

Education International and NASUWT work on migration and the Sustainable Development Goals

Key issues for the NASUWT and Education International

There are many issues arising from the NASUWT's work with migrant teachers and its work on the sustainable development goals. In the context of the UN Meeting on International Migration, Education International and the NASUWT stress the following points:

1. Unions have a key role to play in implementing and measuring performance towards the SDGs. It is vital that unions are actively engaged in decision-making at all levels, including UN strategic decision-making processes.
2. Unions operate at different levels, including the individual workplace, locally, nationally and internationally. They can provide critical information about the experiences and needs of migrants. This further reinforces the importance of involving unions in all UN decision making processes, relating to migrants and the implementation of the SDGs. It also highlights the importance of ensuring that unions are equal partners within this process.
3. Teachers have a central role to play in promoting equality, respect for diversity and social cohesion. It is essential, therefore, that the UN establishes how teachers can be supported to fulfil this role and stresses the need for Governments to establish how teachers can be supported to do this within their systems.
4. The UN should advocate the benefit of mainstreaming policies to support migrant teachers and to implement the SDGs. Alongside this, there is a need to emphasise the importance of policy coherence. For example, it is vital that other domestic policies do not undermine or conflict with the implementation of the SDGs.
5. The indicators to measure the goal that every child should complete free, equitable high quality education need to be broadened. Whilst literacy and numeracy are important measures, they are not sufficient. There is a need to measure the breadth and balance of the curriculum and the extent to which that empowers children, allows them to contribute to their communities, and enables them to progress to high-quality further education and work.

Education International

Education International represents education unions in 172 countries and territories across the world. Human rights, democracy and social justice are core Education International principles and the right to education for refugees and stateless children, the rights of refugees and migrant teachers, and education for equality, inclusion and tolerance are key priorities for the organisation.

Education International has established a web portal for migrant and refugee teachers. This provides migrant and refugee teachers with practical information and advice. It also provides examples of good practice in protecting and supporting migrant teachers and students.

Education International seeks to influence both international and national policy and practice in respect of migration and the implementation of the SDGs. Education International is actively engaged in discussions about the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including the development of indicators to measure progress towards the SDGs. It is working closely with member unions to try and ensure that

the website, the NASUWT continues to provide support to migrant teachers in London and the South East.

The NASUWT has since worked with Education International to launch an EI web portal for migrant teachers.

Equality Consultation Conferences and Briefings

The NASUWT organises annual equality consultation conferences for teacher and

result of the reforms and how this is happening. Reports of the first phase of the project will be published on the NASUWT website in the next few weeks.

Details of NASUWT research and publications can be found at: www.nasuwt.org.uk.

International Solidarity

The NASUWT works with Education International, the European Trade Union Council (Education) (ETUCE) and other international partners to promote free, high quality education for all and to protect teachers' rights across the world. The Union works closely with unions in countries where teachers and union activists are at risk of violence and death. It is also working with EI and other partners to secure effective measurement and implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Information about the NASUWT's international work can be found at: www.nasuwt.org.uk/international.

Sustainable Development Goals

The NASUWT is working with Education International to ensure that effective indicators are established to measure progress towards implementation of the SDGs. The Union is also seeking to ensure that the UK Government takes its responsibilities in respect of the SDGs seriously. The NASUWT has met with officials at the Department for International Development (DFID) to discuss how the SDGs will be picked up through DFID projects. As part of this work, the Union has published a report, *Education, Privatisation, Equality and Social Justice: An Initial Review of the Work of DFID (UK)* which includes an examination of DFID's international development strategy, particularly in respect of education, and considers how the SDGs will impact on DFID's education work. The report also highlights the relationship between the UK Government's domestic and international education policy work. A copy of the report is available from: