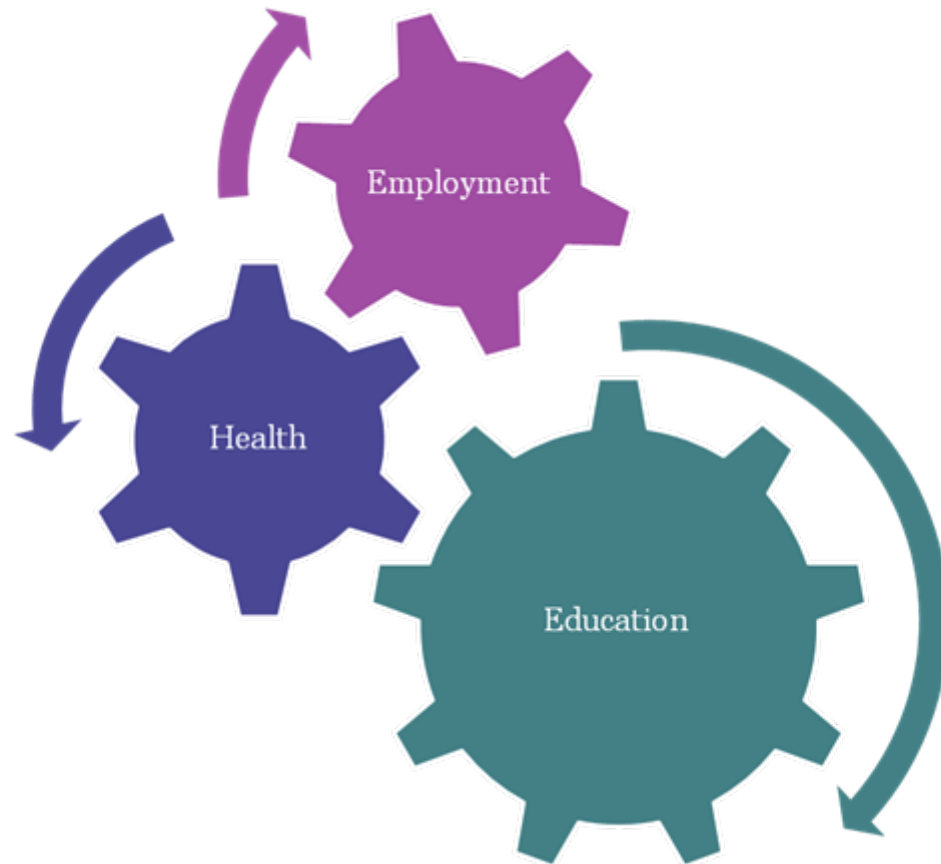# Education as the key to sustainability

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Education and Youth…

Main Issues with…

- **Sustained Access**
- **Quality**
- **Relevance**

Access has been unequal…

- Girls
- Rural and indigenous
- Children in conflict situation
- Migrants and nomads
- Children with disability
- (Y)PLHIV
- Disaster, linguistic, cultural and other minorities

NO ONE MUST BE DENIED ACCESS TO EDUCATION

Quality and Relevance has been lacking…

- Literacy and numeracy still a challenge
- Scope of education has not focused enough on equipping young people for a better life (eg. Employment and Entrepreneurship, Health education and information, including CSE)

- *Relevant education must help people to stay healthy, be economically sufficient and be active citizens*

What Do we Need?…

- Ensure the right to universal access to free, inclusive, relevant, lifelong, quality education in formal and non-formal settings and a safe and participatory environment through sustainable and adequate financing.
- Ensure increased access to education at all levels with a major focus on ensuring gender parity at all levels

- Enact, implement and enforce laws that create an enabling environment for girls in school, including through eliminating the sexual and reproductive health challenges that are often the root of exclusion
- Provide non-discriminatory, non-judgmental, rights-based, age-appropriate, gender-sensitive health education including youth friendly, evidence based comprehensive sexuality education

We also need…

- universal access to a basic package of youth-friendly health services (including mental health care and sexual and reproductive health services) that are high quality, integrated, equitable, comprehensive, affordable, needs and rights based, accessible, acceptable, confidential and free of stigma and discrimination for all young people
- ensure the right to legal protection for young people to freely express their opinion and organize

- should invest in building the capacities of young people, and in creating an enabling environment for young people to meaningfully participate in all stages of decision making and implementation of rights-based policies and programs on employment

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- Develop and implement effective systems for the appropriate curriculum development and periodic review to empower young people to gain relevant skills for employment and livelihoods.
- ensure that the political representation of young people is proportionate to their numbers, with special focus on young women and youth belonging to vulnerable groups.

Thank you