United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
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منظمة الأمم المتحدة
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

Ramallah Office

PRESS RELEASE

Ramallah, 17 November 2016

UNESCO Ramallah Office launches Global Education Monitoring (GEM) Report
`*Education for people and planet: Creating sustainable futures for all*`



Photos taken by Sarah El Attar ©UNESCO

On 17 November 2016, UNESCO and the Ministry of Education and Higher Education launched the Global Education Monitoring Report 2016 in Ramallah. The Report entitled `***Education for people and planet: Creating sustainable futures for all***` shows us the world`s education challenges and the way forward for the next 15 years.

The event was opened by the **Minister of Education and Higher Education, Dr. Sabri Saidam** and **Dr. Lodovico Folin Calabi, UNESCO Representative to Palestine and Head of UNESCO Ramallah Office**. Dr. Folin Calabi highlighted the very positive rates by Palestine in achieving universal primary education and also praising the Ministry of Education for its hard work on Early Childhood Development and on Inclusive Education, the UNESCO Representative called on collective efforts by all partners to do even more on Secondary Education, Teacher Training and on Technical and Vocational Education. Dr Folin Calabi emphasized that Palestinian children and youth should be provided with skills and knowledge for work and life to become successful high-skilled workers in a rapidly changing labour market, faced with technological advancement, globalisation, and persistent social inequalities and tensions.

His Excellency Dr. Sabri Saidam reiterated that as Palestinians `*we can learn a lot from the lessons learned and examples mentioned in the report from countries that have a lot of similarities with Palestine.* He further mentioned that *`Of course we are open to learn from these international lessons, and considering the challenges and difficulties Palestinians face,* *we were able to achieve a lot in this country.*`

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In the course of the event, a discussion session was held on SDG4-Education 2030 and how the Government's National Policy Agenda is developed to implement goals and targets of SDG4 while setting the vision for Palestine for the next five years (2018-2022).

The World Education Forum in 2015, the GEM Report gave mandate to UNESCO and its Global Education Monitoring Report team to monitor and present the progress towards achieving Sustainable Development Goal 4 (to "ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all"). It shows that education has huge potential to achieve progress towards all the global development goals, but needs a major re-think if it is to live up to those expectations.

To read the GEM Report online, please use following link:
http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0024/002457/245752e.pdf

For more information, please contact Ms. Majd Beltaji, Communication Officer of the UNESCO Ramallah Office at m.beltaji@unesco,org

For more information on UNESCO's activities in Palestine, please visit our website:
http://www.unesco.org/ramallah