

LEARN & ACT Teacher's Guide

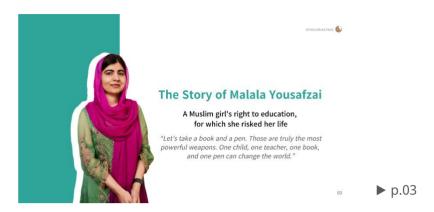
# Quality Education for All

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### **Introduction 1: The Story of Malala Yousafzai**



### • A Muslim girl's right to education, for which she risked her life:

Born in Pakistan in 1997, Malala Yousafzai, influenced by her father, an education activist, showed a keen interest in society from an early age. In 2009, when Malala was 11 years old, the Taliban (a rebel terrorist organization in Afghanistan) occupied the northwestern part of Pakistan where Malala lived and expelled the female students from school while advocating Islamic law that discriminated against females. In response, Malala authored an article on her blog appealing for the equal right to education for female students, and the entire world paid attention to her activities. In 2012, when she was 14, she was shot by a Taliban on her way home from school.

After dramatic recovery with the help of the international community, Malala became a human rights activist fighting for women's right to education. Her efforts at the risk of her life have been recognized globally, and in 2014 she became the youngest Nobel Peace Prize winner in history. Since 2017, she has been acting as a UN Peace Ambassador for the human rights and education rights of women and children around the world.

### Message from Malala:

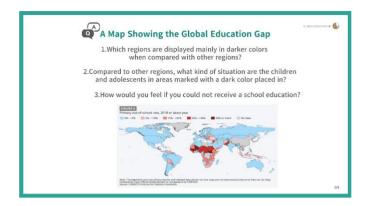
What is the message of Malala Yousafzai, who is fighting for children's right to education without yielding even to her shooting by the Taliban? Take time to think about what "education" means to children around the world.

"Let's take a book and a pen. Those are truly the most powerful weapons. One child, one teacher, one book, and one pen can change the world." - From Malala Yousafzai's speech to the United Nations-

▶ Education makes children's lives safer, helps them fight against famine and poverty, and helps the to be able to overcome disease. In particular, children living in poverty-stricken areas can be freed from economic activities and housework, and youth and adults can have good quality jobs through quality education.



### **Introduction 2: A Map Showing the Global Education Gap**



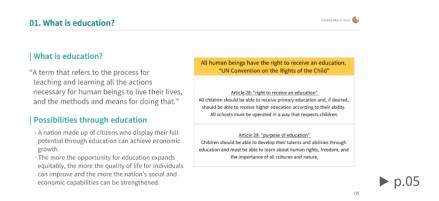
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### • This is a map showing the global education gap at a glance as of 2018 (source: UNESCO). :

Take time to look at the map and think together about the questions below.

- Which regions are displayed mainly in darker colors when compared with other regions?
- Compared to other regions, what kind of situation are the children and adolescents in areas marked with a dark color placed in?
- How would you feel if you could not receive a school education?

### 1. What is education?



### • Education:

A term that refers to the process for teaching and learning all the actions necessary for human beings to live their lives, and the methods and means for doing that. Human beings can grow mentally and physically and increase the possibility for a better life by receiving an education based on their innatecharacter and qualities.

### • Possibilities through education:

Education is the driving force that can guide the lives of the poor in the direction of a better life. Furthermore, a nation made up of citizens who display their full potential through education can achieve economic growth. In other words, the more the opportunity for education expands equitably, the more the quality of life for individuals can improve and the more the nation's social and economic capabilities can be strengthened.



### • All human beings have the right to receive an education:

All human beings have the right to receive an education in order to live a humane life, and in particular, the right to receive an education is more important than anything else for children and young people. The "UN Convention on the Rights of the Child" specifies the "right to receive an education" in Article 28 and the "purpose of education" in Article 29 as the standards prepared to guarantee the human rights of children and young people around the world under the age of 18.

- ▶ Article 28: Children have the right to receive an education. All children should be able to receive primary education and, if desired, should be able to receive higher education according to their ability. All schools must be operated in a way that respects children.
- ▶ Article 29: Children should be able to develop their talents and abilities through education and must be able to learn about human rights, freedom, and the importance of all cultures and nature.

### 2. The Current Situation of Global Education (1)



### • Children who cannot go to school:

According to a UNESCO survey, as of 2018, about 260 million children and young people around the world could not attend school. The main causes are poverty and discrimination. This is one-fifth of the global population of school-aged children (ages 6-17), most are children from sub-Saharan Africa, Central and South Asia, and Pacific coastal regions.

