

Multistakeholder Pledge | Thematic task team on teachers

Summary Heading

Supporting Teachers and Teaching in Forced Displacement Situations

Pledge description

This multistakeholder pledge reflects the joint contributions from the GRF Teacher Task Team, consisting of the following organisations: British Council, Childhood Education International, Education Cannot Wait, Education Development Trust, Education International, Finn Church Aid, Geneva Graduate Institute / Geneva Global Hub for Education in Emergencies, Global Partnership for Education, IIEP-UNESCO, Inter-agency Network for Education in Emergencies, Lego Foundation, Save the Children, Teachers College Columbia University, UNESCO Teacher Task Force, UNICEF, VSO International.

Vision: All teachers, including refugees and others affected by forced displacement, are recognized, supported, and empowered to provide safe, quality, and inclusive education to all students.

Key Outcome: Ensure that all teachers, regardless of their international protection status, enjoy decent work and have access to the necessary training, resources, and support to provide quality education, in contexts of both crisis and stabilized displacement. This includes integration of refugee teachers into national education systems and the professional development of all teachers working in these challenging contexts.

Background: The global teacher shortage is exacerbated in situations of forced displacement, where qualified and experienced refugee teachers often lack the opportunity to practice their profession, and others take on teaching roles without adequate training and support. In these contexts, teachers frequently do not receive timely and adequate remuneration, continuous professional development, or the necessary support to facilitate quality, inclusive, and holistic education to every student. Addressing the needs and rights of teachers in forced displacement situations is crucial to ensuring the right to education for children in forced displacement situations.

Approach: This pledge requires a collaborative effort between host governments, donors, and partners to recognize, support, and empower teachers in forced displacement situations. Host governments can make policy-related pledges to integrate refugee teachers into national education systems and to support the professional development of all teachers in these contexts. Donors and partners can provide multi-year financial, policy, and/or technical support to cover additional costs related to teacher salaries and/or to help provide training, resources and support to teachers/teaching in forced displacement situations. This aligns with the Global Compact on Refugees' call for additional support in expanding teaching capacities, SDG 4 and the outcomes of the Transforming Education Summit on empowering and adequately supporting teachers.

Specific Actions: Stakeholders commit to international financing mechanisms, ensuring the continuity of learning and decent work for teachers in crisis and displacement situations, while providing predictable, multi-year financing for teacher salaries, including refugee teacher salaries. Emphasizing teacher involvement, we will promote social dialogue to ensure that teachers are represented in decision-making processes. Concurrently, we will devise systems for the rapid screening, recognition, training, and certification systems for teachers in refugee hosting contexts. We will collaborate to facilitate the

recognition of teachers' qualifications and experience across borders and support the development of pathways to continuous professional development and qualified teacher status for those lacking formal qualification. Access to professional development on mental health and psychosocial support, social emotional learning, inclusive education, subject knowledge, and pedagogical skills, and language support will be expanded, and we will work to promote gender equality and disability inclusion in teaching careers, and prioritize teacher well-being through targeted support.

Measurement: This pledge will be measured using progress indicators related to teacher representation, recruitment, retention, professional development, and well-being in situations of forced displacement, with a focus on increasing the support and inclusion of refugee teachers in national education systems, ensuring alignment with SDG 4 targets and the objectives of the Global Compact on Refugees. This includes the mention of refugee teachers in national education plans, the integration of refugee teachers into national education systems, and whether education sector plans or strategies for inclusion comprehensively consider the needs of all teachers in forced displacement situations.

By committing to this pledge, stakeholders acknowledge the critical role of teachers in ensuring the right to education for all, particularly in contexts of crisis and displacement, and commit to taking concrete actions to support, recognize, and empower them.