SECOND CARIBBEAN UN CONSULTATION ON THE
EDUCATION SECTOR & HIV/AIDS: JAMAICA, July 31 2003

The UNESCO Office for the Caribbean is hosting the second Caribbean Regional Consultation on Education & HIV/AIDS for United Nations partners on July 31 2003 in Kingston Jamaica. The first such meeting was held in Irish Town in July 2002 (see Issue 1 of this Report). The purpose of this second meeting is to enable:

- UNESCO and UN partners to share experience, progress achieved over the past year, and future plans that will contribute to this critical field
- UN agencies to jointly discuss mechanisms that will maximize cooperation through joint or complementary effort in the field of Education & HIV/AIDS

The formal invitation and draft programme for this meeting will be circulated in early June. For more information on plans and venue kindly contact Olatz Landa, at o.landa@unesco.org

I would like to take the opportunity to announce the arrival at post in Kingston of Sabine Detzel who will join UNESCO’s Caribbean team as Senior Programme Specialist (Education) on June 1, 2003. Ms. Detzel will manage UNESCO’s education programme in the region, including initiatives related to HIV/AIDS. Michael Morrissey will continue to support the development of our education programme, particularly in respect of our HIV/AIDS response. If you would like to welcome Ms. Detzel to the Caribbean UN family, please contact her at s.detzel@unesco.org

I am looking forward to meeting UN partners and briefing you in person on UNESCO’s expanding programme in support of the education sector of the Caribbean when we meet in July. I would be glad to receive suggestions your for the agenda at h.gosselin@unesco.org

Hélène-Marie Gosselin
Director, UNESCO Office for the Caribbean
May 30, 2003

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The Caribbean Community Secretariat (CARICOM), the UNESCO Office for the Caribbean and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) have jointly mobilized the Joint Programme Identification Study (JPIS) that is currently preparing the Plan of Operations for the Caribbean Education Sector HIV/AIDS Response Capacity Building Technical Cooperation Project (referred to hereafter as the TC) that will be launched later in 2003.

This TC will develop innovative approaches to strengthen the education sector in its role, in both the short and longer term, in implementation of the national strategic plans on HIV/AIDS prevention, mitigation and care. The TC will support operationalisation of regional and national HIV/AIDS strategies and create an enabling environment to support a much stronger role for Education in the fight against AIDS.

### Tasks of the Identification Study

**April-June 2003**

1. Review of available data on trends of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the Caribbean region and in individual countries and develop a preliminary assessment of the direct and indirect implications of the epidemic for the education sector, both in the mitigation of its impact and as agent for its prevention and containment.
2. Policy dialogue with Governments, regional organisations, donors, United Nations agencies, NGO’s and FBOs.
3. Preliminary analysis of the responses that will be required of the education sector in the next two decades, building on existing strategies and resources, such as the Health and Family Life Education curriculum.
4. Justification and rationale for the TC project and its operation.
5. Specification of studies, workshops, training, pilot interventions, impact assessments of existing interventions, projections and other activities of the TC that will, in turn, help CARICOM and its partners define priority areas of investment in capacity building to enable effective education sector response in all Caribbean countries.
6. Exploration of financing and operational partnership approaches for implementation of the TC and the follow-on investment programme.
7. Identification of scope, institutional arrangements, output and outcomes of the TC.
8. Assessment of resources needed for effective implementation of the TC, including the qualification and experience of personnel to be hired.
9. Assessment of options for implementation of the TC, inclusive of analysis of institutional strengths of potential implementing mechanisms.
10. Preparation of detailed terms of reference for all personnel/organisations involved in the implementation of the TC.
11. Monitoring and evaluation indicators for the TC.
12. Appraisal of all aspects of the proposed operation for consistency with gender and cultural considerations and sensitivities.

The full description of JPIS and Terms of Reference are available to interested partner agencies from [m.mizuno@unesco.org](mailto:m.mizuno@unesco.org).
Mobilisation of the JPIS Team

The Identification Study is being implemented by a team comprising (i) three programme management specialists assigned by the consortium of CARICOM, UNESCO and IDB that have partnered to spearhead development of the TC, and (ii) three international consultants engaged to undertake the required analyses and produce a draft plan of operations. CARICOM appointed a consultative group that met in Kingston on April 22-23, 2003 to provide guidance to the team at inception and to outline sector experience to date.