#### • Education crisis in Sub-Saharan Africa:

Sub-Saharan Africa has the highest rate of those not attending school in the world for all age groups. More than one-fifth of children aged 6-11 have dropped out of school, and one-third of teenagers aged 12-14 cannot attend school. According to UNESCO data, around 60% of 15-17-year-old teenagers in this region do not attend school. Especially in Yemen, 80% of girls do not even get a chance to go to school.



### 2. The Current Situation of Global Education (2)



### Girls have become more marginalized in education:

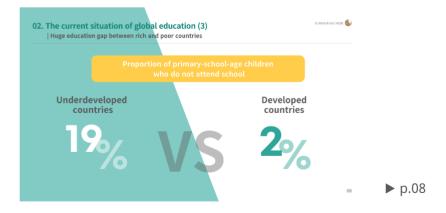
According to the 2016 UNESCO report on Gender Inequality in Education, among 28 million boys of primary school age worldwide, 8.2% of them were not enrolled in school, and among 30 million girls 16% of them were not enrolled in school. In other words, more than twice as many girls as boys could not have primary education. The notion of preference for boys in certain areas of the global village is greatly infringing upon the right of girls to receive an education.

See also: Gender Equality in Education UNESCO

### • Two-thirds of the world's illiterate people are women:

The education gap between men and women is also severe. According to a UNESCO 2017 report, around 760 million adults worldwide are illiterate, two-thirds of whom are women. Since the ability to read and write is basic attainment required for economic growth and improvement in quality of life, it is difficult for illiterate women to find good jobs and they suffer from persistent poverty. Illiterate women are often indifferent to the education of their children after marriage.

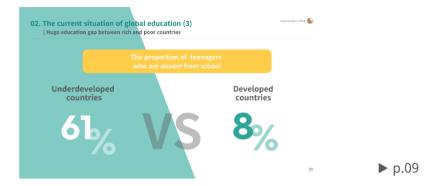
### 2. The Current Situation of Global Education (3)



### Huge education gap between rich and poor countries:

According to UNESCO data, the proportion of primary-school-age children (ages 6-11) who do not attend school is 19% in underdeveloped countries, compared to only 2% in developed countries.





Also, about 61% of 15-17-year-old teenagers in underdeveloped countries are absent from school, whereas in developed countries only 8% are absent from school. These education gaps continue to affect adolescents and adults even after they become adults, leading to gaps in quality of life.

### 3. Causes of Deprivation of Education Opportunities (1)



▶ p.10

#### • International Conflict:

"One in two children who cannot attend primary school" around the world are living in an international conflict zone. According to a UNICEF study, 48.5 million children living in conflict zones were absent from school in 2020, and compared to other regions, these children have a 30% lower chance of graduating from primary school and only a 50% chance of graduating from secondary school.

#### • Child Labor:

As of 2018, more than 150 million people, or half, of children aged 5 to 17 worldwide were engaged inchild labor, thereby deprived of educational opportunities. Child labor not only reduces educational opportunities for children but also hinders their mental, physical and social growth. According to a survey by the International Labor Organization, 73 million child laborers are suffering from long hours of work, carrying heavy loads, and taking risks while being exposed to various chemicals in mines, fields, and factories.

### • Child Marriage:

Although considerable progress has been made since the 2000s, such as prohibiting child marriage in many countries thanks to the international community's anti-child marriage movement, forced marriages of girls are still practiced all over the world. Every year around 12 million girls worldwide are getting married before the age of 18. In particular, 38% of girls in sub-Saharan Africa are forced into an unwanted marriage, and in sub-Saharan Niger, the Central African Republic and Chad, the rate of child marriage reaches 70%.



### • Climate Change:

Every year, around 37 million children cannot receive an education due to the threat of climate

change. As weather phenomena such as floods and typhoons increase, school facilities are directly damaged or used as shelters in cases of emergency, which leads to the cessation of educational activities. In South Asia in 2017, 18,000 schools were closed after the extreme flooding. In addition, children from families whose livelihood has become difficult due to extreme weather conditions are placed in circumstances in which they have to go to work instead of school.

Using YouTube videos, 'The Fight Against Child Labor': <a href="https://youtu.be/ckz4qccSVpY">https://youtu.be/ckz4qccSVpY</a> ( p.11 )

### 3. Causes of Deprivation of Education Opportunities (2)



### • Teacher shortage:

Many countries in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia suffer from the problem of severe shortages of teachers. In these countries, the school-age population is rapidly increasing, but the training of teachers who will be responsible for education is not properly achieved. This is because the systems for training teachers are inadequate, and the salaries and treatment of teachers are low.

