





**PREPARING CSO ALTERNATIVE REPORT FOR THE
HLPF- ESWATINI**

NELISIWE DLAMINI

INTRODUCTION

- Eswatini is one of the 18 African countries that have volunteered to present a Voluntary National Review of SDGs including SDG4.
- Rationale for CSO report:
SWANCEFA sees this as an opportunity to influence policy and robust SDG4 implementation in the country.



PROCESS FOLLOWED

- Membership capacity building
- Engagement with the Ministry of Education Planning Department and LEG
- ANCEFA support through ToR
- Data gathering: review of recent resource documents produced by MoET
 - the Annual Education Censors, 2016 (the EMIS report is two years behind, therefore this is the latest)
 - The National Education and Training Improvement Programme, 2018-2021
 - The Eswatini Education and Training Policy, 2018
 - The Eswatini Household Income and Expenditure Survey, 2018
 - SAQMEC reports



CONCLUSIONS AND LESSONS LEARNT

- Although the country has achieved 95% primary enrollment, due to FPE the education system is still faced with many challenges including:
 - Very low access to ECCDE(21.6%)
 - There are still pockets of children that are forced out of school due to other costs related to education.
 - High repetition rates in Grade 1 and 6
 - Very low access to Secondary level (27%)
 - High dropout rates due to pregnancy
 - Access to TVET and Higher Education institutions low
 - Gender disparities from ECCDE to tertiary



KEY MESSAGES/ RECOMMENDATIONS

- The country needs to raise more funds to finance education. The country should focus on resource generation means that are more sustainable such as sourcing funds domestically.
- The country could tap on available funding for education such as the GPE.
- ECCDE should be made public and offered under the FPE program so that children could access at least one year education before starting primary education at least Grade 0.
- The Teaching Service Commission should review its strategies to ensure appropriately qualified teachers are distributed evenly to both rural and urban schools and that hardship allowances are offered as motivation to teachers.
- A research should be conducted on the number of children with disabilities not accessing education and the reasons for that.
- The LEG should be revived and be fully functional as a matter of urgency.
- The Career Guidance and Counselling department should as a matter of urgency develop strategies to eliminate teenage pregnancy in schools.
- The FPE grant should be increased to meet the current cost of living.
- The Ministry inspectorate should make spot checks in schools and meet parents to check if principals adhere to the circulars on non-charging of top up fees.



CLOSING STATEMENT

- Quality education is a responsibility of everyone.
- In order to achieve SDG 4 by 2030, the country needs to understand that this should be a participatory process involving all education stakeholders including civil society precisely the National Education Coalition.



BANTFWANA NGUMLIBA LOYA EMBILI /CHILDREN ARE THE FUTURE