In April and May, members of the Consultant team visited selected countries for the purpose of fact-finding and dialogue. Countries visited included Grenada, St Vincent & the Grenadines, Belize, the Netherlands Antilles, Jamaica, Barbados, Guyana, Trinidad & Tobago, and Suriname.

The team’s final report will be shared with UN and other donor partners in July as a first step in the process of dialogue on collaboration in implementation.

Nordic Funds-in-Trust support Identification Mission

JPIS is being financed jointly by IDB, the CARICOM Secretariat and UNESCO. In addition to its regular funds, UNESCO was also assisted in this effort by the Government of Norway through Nordic Funds-in-Trust managed by UNESCO to support Education for All (EFA). Nordic funding has also been provided to UNESCO’s Office for the Caribbean in support of other elements of its 2003 action plan for EFA accomplishment in the region.

Nordic financing has enabled UNESCO to train Ministries of Education throughout the region in the use of a state-of-the-art EFA policy simulation programme, training which has included sensitisation of education planners and statisticians as to the implications of the HIV/AIDS epidemic and the need for forward sector planning to include recognition of the HIV/AIDS epidemic.

FIRST CARIBBEAN CONFERENCE ON EDUCATION & HIV/AIDS: TRINIDAD, October 2003

The UNESCO Office for the Caribbean is co-hosting with the Caribbean Association of Universities and Research Institutes (UNICA), the University of the West Indies St Augustine Campus (UWI) and UNESCO’s International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP), the first Caribbean Conference on Education and HIV/AIDS to be held in Trinidad, October 29-31, 2003.

The Conference theme is HIV/AIDS: The Power of Education. The event will bring together the Presidents of more than a dozen Caribbean Universities and other education sector leaders of the Caribbean region. International and Caribbean specialists in the fields of Education & HIV/AIDS will jointly dialogue on priority actions for universities and other levels of education in the region.

The aim of this Conference is to marshal and galvanize action by and within the Education Sector - particularly within tertiary education - against HIV/AIDS to complement and support efforts already being made in other sectors of Government and within civil society.
The Conference will also provide a forum for members of the public and other key stakeholders in the response to HIV/AIDS to contribute to strategic thinking and planning in the response to the epidemic.

For information on Conference venue and participation, kindly contact Professor Mervyn Alleyne, of the University of the West Indies St. Augustine Campus, who is Secretary General of UNICA, at mcalleyne@lycos.com.

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UNICA/UWI/UNESCO

HIV/AIDS: The Power of Education
October 29-31, 2003, Trinidad

Conference Sessions

The HIV/AIDS Crisis
HIV/AIDS and Education: Situation analysis
Issues and Responses of Education to HIV/AIDS
The Way Forward: Strategic Priorities

For information on Conference venue and participation, kindly contact Professor Mervyn Alleyne, of the University of the West Indies St. Augustine Campus, who is Secretary General of UNICA, at mcalleyne@lycos.com.

PUBLICATION OF EDUCATION & HIV/AIDS: A CARIBBEAN STRATEGY, August 2003

"Education plays a critical role in the fight against HIV/AIDS. It does so in three complementary ways. First, it makes a significant contribution to dismantling the ignorance, poverty and female disempowerment that singly and in combination make people more vulnerable to HIV infection. Second, it increases the general capacity of individuals to assimilate information, evaluate situations, and look to future benefits, factors that reduce the likelihood of their engaging in behaviour that carries the risk of HIV infection. Third, it promotes the development of personal value systems and attitudes, backed up by the necessary knowledge and skills, which support individual efforts to remain HIV free". Michael Kelly and Brendan Bain, from forthcoming Education & HIV/AIDS: A Caribbean Strategy, 2003.


Professor Michael Kelly of the University of Zambia, one of the leading thinkers in this field globally, agreed to take the lead in the development of this strategy in partnership with senior University of the West Indies academics. UWI’s Vice Chancellor, Professor the Hon. Rex Nettleford, has endorsed the strategy in the Foreword, and UWI’s lead professor in the institution’s response to the epidemic, Brendan Bain, has collaborated closely with Michael Kelly in preparation of the manuscript. There is a profile of Brendan Bain on page 9 of this report.
The strategy will be published in English, French and Spanish, and a multimedia presentation will be produced as a dissemination tool. The strategy will be available in a downloadable version on the websites of UNESCO’s Office for the Caribbean, UWI and IIEP later this year.

