Strengthening Global Trust in Education and Health Partnerships

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Abstract

In view of the scale of today's global challenges and the great potential of Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) to deliver responses, global cooperation in STI is indispensable to achieve health- and education-for-all. Global partnerships around STI are necessary to mobilize financial and knowledge resources from governments, businesses, academia and civil societies and unfold the potential of all Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Both public and private sectors play an essential role in financing research and development. Therefore they are essential to create a balanced strategy that leverages the strengths and weaknesses of both.

Current trends indicate that the world is not on track to achieve the SDGs, but science-based tools can help change. Advanced digital technologies are set to change the way we work and live. While scientific evidence is key in addressing complex global challenges, science is not a cureall. Technological advancements can improve living conditions, but they can also often create increased inequalities in certain instances, leading to increased frustration among those left behind. The scientific community needs to communicate their work and the inherent uncertainty of the scientific process more effectively.

To strengthen global trust in STI for Education & Health Partnerships, for SDGs 3, 4, 5, 8, and 17, Women's Health and Education Center (WHEC) encourages:

1. Developing countries should formulate strategic plan for STI with clear, specific and measurable goals to seize the opportunities brought by technological advancement. The planning should reflect country's strengths and weaknesses in science, technology and innovation and highlight the connections (and missing links) between the national needs and objectives and the UN 2030 Agenda – Building inclusive STI global agenda.

https://hlpf.un.org/2022/programme/improving-global-partnerships-for-education-and-health

- 2. Governments should create the conditions for accessible, affordable and high-quality digital infrastructure that supports STI development.
- 3. Developed and developing countries should develop collaborative mechanisms to incentivize technology and knowledge transfer among universities, research institutions, and the private sector. International partnerships should aim to closing gaps in knowledge capabilities that hamper effective technology transfer.

When we work together – across national borders, groups, disciples and stakeholder – we as international community, can harness science and technology to the benefits for all. We need to look and appreciate the benefits of long-term commitment to fundamental research and open science, and we also need to look ahead and anticipate challenges and possibilities. What is urgently needed is to enhance international solidarity and cooperation, revitalize global trust and partnerships in STI research and development.

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