SDG4.

Recognizing the need to improve all levels of education, Tajikistan has also identified the country competence gaps in regards to international standards of education. They also put a stronger emphasis on adult learning and professional training which would ensure the quality of workforce and allow professionals to improve their skills for a smooth career transition.

Why do the above actions matter to the people?

In Tajikistan, there is a challenge that the lack of financial resources for education remain flat at 4.6 - 5.5 percent in terms of budget spending for the last 5 years. The country, however, identified two key priorities in education: construction of pre- primary and general education facilities and adoption of 12-year general education programme, ensuring no one is left behind.

What SDGs have been particularly advanced?

The Government focuses on the Goal 4 on Quality Education.

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