Every Child Needs a Teacher: Closing the Trained Teacher Gap
by Global Campaign for Education and Education International

- Early childhood care and education is a right but cannot be delivered without a massive recruitment of teachers. In total, 114 countries have primary teacher gaps and, 93 countries have an acute teacher shortage.

- The latest data and calculations from UIS show that, globally, 27 million teachers are needed to achieve Universal Primary Education by 2030. This is in addition to recruitment of 2.6 million teachers that UIS calculates as necessary to replace retiring teachers (UIS).

- Thirty-one countries report that less than three quarters of their primary school teachers are trained.

- In 2012, low-income countries spent an average of 4% of their GDP on public education while lower middle-income countries spent 4.9% and upper-income countries spent 5.4%.

- High quality education requires sufficient recruitment of teachers who are trained, supported, paid and managed as professionals.

- The trained teacher gap is exacerbated by policy and funding gaps that hinder the development and retention of teachers as well as a notion that teachers are not professionals but service providers.

- Employing untrained teachers has been used as a cost-cutting mechanism to avoid increased investment and to fill the growing need of teachers.

- Adequate teacher training, scarcity of textbooks and supplies, and high student/teacher ratios remain as barriers to quality education.

- The 2012 Results Report of the Global Partnership for Education found that teacher poverty was one of the major constraints on quality education and that teachers were often not able to pay for basic needs.
  - Teachers, internationally, often have to travel to district or province capitals to access their pay—leading to teacher absence.

- Governments should allocate a minimum of 20 percent of their budgets for education and at least half of this (minimum of 10-12 percent of the budget overall) should go to basic education.

- National governments should provide, amongst other things, ongoing in-service training and professional development, a decent wage not based on individualized reward or punishment; support the development of Teaching Councils to develop and enforce professional standards and ethics.

- In many low-income countries, the education budget could be doubled overnight if the biggest companies and richest individuals were paying fair taxes.

- Dakar signatories estimated that it would take $US8 billion more annually in order to achieve Education for All (UNESCO).

To read the entire report please visit, www.campaignforeducation.org