



**UNESCO/Norway Forum: Globalization and Higher
Education: Implications for North-South Dialogue
(Oslo, 26 -27 May 2003)**

Globalization and Higher Education: Building Bridges

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Building Bridges

- Bridges as metaphors

What bridges?

- linking perspectives on the Conference
- linking highways to and from the South, North, East and West
- between different organizations and stakeholders in higher education
- between higher education, business and society
- across geographical borders, time and space, disciplines and learning methods

Globalization and Higher Education: Building Bridges

The foundations for these bridges were:

- The World Declaration for Higher Education in the Twenty-first Century (1998)
- The Global Forum on International Quality Assurance, Accreditation and the Recognition of Qualifications:
 - A catalyst for international cooperation in higher education
 - A platform for dialogue between different stakeholders, building bridges between intergovernmental organizations

UNESCO GLOBAL FORUM – The Action Plan

- Standard-setting activities
 - review of regional conventions
 - principles for responsible partnerships in cross-border education
 - generating empirical evidence through research on the impact of trade in education and the concept of the public good
- Capacity Building in QA and different modes of delivery;
- Clearinghouse: Information Tools for Students

UNESCO/Norway Forum: A Way Forward

- Greater participation from all regions, including Ministers and governmental representatives;
- Voices from the South, higher education at the centre of social sustainable development , different scenarios for North-South Cooperation;
- Learning curve:
 - Promoting fairness in trade
 - Making transborder provision, including ICTs, strengthen not weaken national capacity for HE,
 - International organizations facilitate and Member States implement

Building bridges: from words to action (1)

- Strengthen regional conventions
- Research on Widening access to higher education through transborder provision: informing debate and policy frameworks
 - Case studies from Bangladesh, Bulgaria, Jamaica Malaysia, Senegal
- Regional Scientific Committees on Higher Education, Research and Knowledge

Building bridges: from words to action (2)

- Principles for Responsible and Sustainable Partnerships between HE, Business and Society
 - Develop a continuum model for partnerships between HE and society that would take account of differences in needs, capacities and issues;
 - Draft the Principles for endorsement by next Global Forum
- Empowering Learners: Students Choice Behavior
 - Results of Studies on Students Choice Behaviors
 - Flexibility of choice: link HE with Lifelong Learning
 - Need for information support on range and quality of provision offered within LLL to make effective informed decisions

UNESCO framework: next steps

- World Conference on Higher Education + 5 (Paris HQ, 23 -25 June 2003)
- 32nd session of the General Conference (Paris HQ, October 2003)
- 2nd Global Forum on International QA (October 2004)
- Global Forum on HE, Research and Knowledge
- (December 2004)

Final Report will be sent to you!