Ending poverty through achieving inclusive education for all
JULY 5th, 2022, 1PM - 2.30 PM

“Building back better from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”

Directly contributing to the discussions around HLPF 2022 theme, this side event invites the audience to revisit the interlinkages between Goal 1, Goal 4, Goal 5, Goal 10 on inequalities and Goal 16 on peaceful and inclusive societies by looking at how people’s participation can be a transformative tool not only to ensure access to quality education and better inform public policies and interventions but also to imagine a fully inclusive society. This side event will highlight the importance of placing dignity and inclusive education at the heart of the COVID-19 recovery if countries are to build back better.

The dignity of the human being is not only a fundamental right in itself but constitutes the basis of all other fundamental rights. Yet, the current reality shows that many people living in persistent poverty experience their dignity being denied and disrespected, especially in accessing quality education and life-long learning opportunities. This side-event will highlight diverse forms of discrimination that perpetuate unequal access to quality education.

The lack of formally recognized and documented identity creates major problems for children to access basic rights such as education. Poverty is among the main obstacles to accessing birth registration. In 2022, 403 million children worldwide live without proof of identity[1]. Moreover, the Covid-19 pandemic bolstered existing inequalities, hitting already fragile education systems, and highlighted not only the importance of schools to ensure quality education for all but also the necessity to transform educational processes.

Activists with lived experience of poverty and members of the International Movement ATD Fourth World from Burkina Faso and Latin America, together with children from the Arigatou International networks, in a dialogue with UNICEF, academics, civil society representatives, will discuss recommendations to transform education. From legal recognition to informal learning opportunities, this dialogue aims to gain a new understanding of innovative processes designed to break the persistence of poverty and social exclusion and to empower individuals and communities by fostering their ability to participate in or influence decisions that directly affect their lives.