### • Poor educational environment:

In most underdeveloped countries, because the budget allocated for "education" is insufficient due to the lack of national finances, a universal primary education curriculum is not being realized properly. In these countries, school facilities are not properly equipped, learning materials cannot be provided, and above all, while the number of students per class is overflowing due to a shortage of teachers, there is a high rate of students abandoning their education.

### Physical limitations of remote areas

Children and young people living in remote areas where education infrastructure has not been

established, such as mountainous areas and island areas, cannot enjoy the right to receive a proper education. In particular, in the case of ethnic minorities and indigenous people living in remote areas while maintaining their own cultural identity, the reality is that they have no choice but to wander around the periphery of the educational system without being incorporated into a universal primary education curriculum.



## 4. The goal of the international community for humankind's right to receive an education



### • UN's Sustainable Development Goal 4. "Quality education for all":

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), an agenda that the UN General Assembly resolved in 2015 to achieve by 2030, are 17 common goals of humankind for realizing the ideology of sustainabledevelopment. The fourth goal is "Quality Education for All," which specifically pursues "guaranteeinginclusive and equitable quality education for all and promoting lifelong learning opportunities."



### • SDGs 4. 7 Action Goals:

- 4.1 By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable, and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes.
- 4.2 By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care, and pre-primary education so that they are ready for primary education.
- 4.3 By 2030, ensure equal access for all women and men to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university
- 4.4 By 2030, substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs, and entrepreneurship
- 4.5 By 2030, eliminate gender disparities in education and ensure equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable, including persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples, and children in vulnerable situations.



- 4.6 By 2030, ensure that all youth and a substantial proportion of adults, both men, and women, achieve literacy and numeracy
- 4.7 By 2030, ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and culture's contribution to sustainable development
- Using YouTube videos, "Why is quality education important?"

: <a href="https://youtu.be/s|5ism5VCvM">https://youtu.be/s|5ism5VCvM</a> (p.15)

### 5. The Most Important Goals of Education (1)



▶ p.16

### • Achieving universal primary education:

Children can cultivate their attitude and mind and acquire basic knowledge and information to lead a life well through primary education from the ages of 6 to 12. In particular, children in underdeveloped countries can learn about hygienes at primary education institutions, receive basic health care such as vaccinations and proper nutrition necessary for growth. For the stable growth of all children around the world, primary education must be provided, and various efforts are needed to supply material and human resources such as safe and sanitary facilities, a sufficient number of teachers, and high-quality learning materials.

### • Expanding educational opportunities for women:

Currently, about 130 million girls worldwide cannot go to school. Early marriage and preference for boys, prevalent in some countries, are interfering with girls' education. Uneducated women are morelikely to experience poverty and alienation later in life and are often forced to make unconditional sacrifices in a patriarchal society. According to a World Bank study, "the more educated women are, the more likely they are to be healthier in the future, have fewer children, and marry later, as well as display excellence in the formal labor market." Women's education is the most fundamental solutionthat can help women improve their lives, and because it brings many results socially, women's educational opportunities should be expanded further.



### 5. The Most Important Goals of Education (2)



▶ p.17

### • "Teacher Training" with Professionalism.

In order to realize universal elementary education around the world, almost 25 million elementary school teachers are needed. However, currently, the conditions for nurturing them are absolutely insufficient. In order to solve this problem, national systems must be provided for the "expansion of teacher training institutions" and for "teacher training and training through distance education" as well asfor the "improvement of low salaries and poor working environment for teachers."

### • "Building high-quality educational infrastructure" :

The educational environment in underdeveloped countries is extremely poor. For quality education, it is especially important to create a pleasant and sanitary environment, provide clean water and nutritious quality meals, support textbooks and learning tools for continuous and effective learning, and prepare diverse types of learning devices, equipment, and networks that can improve educational effectiveness.

### • "Global citizenship education" for a sustainable future.

Humankind in the 21st century should pay attention to the problems occurring around the world and have the capability to seek solutions. Therefore, the educational content of the 21st century should focus on cultivating talented people who have a "consciousness of global citizenship that regards the world's work as if it were mine."



