

Global workshop:

Privatisation in and of education, and the right to education: building critical research skills

The Global Campaign for Education (GCE), the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Asia South Pacific Association for Basic and Adult Education (ASPBAE), and E-NET Philippines, with support from the Open Society Foundation's Privatisation in Education Research Initiative (PERI), are organizing a workshop for GCE members on privatization in and of education. The workshop will take place in Manila, the Philippines, from 1 to 3 August 2013. **Any coalitions that may have an interest in attending this workshop should email Manila.workshop@campaignforeducation.org with an initial (non-binding) expression of interest by 14 June 2013.**

In the last decade, policies that involve some level of education privatisation, including public-private partnerships, vouchers, "low-fee" private schools, and corporate engagement in education as a market, have become increasingly prominent in global education debates and policies. Many GCE members are expressing concerns about the impact of these trends, particularly on equality and the delivery of education consistent with human rights. Education activists and advocates engaging with these debates want to build understanding of the research and data currently available, and the skills to undertake their own rigorous research.

In this context, GCE, the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, ASPBAE and E-NET Philippines are collaborating to organise a workshop on 'Privatisation in and of education and the right to education: building critical research skills'. It is hoped that this will be the first in a series of workshops on critical research and the right to education. The workshop aims to:

- Foster discussion within the GCE membership of different forms of privatisation, their impact on education politics, practices and outcomes, and the issues they raise, helping to build a common understanding of current trends and actors.
- Further strengthen GCE national coalitions' capacity to analyse currently available research and data on privatisation in education.
- Further strengthen national education advocates' capacity to undertake their own rigorous research relating to privatisation in education, by building skills in framing research and research methodologies.

Process and practicalities

- The workshop has space for approximately 50 representatives of GCE members, primarily national coalitions.
- Interested participants should come to the workshop having prepared thoughts about issues on privatisation in their country that they would like to research.
- Participants will need to fund their own travel to Manila and accommodation / costs at the workshop (allow approximately \$400 to \$500); lunch and meeting costs will be covered by organisers, as well as dinner on one day.
- Any coalitions that have an initial interest should contact GCE via manila.workshop@campaignforeducation.org by **14 June**. This does not bind you to attending; we will share further information at that point, and GCE members can then confirm their interest in and ability to attend.

Indicative outline agenda

	DAY 1	DAY 2	DAY 3
<i>AM</i>	<p>Welcome</p> <p>Presentation of the workshop</p> <p>Key note speeches & discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - “RTE, social justice and education privatization” (Susan Robertson) - Globalization and new tendencies in education privatization: emerging policies, actors and discourses (Toni Verger) 	<p>EXPLORING ISSUES</p> <p>Private delivery of education and the logic of private intervention: school ‘choice’, competition, vouchers and low cost private schools</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presentations, case studies and discussion 	<p>EXPLORING ISSUES</p> <p>Education as a Marketplace: corporate engagement in the education system</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presentations, case studies and discussion
<i>PM</i>	<p>Critical Research and Advocacy in Education Privatization: Initiatives from different actors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the role of national and regional education coalitions: - initiatives from international organisations - critical academic perspectives <p>Interactive session presenting current national coalition work on privatisation</p>	<p>RESEARCH SKILLS</p> <p>Formulating research questions, defining key indicators, using data-bases.</p> <p>Qualitative methodologies and instruments and participatory action research</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introductory presentations and interactive workshop 	<p>Closing session:</p> <p>Conclusions, recommendations and next step</p>

Lecturers include:

Dr. Antoni Verger (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona)
 Professor Susan L. Robertson (University of Bristol)
 Professor Steven Klees (University of Maryland)
 Professor Theresa Adrião (University of Campinas) – tbc
 Bailey Grey (Right to Education Project)

Representative of Education International
 Representative of Open Society Foundations
 Representatives of GCE member coalitions and networks at national, regional and global level (details tbc)