

# The transformational power of education: 15 reasons to invest in the future



## GREEN DEAL

Education can accelerate achieving the objectives of the green deal by...

- 1 Building the competences, skills and knowledge needed to grasp new job opportunities in the green economy
  - *In Ethiopia, 6 years of education improve the chance that a farmer will adopt new techniques to adapt to climate change by 20%. UNESCO 2016*
- 2 Raising awareness on climate change and strengthening resilience
  - *Nearly 40 million children a year have their education interrupted by natural disasters and subsequent disease outbreaks. TheirWorld 2018*



## DIGITALISATION

Education can help societies grasp the opportunities of digital development by...

- 3 Laying the foundations for digital skills through early years literacy and numeracy
- 4 Developing digital literacy (including online safety) and helping to meet the demand for digital jobs of the future
  - *There will be 230 million 'digital jobs' in sub-Saharan Africa by 2030. IFC 2019*
- 5 Bridging the digital divide and providing new opportunities for remote and independent learning



## SUSTAINABLE GROWTH AND JOBS

Education can facilitate this by...

- 6 Delivering foundational skills for life and work in a changing economy, including literacy, numeracy, soft skills and STEM
  - *About 65% of children entering primary school today, will end up working in a job that does not yet exist. WEF 2018*
- 7 Increasing individual earnings and economic growth and reducing the gender gap
  - *Globally, 40% of employers are finding it hard to recruit people with the skills they need. Education Commission 2016*



## MIGRATION

Education can help to mitigate the impact by...

- 8 Providing essential learning opportunities in host countries for refugee children
- 9 Offering protection against child labour, trafficking and abuse and building coping strategies
- 10 Facilitating the integration of refugees in host communities
  - *63% of refugee children are in primary school, 24% in secondary, 1% tertiary. Girls are more likely to be out of school. UNHCR 2019*



## GOVERNANCE, PEACE AND SECURITY

Education can contribute by...

- 11 Fostering peace and protection through education on citizenship, peaceful problem solving and respect for diversity
  - *Surveys in 36 countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America show education is associated with higher rates of voting. UNESCO 2015*
- 12 Mitigating the effects of conflict on children, providing safe environments and countering radicalisation
  - *Youth without education can be 9 times more likely to be recruited by rebel groups. UNESCO 2016*

- 13 **Education is a public good which requires partnerships with civil society and the private sector**
  - Governments are accountable for delivering quality education that reaches all children ...
  - ... while civil society has a crucial role in scrutinizing policies, designing innovative approaches and giving a voice to the most vulnerable
  - Partnerships with the private sector are important for well-regulated and socially responsible service delivery, innovation, financing, and alignment with the needs of the labour market.
  - *2015 Incheon Declaration recommends the allocation of 4 - 6% of GDP and/or at least 15 - 20 percent of total public expenditure to education, focusing on basic education. OECD 2018*
- 14 **Education promotes gender equality and women's empowerment**
  - Gender-based violence, early marriages and early pregnancies can be prevented
  - Women's job opportunities (including those requiring digital skills) and earnings are increased
  - More women will access jobs and reach decision-making positions in public and private sector
  - Child mortality is reduced and children are healthier
  - *Women with primary education earn up to 19% more than women with no education. Those with secondary education earn almost twice as much. World Bank 2018*
- 15 **Education fosters the development of human development**
  - Incomes are increased, health is improved and mortality is reduced
  - Foundational skills, are provided at an early stage, tackling inequity and marginalisation
  - More young people finish secondary education and gain the qualifications and skills needed for the modern workforce
  - *An increase of one year in the average educational attainment of a country's population increases annual per capita GDP growth from 2% to 2.5%. UNESCO 2015*