UNESCO Pakistan Launched the 2012 EFA Global Monitoring Report: Youth & Skills

The tenth Global Monitoring Report was launched in Islamabad recognizing the commitment to invest in Youth and Skills. The event saw a large number of participants from not only other United Nations agencies, but also from civil society. With NGOs, working for Education and Skills, and Media were the forefronts' of the event.

Dr. Kozue Kay Nagata in the opening remarks, quoted from the global speech of Director-General of UNESCO, Ms. Irina Bokova said, "I would like to dedicate this ceremony to Ms. Malala Yousafzai, a young brave activist for the right of girls to the education of Pakistan, assaulted last week, because she wanted to go school'. Also, Dr. Nagata added, "For Pakistan as a nation, this year's GMR has a special value".

Secretary, Education and Trainings, Mr. Qamar-Uz-Zaman, thanked UNESCO for launching Global Monitoring Report in Pakistan, which he said is a contribution to highlight the of skills and youth in this country. "We see that education for young people is a burning need, but we can't leave the gap by having an unskilled youth," Mr. Zaman added.

In Pakistan, skills development (including teacher training) expenditure in year 2008/2009 was only 1% out of total education budget. "Education is the best investment in the societies we want. Every 1$ spent on child’s education yields $10-$15 in economic growth over person’s working life, this calls for global push and commitment for education in this country," said Dr. Nagata, quoted from Director - General UNESCO's comments for Global Monitoring Report. The Global Monitoring Report urges on faster progress for quality education and adult literacy to meet its goals by the deadline of 2015.