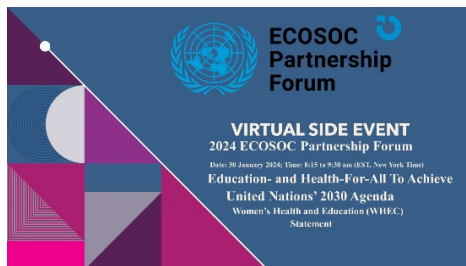## Education- and Health-For-All To Achieve United Nations' 2030 Agenda
Date: 30 January 2024; Time: 8:15 to 9:30 am (EST, New York Time)
Virtual Side Event, 2024 ECOSOC Partnership Forum

Background on The Event

The aim of this Side Event is to understand the potential of social and economic impacts, that quality education and improved health can bring in achieving peaceful co-existence. For policy-makers and individuals alike, this means planning for the future, and working together. The initiatives of the Women's Health and Education Center (WHEC), have been hard at work for the last two decades, to achieve education- and health-for-all. It is at the heart of our projects and programs to focus on eliminating poverty, hunger and achieving the United Nations' 2030 Agenda. Our initiatives have an unique role to play in strengthening the health and educational systems, worldwide. Cultural diversity is now the norm in each and every country.

WHEC's e-Learning, e-Health and e-Government Initiative:
Improving Global Partnerships for Education and Health (2022 HLPF).
https://hlpf.un.org/2022/programme/improving-global-partnerships-for-education-and-health
WHEC's proposal presented during 2022 HLPF for SDGs: 1, 3, 4, 5, 10, 13, 16 and 17.

Key Issues Discussed

1. Health and educational services should be free or low-cost and provided by educators and healthcare providers, who are non-judgmental;
2. Healthcare workers are trained in providing age-appropriate health information and welcoming towards adolescents' health and contraceptive needs;
3. Availability of preventive services such as birth-control, psychological counseling, and/or testing for sexually transmitted diseases.
4. Ensure the health, safety and well-being of all women- and men-workers.
5. Promote education, training and professional development for women of all ages.
6. Measure and publicly report on progress to achieve gender equality at regional, national and international levels.
7. Building the evidence-base, mainly community-based research that is affordable and has immediate implications for programs and local partners.
8. Provide strong and coherent leadership in support of Member States' priorities and efforts, building effective partnership and civil society and other relevant actors.

Key Recommendations for Action

- Inclusion and equity in and through education sector: it is the cornerstone of a transformative education agenda.
- Access: motivated by our significant achievements in expanding access to evidence-based health information on our global platform for the last two decades – we will ensure that the provision of access to the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) is free, publicly-privately funded, equitable quality primary and secondary education, of which at least 10 years are compulsory, leading to relevant learning outcomes.
- Gender Equality: We are committed to supporting gender-sensitive policies, planning and learning environments; mainstreaming gender issues in teacher training and curricula; and eliminating gender-based discrimination and violence in schools.
- Quality Education: Our resource and continuing education projects and programs ensures quality education, that fosters creativity and knowledge, and ensures the acquisition of the foundational skills of literacy and numeracy as well as analytical skills, problem solving, and other high-level cognitive, interpersonal and social skills. In 2021, WHEC launched a new initiative for SDGs 3, 4, and 5: *Learning Life Lessons Series.* These so-called **Life Lessons**, are very popular, These programs are helping schools, universities, teachers, students, and administrators to plan and develop – *Health Promoting Schools.* We encourage institutions to use this as a resource to increase engagement, learning and good mental health.
- Life-long Learning Opportunities: We commit to promoting quality life-long learning opportunities for all, in all settings and at all levels of education.

Objectives of WHEC's Initiatives

Quality education and providing timely evidence-based information in health-sector, which is accessible to all, and reliable disaggregated data, will be needed to help with the measurements of progress of all Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), especially in health and education sectors. To ensure that no one is left behind, open science, artificial intelligence (AI) and Big Data Management will be the key to the decision-making process, in the future. The utilization of AI and Big Data can be capitalized upon through the construction of dynamic, robust and inclusive public data ecosystems, via UN funded data co-operatives and algorithmic accountability programs. Education and Health are human rights.

Speakers / Expert Opinions / Presentations from:

Women's Health and Education Center (WHEC)
World Health Organization (WHO) / PMNCH
Carnegie Mellon University (USA and Africa)
Children's Hospital, LA, California (USA) &
The American Academy of Pediatrics (USA)