UNESCO will distribute this publication to all Ministries of Education and partner international and donor agencies in the region by the final quarter of 2003. In order to familiarize high-level policy makers with the strategy, UNESCO plans to organize launches for Ministers of Education at UNESCO’s General Conference in October in Paris, with the Presidents of Caribbean tertiary institutions at the regional conference announced above (see page 3), and at a regional EFA review meeting scheduled for December 2003.

UNESCO/CARICOM PARTNERSHIP

UNESCO briefs CARICOM Ministers of Education in Trinidad, March 2003

The UNESCO Office for the Caribbean along with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) briefed CARICOM Ministers of Education and CARICOM Chief Education Officers (CEOs) on progress in development of the capacity building Technical Cooperation project (TC) outlined on page 2.

These presentations were made at the Sixth Special Meeting of CARICOM’s Council for Human and Social Development, held March 31-April 1, 2003, in Trinidad and Tobago. The PowerPoint presentation made to Ministers by UNESCO is available on request to o.landa@unesco.org. Ministers and CEOs endorsed the initiatives of the CARICOM Secretariat, UNESCO and IDB in this field.
UNESCO/CARICOM Memorandum of Understanding signed by DG and SG, May 2003

UNESCO and CARICOM signed a Memorandum of Understanding on the occasion of the meeting of the Director-General of UNESCO, Koïchiro Matsuura and the Secretary General of the CARICOM Secretariat, Edwin Carrington, in Georgetown, Guyana, on May 5, 2003. The new agreement strengthens cooperation between the two organisations and includes a joint resolve to cooperate in a capacity-building programme for Caribbean member states in the fight against AIDS. A copy of the MOU is available on request from o.landa@unesco.org.

UNESCO/JAPAN SUPPORT EDUCATION SECTOR OF JAMAICA, SURINAME & GUYANA IN FIGHT AGAINST AIDS

Complementary to the regional TC project outlined on page 2, UNESCO has developed bilateral assistance for three Caribbean countries most badly affected by the HIV/AIDS epidemic, Jamaica, Guyana and Suriname. The projects, which were announced by UNESCO’s Director General during his Caribbean visit in May 2003, are to be financed by the Government of Japan through its Fund-in-Trust for Human Resource Development managed by UNESCO, subject to Japan’s formal approval of plans of operation.

Assistance to Jamaica and Guyana specifically target the role of education in fighting HIV/AIDS. These projects are outlined below. While the Government of Suriname’s request was for more general support for capacity strengthening in education policy and planning, training of Surinamese education professionals will also include skills in addressing HIV/AIDS issues.

UNESCO’s Office for the Caribbean will collaborate with Ministries of Education of each of these three countries in the development and execution of these projects. It is anticipated that implementation will begin, subject to the approval of the Government of Japan, in mid-2003.

For further information on the development of these three initiatives, kindly contact Michael Morrissey at m.morrissey@unesco.org. For copies of press releases that announced these three initiatives, contact Maki Mizuno of the UNESCO Office for the Caribbean at m.mizuno@unesco.org.

Capacity-building for Jamaica’s education sector HIV/AIDS response

The Government of Jamaica recognises that the education sector needs quickly to become a full partner with the Ministry of Health and other sectors in fighting the HIV/AIDS epidemic and its effects, and has been in dialogue with its donor partners on how best to enhance the role of education. As a result of its request for UNESCO assistance, the Ministry’s management capacity to plan and implement an HIV/AIDS response will be strengthened.

Jamaica’s Ministry of Education is coordinating donor support to the sector currently being provided by UNICEF, the World Bank, USAID, and the NGO community and it is anticipated that the UNESCO/JAPAN assistance will strengthen this coordination capacity and ensure more effective and efficient implementation.
As a result of UNESCO assistance, the Ministry of Education, Youth & Culture will have in its establishment, at both central and regional levels of operation, a cadre of professionals who will operationalise national HIV/AIDS strategic priorities that relate to the sector. UNESCO’s assistance will, by concentrating on human resource development, develop a strengthened base for long-term sustained and relevant responses to the epidemic by this key sector.