# 6. Efforts of the International Community for Right of Humankind to Receive an Education (1. International Organizations)



### World Education Forum (WEF) :

As the largest international conference in the field of education hosted by UNESCO, it is a place where representatives of education from all over the world gather to discuss global education. Underthe slogan of "Changing lives through education," the World Education Forum presents a vision that "a healthy and inclusive society, sustainable development, and the creation of good quality jobs are possible only through education." In 2015, the World Education Forum was held in Incheon, Korea, and the results of the forum were inherited as SDGs 4.

### • International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP) :

The International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP) was established in 1963 as a UNESCO-affiliated organization supporting global village education policy planning and management. Based on more than 50 years of research and activity know-how, it plays an important role in designing and implementing education policies in underdeveloped countries. The International Institute for Educational Planning is engaged in activities all over the world to achieve goals concerning the improvement of educational inequality (especially gender inequality), and learning outcomes, building resilient educational systems, allocating capital to education, and achieving goals concerning inclusiveness, fairness, and public accountability in education. <a href="http://www.iiep.unesco.org/en">http://www.iiep.unesco.org/en</a>



# 6. Efforts of the International Community for Right of Humankind to Receive an Education (2. Organizations, NGOs)



▶ p.19

### • "Education is a basic human right," Global Education Campaign (GEC):

The Global Education Campaign is a civil society organization that promotes "education as a basic human right." This organization conducts a variety of campaigns and advocacy activities to ensure that all people around the world are able to receive free and quality public education. In particular, it is exerting influence on governments so that the governments of underdeveloped countries can ensure quality education for all people by making public education compulsory. <a href="https://campaignforeducation.org/">https://campaignforeducation.org/</a>

### • Kiva, a social enterprise that provides education expenses to poor students:

Kiva is a social enterprise that provides charitable loans without fees or interest to small business owners in developing countries. In particular, Kiva pays attention to the fact that the right to education must be guaranteed in order to get out of the cycle of poverty, and it is making efforts to provide education expense loans to poor students around the world. <a href="https://www.kiva.org">https://www.kiva.org</a>

## 6. Efforts of the International Community for Right of Humankind to Receive an Education (3. Various ideas)



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### • Tusome, an electronic textbook for African children:

Tusome is an electronic textbook developed by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to improve the literacy of children in underdeveloped countries in Africa. It can be used as an e-book and as an app and is now widely available in Kenya and Tanzania. In Kenya, about 3.4 million children use Tusome to learn to read and write. In the first year of Tusome's operation, the proportion of second-year students who could read 30 words per minute increased to about two-thirds of the total.



### • "Instant School," a quality education that can be learned by means of a tablet:

The Vodafone Foundation is a non-profit organization that makes and distributes special tablets to enable receiving an education without data to underdeveloped countries in Africa. The Vodafone Foundation started Instant Schools for Africa, an online education system, in 2017 in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Ghana, Lesotho, Mozambique, and Tanzania. By 2021, there will be more than 1.7 million African students using the Instant School and e-School platform. Vodafone Foundation (https://www.vodafone.com/)

### 7. COVID-19 and Quality Education



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### • COVID-19 and the Global Education Crisis:

Temporary school closures due to COVID-19 have affected more than 94% of students worldwide. According to a World Bank report, as of April 2020, approximately 1.6 billion children and adolescents were unable to attend school, and 370 million children who depended on school meals for basic nutrition were suffering from hunger. In developed countries, distance learning has been applied to fill the learning deficit caused by temporary school closures, but the educational gap is widening because it is difficult for children from underdeveloped countries and vulnerable groups to access distance learning.

### • There is a poverty of education for 63 out of 100 people worldwide:

Before COVID-19, 9 out of 100 children in low-and-middle-income countries did not attend school at all, and 44 were encountering poverty in education. However, in the aftermath of COVID-19, an additional 10 out of 100 people were placed in circumstances of educational poverty. In other words, 63 out of 100 children worldwide are currently living in a state of educational poverty.

### • Post-Corona, "innovation in the digital education system" is the key:

A global education plan after the pandemic must be conducted in a way that can actively help the disabled and refugees, and the children and adolescents in underdeveloped countries who are more vulnerable to COVID-19. In August 2020, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres urged that "In order to close the global education gap that has been further widened by COVID-19, it is necessary to prepare a universal and stable digital education system through innovation in digital education technology."



## 8. What can we do to achieve the global goal of quality education? (brainstorm)



▶ p.22

- ► Encourage people to find a goal of SDGs #4. Encourage people to find a voluntary organization that they want to help with.
- ► Example: Donate your used books. The easiest way to enable access to knowledge is to donate your used books to someone.