

OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL CONVENOR - TES

TES Grassroot Consultation for the Youth Declaration

Name of person leading the consultation: Ms. Ida Padikuor Na-Tei (Youth activist) & Dr. Michael Boakye-Yiadom (National Convenor)

This Consultation was in partnership with: UNICEF Ghana, The National Convenor, TES Ghana Team, UNESCO Ghana

Country where the consultation occurred: Ghana

The number of participants: 62

Number of people who contributed to the discussion: 17

Platform: Zoom/Online

Date of event: 28th July, 2022

Agenda: To ensure diverse voices of young people are being heard globally for the TES Youth Declaration, the young people of Ghana have a consultation to record their inputs on what Transforming Education means to them based on the 5 main action tracks.

The meeting started with an opening prayer by Miss Daniella Adjei, and was followed by the rules of engagement by the moderator, an introductory speech by the National Convenor, Dr Michael BoakyeYiadom, Introduction to the Youth Declaration by Miss Ida Padikuor Na-Tei. We also had two youth advocates give a speech on what transforming education means to them. The first speech was given by Mr George Koranteng, a youth advocate and the second speech was given by Mr Derick Omari, CEO of TechEra (Tech education for people with disability). Right after the speech by the youth advocates, we had an introduction of the 5 thematic action tracks and the consultation began. The young Ghanaians were very outspoken, vibrant and full of passion in their contributions. They gave very intelligent submissions and expressed themselves very eloquently.

Below is the summarized outcome of the consultation:

Views:

1. There is no Continuity of educational policies by opposing political parties
2. Education is not truly equitable especially for people with disabilities
3. Education in Ghana needs to be more practical and relatable in solving real life issues
4. Education in Ghana needs to prepare young people for the job market both locally and globally

Recommendations:

Thematic Action Track 1: Inclusive, equitable, safe and healthy schools

1. Education should be accessible to persons with disabilities
2. Schools, the environment of schools and roads leading to schools should be accessible and child and disability friendly

3. Improved infrastructure for education

Thematic Action Track 2: Learning and skills for life, work and sustainable development

1. Move beyond the collection of data, and use it to improve the educational system
2. Our educational system should be made more practical through internships, labs and industry experience
3. Education should prepare us for the job market. (Solving unemployment issues)
4. We want an educational system that empowers people for jobs
5. We want an educational system that nurtures and builds talents of young people
6. Through education, we should raise entrepreneurial leaders
7. Education should be tailored towards solving local issues
8. There should be non-formal education for school dropouts
9. There should be systems that allow school dropouts to add on to their education
10. We should inculcate training on how to learn in our curricula
11. Instilling a Continuous learning habit in students

Thematic Action Track 3: Teachers, teaching and the teaching profession

1. There should be quality continuous training of teachers
2. There should be a job description /appraisal system for all teachers
3. Introduction of a modernized curricula to include education on climate change
4. Availability of educational materials for teaching
5. There should be more research institutions and education should be research based
6. Improvement of Salaries of Teachers
7. Impact focused learning
8. Goal focused curriculum at every academic level eg. There should be a goal for elementary school curricula and a goal for High school curricula
9. Implementation of policies and not just making them
10. Life-long training for teachers as we make students lifelong learners
11. Curriculum should be Competitive on the global market

Thematic Action Track 4: Digital learning and transformation

1. Availability of Education materials
2. Availability of infrastructure such as internet access
3. Availability of laptops for learning purposes

Thematic Action Track 5: Financing of education

1. Availability of scholarships for students

2. Awarding of scholarships to deserving and under-served students
3. Industry based financing of education through Corporate Social Responsibilities (Focus on private giant industries)
4. Improvement of Salaries of Teachers

Commitments:

1. Through our NGOs and Social Enterprises, we will contribute our quota through training and education of teachers, the marginalized groups and people with disabilities.
2. We will contribute our quota to ensure national development through teaching and our entrepreneurial activities to promote learning and skills for life, work and sustainable development.



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