Jamaica will, in developing capacity within its publicly-funded education structures and systems for a coordinated HIV/AIDS response, provide a model for other CARICOM countries to learn from. As a result, the Ministry expects to be better placed to plan and implement its response programme for the future, and, in so doing, contribute to realisation of its *Education for All* commitment.

In addition to development of an HIV/AIDS response management team embedded within its operational structure, Jamaica’s Ministry of Education will develop approaches and materials for the inclusion of an HIV/AIDS response throughout its teacher education system. The outputs and lessons learned from this component will also be shared with other CARICOM countries as models for adaptation.

For further information on Jamaica’s plans in this area, kindly contact the Chief Education Officer, Wesley Barrett, or the officers who are directly responsible for the Ministry’s HIV/AIDS response, Deloris Brissett and Mavis Fuller, at edguid@cwjamaica.com

**Piloting HIV/AIDS textbooks in Guyana’s schools and literacy centres**

The Government of Guyana recognizes that low-level of literacy among in-school and out-of-school youth was not only a concern in itself, in the context of Guyana’s EFA commitment, but also fuelled the HIV/AIDS epidemic. Guyana’s National Strategic Plan for HIV/AIDS envisages an enhanced role of the education sector within the national response. As a result, Guyana requested UNESCO’s assistance for rapid procurement and piloting of instructional materials that both support its literacy effort and at the same time contribute to its fight against AIDS.

UNESCO/JAPAN assistance will enable the Ministry of Education to expeditiously pilot instructional materials in both schools and adult literacy centres and evaluate the results by mid-2004. This will be the first time in Guyana that HIV/AIDS prevention and mitigation materials have been mainstreamed in the curriculum delivered by schools and in the Ministry’s literacy programmes.

Guyana will also, in piloting instructional materials that are either newly published (the Caribbean adult literacy materials – see Issue 1 of this Report), or new to the Caribbean region (HIV/AIDS school materials developed for sub-Saharan Africa), and lessons learned from experimentation with these materials will inform other CARICOM countries and the commercial publishing community.
UNESCO’S STRATEGY FOR YOUTH & HIV/AIDS

The UNESCO Office for the Caribbean is currently working on the development of a Youth Programme for the period 2004-2005. The programme of support to member countries will focus on priorities already identified, including a strengthened HIV/AIDS response through this sector. In preparation of its new Youth programme, UNESCO has participated in several regional meetings.

Our Office participated in the CARICOM inter-agency meeting held in Barbados on the Caribbean Youth Strategy and the CARICOM Youth Ambassadors Programme in May 2002, and the CARICOM follow-up meeting held also in Barbados in February 2003. We will also participate in the strategic planning meeting on Youth and AIDS in Latin America and the Caribbean, to be held in the Dominican Republic in June 2003.

Though this participatory process, UNESCO will develop its own contribution to the regional effort and establish partnerships with several agencies in the region in the field of youth. Sabine Detzel, Senior Education Programme Specialist, joins the Caribbean Office with a decade of expertise in this field, in UNESCO Headquarters’ Youth Coordination Unit. For more information on the preparation of UNESCO’s Caribbean initiatives for Youth & HIV/AIDS, contact o.landa@unesco.org

HIV/AIDS CAPACITY BUILDING IN EARLY CHILDHOOD SECTOR, EDUCATIONAL PUBLISHING AND MEDIA

Piloting Early Childhood responses

The Caribbean Child Development Centre (CCDC) is associated with UNESCO at its Early Childhood Cooperating Centre for the Caribbean. The Centre recognises the lack of attention paid to issues related to HIV/AIDS prevalence and its impact on the early childhood age group in the Caribbean. The importance of this issue was confirmed at the annual meeting of the Inter-Agency Consultative Group on Early Childhood Care and Development, held in May 2003. CCDC has undertaken within its 2003 UNESCO cooperation agreement to pilot an approach to community needs assessment for early childhood that will inform policy and programmes in Jamaica, and eventually provide lessons learned for the rest of the Caribbean.

