OVERVIEW

The Global Young MP Initiative gathers parliamentarians aged 40 and under from around the world to learn about the most pressing development challenges and to share strategies for overcoming them. Young legislators are uniquely positioned to lend a youth perspective and voice to the many intractable issues impacting their generation, invigorating policy discussions, and implementing innovative solutions. Through conversations with World Bank management, practical exercises with their global peers, and access to a diverse array of development knowledge, the initiative represents a unique opportunity for networking, collaboration, and progress.

This year’s meeting will focus on learning poverty, or the inability to read and understand a simple text by age 10, presenting data from a new report titled The State of Learning Poverty, to be released just days before the Young MP event. Legislators 40 and under are more likely to understand firsthand the circumstances affecting education outcomes in their countries through their own or their children’s experience. They are also better placed to propose pioneering approaches to modernize education systems and policies, having grown up using technology. Participating MPs will be encouraged to bring examples of fresh ideas and best practices to the meeting for an interactive and productive session.

BACKGROUND

Today’s youth are faced with monumental challenges – even before the pandemic hit, young people worldwide were three times as likely to be unemployed and one fifth of global youth were out of school, employment, or training. Now the disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic threatens to wipe out a decade of gains in human capital – or the knowledge, skills, and health that people accumulate over their lives - leaving an entire generation behind. Adolescent girls have been particularly with an estimated 11 million girls unlikely to return to school.

As countries look toward a recovery, they’ll need a long-term vision for better outcomes. Young parliamentarians are well placed to understand the circumstances affecting the future of their countries and develop the strategies necessary for inclusive and sustainable growth.
AGENDA 9:00 - 10:30 AM EST (WASHINGTON) | 3:00 - 4:30 PM CET (PARIS)

9:00 - 9:10  THE GLOBAL YOUNG MP INITIATIVE

WELCOME BY MODERATOR
Hon. Dyah Roro Esti Widya Putri MP, Indonesia

OPENING REMARKS
Sheila Redzepi, Vice President of External and Corporate Relations, World Bank

9:10 - 9:20  INNOVATIONS TO ELIMINATE LEARNING POVERTY

The world is facing an educational crisis that has only been aggravated by COVID-19, with 70% of children in low- and middle-income countries unable to read a basic text by age 10. Reading is a fundamental skill that serves as a gateway for learning as children progress through school. While it is possible to learn later in life, children who cannot read by age 10 - or by the end of primary school at the latest - usually fail to master reading later in their education. This is both a moral and an economic dilemma. Morally, students, and particularly girls in deprived communities, are being left behind in school and in life as they do not have the foundations to thrive in the workforce. Economically, they do not acquire the basics needed to become productive members of society who can compete for the highly skilled jobs of the future. Importantly, a lack of literacy skills in the early years can lead to intergenerational transmission of poverty and vulnerability.

This session will give an overview of the latest Learning Poverty report and strategies for improving education outcomes. Emphasis will be placed on innovative solutions that parliamentarians can implement in their countries to better evaluate, track and enhance learning for better, more inclusive results.

Jaime Saavedra, Global Director, Education, World Bank TBC

MODERATOR: Hon. Dyah Roro Esti Widya Putri MP, Indonesia

9:20 - 9:26  INTERNATIONAL PARLIAMENTARY NETWORK FOR EDUCATION: PARLIAMENTARY ACTION FOR EDUCATION

Hon. Neema Kichiki Lugangira MP, Tanzania


Hon. Sahar Albazar MP, Egypt and President of the IPU Forum of Young Parliamentarians

9:32 - 9:47  PARLIAMENTARY BEST PRACTICES

Members of Parliament TBC

9:47 - 10:30  Q&A AND ACTION PLAN

The moderator will open the floor for questions. The final ten minutes will be devoted to action points to which young MPs can commit, such as a motion or question in parliament, launching an initiative to address youth concerns, or publishing in local newspapers.

MODERATOR: Hon. Dyah Roro Esti Widya Putri MP, Indonesia