

Overcoming inequality: why governance matters

Education is a basic human right. Yet across the world there are vast disparities in education based on wealth, gender, location, language and other markers for disadvantage. These disparities threaten to undermine efforts to achieve the six Education for All (EFA) goals agreed by over 160 governments in 2000. Failure to place strategies for greater equity at the centre of the EFA agenda will deny millions of children, youth and adults the education and learning opportunities they need to realize their potential, escape poverty and participate fully in society.

This is the seventh edition of the *EFA Global Monitoring Report*. It documents progress towards the EFA goals. Focusing on those being left behind, the Report explores current approaches to education governance reform and assesses whether these are helping to improve access, quality, participation and accountability. It also examines aid governance. Rich countries have pledged that no national education strategy will be allowed to fail for want of finance. Yet this promise is not being honoured.

The Report includes statistical indicators on all levels of education in some 200 countries and territories, and serves as an authoritative reference guide.



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Cover photo

Unlike many children his age from poor households, this young boy in Indonesia is learning to read and write at school.

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