The Montego Bay area (Jamaica) has been selected for this pilot, given its high prevalence of HIV/AIDS. The UWI Centre in Montego Bay, UWI HARP and the Sam Sharpe Teachers College have partnered with CCDC for this research. The detailed design of the study will be decided in June and the final report will be available before the end of 2003. For more information please contact Janet Brown, at CCDC: janbrown@cwjamaica.com
Training Caribbean publishers, editors and authors

The UNESCO Office for the Caribbean and its International Bureau for Education (IBE) will support the Caribbean Publishers Network (CAPNET) in sensitizing Caribbean publishers, editors, curriculum planners and authors on textbook publishing in response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic. Panel presentations and a workshop on this subject will form part of CAPNET’s 2003 Conference to be held this year in Curacao in late October. For more information, please contact CAPNET’s manager, Marcine McKinson, capnet@colis.com

Skills for Young Media Practitioners in St Vincent

UNESCO Office for the Caribbean will support the training of young media practitioners in the region to increase their knowledge of HIV/AIDS/STD. This will enable the trainees to combat stigma and discrimination associated with the epidemic through their journalistic activities. This project will also document the extent of improvement in the quality and quantity of HIV/AIDS related content delivered since the 1999 workshop organized by the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Youth Council (NYC) with assistance from UNESCO/UNAIDS and CAREC. For further information please contact Jocelyne Josiah, Senior Programme Manager (Communication and Information) at j.josiah@unesco.org

CARIBBEAN PROFILES: EDUCATORS AGAINST AIDS

In each issue of this report to UN and donor partners profiles will be presented on Caribbean educationalists who are in the front of mobilising the Education Sector against HIV/AIDS. The first two such profiles below feature key University of the West Indies’ professors who are collaborating with UNESCO in activities outlined in this report.

Brendan Bain

Professor Brendan Bain is a medical professional who has worked out of the Mona Campus of UWI throughout his career. He was part of the medical team that treated the first recognized case of AIDS in Jamaica in May 1983 and since that date has made the fight against HIV/AIDS the main focus of his professional work in public health.

In 1989, he chaired the steering committee of the National HIV/STD telephone helpline. In 1990, with sponsorship from USAID, he worked with the Epidemiology/AIDS Unit of the Ministry of Health designed and led the first educational programme on HIV prevention and care for Government hospital and laboratory workers across Jamaica. He subsequently designed and led the first national HIV/AIDS sensitization workshops for health workers in the Cayman Islands and Belize.

In 2001, Professor Bain was appointed by the Vice Chancellor of UWI to coordinate the University’s HIV/AIDS Response Programme (HARP). In this capacity Bain has lead the development of the University’s strategy to combat the spread of AIDS and to mitigate its effects within and outside of the University, and manages the UWI component of the CARICOM/EU Strengthening Institutional Response to HIV/AIDS project (SIRHASC).
UWI HARP is active in the Pan-Caribbean Partnership Against AIDS and collaborated with Ministries of Health and NGOs in the Caribbean.

Professor Bain brought his vast experience of the effort to contain the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the Caribbean, and his work in all levels of educational institutions in this regard, into a partnership with UNESCO and Michael Kelly of Zambia, to develop the region’s first comprehensive strategy on the Education Sector’s response. This strategy will be published in August 2003 (see page 4). The contact address for Brendan Bain is bains@kasnet.com

Carol Keller

Mr. Carol Keller has served as Dean of the former Faculty and as head of the School of Education in St. Augustine Campus, UWI. His expertise covers education policy and planning, health education and social studies education. He has contributed to the development of education throughout CARICOM countries. Keller recognized from the mid 1990s that the education sector would have to play a significant role in the fight against AIDS and has led the introduction of health education as a requirement of all graduates of education programme on his campus.

