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Ramallah Office

PRESS RELEASE
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Accountability for SDG 4 and Citizen Participation core themes at the Launch of the Global Action Week for Education



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Ramallah – On 12 April 2017, the launch of the Global Action Week for Education (GAWE) took Place at the Government Media Center in Ramallah. The event was organized by The Palestinian Education Coalition in partnership with UNESCO Ramallah Office, the Ministry of Education and Higher Education and UNRWA. Every year the Global Campaign for Education (GCE) organizes a Global Action Week on different themes.

This year's theme of '*Accountability for SDG 4 and Citizen Participation*' will highlight the importance of transparent, accountable and participatory governance for delivering on the full SDG4 agenda. From **23 to 29 April**, the Global Action Week for Education will promote the vital role of citizen participation in education policy making and monitoring progress.

His Excellency, the **Minister of Education and Higher Education Dr. Sabri Saidam**, mentioned in his launching remarks that the international community, civil society

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and the MoEHE, including teachers and students should work together in partnership to support the future of education in Palestine. He further mentioned that during the GAWE the MoEHE "*will conduct a variety of activities inside the schools and communities to highlight the main themes of the GAWE"* and emphasized that *"we are all partners and we will stand together to achieve our vision for education in Palestine."*

Dr. Lodovico Folin- Calabi, UNESCO Representative to Palestine, emphasized that this year's theme of GAWE is at the heart of UNESCO's mandate saying that ***"civic participation*** *has expanded the political and social scope for civil society, and should not be limited to endorsing decisions made by government. Through regular dialogue,* ***civil society - learners, teachers, parents, communities, non-governmental organizations - should contribute to education policy and practice, from inception to evaluation***." Since UNESCO is the global lead on the SDG4 agenda, Dr. Folin Calabi further emphasized that "*SDG 4 is cross cutting and a basis for the achievement of all goals. Within the National education sector strategy, and in line with the National Policy Agenda and the SDG`s,* ***we are striving to ensure equitable inclusive quality education and promoting lifelong learning opportunity for all."***

Since the launch of Global Action Week for Education, UNESCO actively supports this campaign at global, regional and national levels, jointly with the Ministers of Education and all Global Campaign for Education networks by carrying out different relevant activities around the world, through its Field Offices. This is to raise awareness of the importance of education to achieve sustainable development and the commitments made by all to reach the global education goal by 2030.

For more information on UNESCO's activities in Palestine, please visit www.unesco.org/ramallah and visit us on : Unesco Ramallah Office

For more information on this event, please contact: Majd Beltaji, Public Information Officer of the UNESCO Ramallah Office, at m.beltaji@unesco.org