Mr. Keller is a key adviser to the Ministry of Education of Trinidad and Tobago and is contributing to country’s strategy to achieve Developed Country Status by 2020. In this context he is currently advising the Government on its planned multimillion dollar investments in HIV/AIDS prevention. In April 2003 CARICOM invited Keller to join the think-tank on education and HIV/AIDS that informed the commencement of the JPIS (see page 2). Mr. Keller’s may be contacted at carkell@trinidad.net

UNESCO TO CHAIR UNAIDS COMMITTEE OF COSPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS (CCO)

In July 2003, UNESCO succeeds the World Bank as chair of the UNAIDS Committee of Cosponsoring Organizations (CCO), for a period of one year. UNESCO’s Director-General, Koïchiro Matsuura, and the Executive Director of UNAIDS, Peter Piot, have agreed that two major meetings of the Committee will be held during UNESCO’s term as chair, the first in New York on 30 October 2003, just before the next meeting of the UN Executive Chiefs Board (CEB), and the second meeting in sub-Saharan Africa, in the spring of 2004.

The work of the Committee in the coming year will focus particularly on “Preventive Education”. Dr Piot has expressed his appreciation of UNESCO’s leadership of the UNAIDS Inter-Agency Task Team on HIV/AIDS and Education which, beside providing a sound conceptual basis in this crucial field, has been putting in place a mechanism for technical assistance to governments.
REQUEST BY UNESCO CLEARING HOUSE OF UN PARTNERS

The HIV/AIDS Impact on Education Clearinghouse initiative is on line at http://www.unesco.org/iiep - click on the clearinghouse icon – and is managed by the UNESCO International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP). IIEP is gathering materials for inclusion in this on-line data base and requests contributions from sister UN agencies. UN agencies in the Caribbean are invited to send electronically to IIEP documents on:

- National strategies, policy documents and workplans in respect of HIV/AIDS and education in the region
- Completed research concerning HIV/AIDS and education
- Information about on-going research on HIV/AIDS and education.

If you have questions or suggestions, or would like more information on the Clearinghouse, kindly contact Tara Bukow at t.bukow@iiep.unesco.org.

NEW UNESCO PUBLICATIONS ON EDUCATION & HIV/AIDS

HIV/AIDS & Human Rights-Young People in Action

This kit presents ideas for youth action on human rights and HIV/AIDS. It has been prepared in close consultation with young people including students of the International Federation of Medical Students’ Association and the International Pharmaceutical Students’ Federation.

The kit contains four brochures: Basics about HIV/AIDS and Human Rights; Advocacy; Education and Communication; Care and Support

To download the kit, logon to the following: http://portal.unesco.org/en/ev.php@URL_ID=1189&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html

HIV/AIDS and Life Skills Education: A Manual for Teacher Educators

The manual provides information on knowledge and development of attitudes, values, skills and practices (KAVSP) related to the prevention and control of HIV/AIDS. The content is as follows:

- The Global and local scenario and response to HIV/AIDS
- Who are affected by HIV/AIDS
- The impact of HIV/AIDS
- Protecting Oneself from HIV/AIDS
- Working together in the community
- Integration of HIV/AIDS Preventive Education within Curriculum
- Use of Learner-Centered Strategies, Life skills Techniques and Media in HIV/AIDS Preventive Education
- Assessment Tools for use in HIV/AIDS Preventive Education

The manual is by UNESCO New Delhi with the financial support of the Government of Japan. For more information or copy, contact UNESCO New Delhi at newdelhi@unesco.org.
ELDIS HIV/AIDS Reporter

The Eldis HIV/AIDS reporter is an invaluable weekly bulletin that disseminates recent research and publications on HIV/AIDS issues, including UNESCO sources. Documents are available free on the web at http://www.eldis.org/hivaids. To receive this bulletin or any of Eldis’s other subject-focused email bulletins, regularly for free, you may register on their home page or email to Claudia Townsend at c.townsend@ids.ac.uk

ELDIS is a gateway to information on development issues, providing free and easy access to a wide range of high quality online resources. The Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex, hosts the portal. ELDIS provides summaries and links to online documents and a directory of websites, databases, library catalogues and email discussion lists.

The next UNESCO Quarterly report on Education & HIV/AIDS will be distributed in September 2003

UNESCO Office for the Caribbean
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The purpose of this report is to share information on the efforts of the UNESCO Office for the Caribbean in response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the region. It is not an official document of the organisation. To add or remove your name from the report’s distribution list, please contact o.landa@unesco.org. If any content of this report is used in another report or publication, acknowledgement of the source would be appreciated.