

## ASPBAE gears up for global and regional SDG and SDG 4 follow-up processes



July will be yet another busy month for ASPBAE. The [High-level Political Forum 2018](#) and the [4<sup>th</sup> Asia Pacific Meeting on Education 2030](#) (APMED 4), both being held this month, are important follow-up processes for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and for Goal 4 of the SDGs on education (SDG 4). Senior government officials, diplomats, and UN representatives, along with academics, advocates, and civil society,

amongst others, will convene to continue building a common understanding of Education 2030 and advance its implementation at regional and national levels. Furthermore, ASPBAE is organising an advocacy workshop in Fiji for its national education campaign coalition members in the South Pacific to enhance, strengthen, and continue the push towards equitable and inclusive education and lifelong learning opportunities for all in the sub-region. ASPBAE will be working closely with several of its members throughout the Asia South Pacific during these three events and extending its support to them to effectively contribute, build networks, and advocate for civil society assertions and positions towards education and lifelong learning. ASPBAE will also bring you voices from these events through a series of blogs and visuals so keep a track of us on social media ([Facebook](#), [Twitter](#)) and stay up-to-date with the action.

We begin with the **High-level Political Forum (HLPF) 2018** that will be taking place at the United Nations Headquarters in New York from 9-18 July 2018 with the theme - 'Implementing the 2030 Agenda for resilient societies'. ASPBAE will organise a side event on 10 July during the HLPF 2018 on 'Learning Cities: Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies through education'. This event, being organised in coordination with the UNESCO Institute for

Asia South Pacific Association for Basic and Adult Education (ASPBAE), UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning (UIL), Conference of NGOs in Consultative Relationship with the UN (CoNGO), and The United Methodist Church invite you to the side event on

### LEARNING CITIES: Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies through education



**PANEL ON LEARNING CITIES:**

- Rep. Jose Enrique Garcia III**  
Balanga, Philippines  
UNESCO Learning City Award 2015
- Mayor Yeom Tae-Young**  
Suwon, Republic of Korea  
UNESCO Learning City Award 2017
- Commissioner Luis González Arenal**  
State of Puebla, Mexico
- Mr. Raul Valdes Cotera**  
UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities

**DISCUSSIONS ON KEY ISSUES:**

- Mr. Liberato Bautista** (CoNGO)  
on building inclusive human settlements
- Ms. Cecilia Soriano and Mr. Rene Raya** (ASPBAE)  
on challenges in education in cities
- Ms. Katarina Popovic** (Education and Academia Stakeholder Group)  
on education agenda for HLPF 2018

**10 July 2018 at 1:30 – 4:00 PM**  
Church Center for the United Nations  
777 UN Plaza, New York, NY 10017

The session will look at the intersection of SDG 4: inclusive and equitable quality education and lifelong learning for all with SDG 11: inclusive and sustainable cities and human settlements and SDG 12: sustainable production and consumption. It will focus on local governments' concrete approaches in building learning cities as key to social inclusion and building resilient and sustainable societies.



Lifelong Learning (UIL), the Conference of NGOs in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (CoNGO), and the United Methodist Church, will look at the intersection of SDG 4 (inclusive and equitable quality education and lifelong learning for all) with SDG 11 (inclusive and sustainable cities and human settlements), and SDG 12 (sustainable production and consumption). It will focus on concrete approaches by local governments in building learning cities as key to social inclusion and building resilient and sustainable societies. ASPBAE's Rene Raya and Cecilia (Thea) Soriano will be at the HLPF 2018.



The **4<sup>th</sup> Asia-Pacific Meeting on Education 2030 (APMED 4)** is also around the corner. The meeting will take place from 12-13 July 2018 in Bangkok, Thailand, with the theme '*Transforming Learning – Meeting the skills demand to achieve SDGs in the Asia Pacific*'. APMED 4 will specifically focus on SDG Target 4.3 (equitable access to technical vocational education and training, and tertiary education) and Target 4.4 (relevant skills for work) and explore progress and challenges towards implementing and monitoring skills development and outcomes through formal, non-formal, and informal education. ASPBAE President, Nani Zulminarni, will participate in APMED 4, as will Meenu Vadera, ASPBAE Executive Council Member representing South and Central Asia. ASPBAE's Cecilia (Thea) Soriano and Bernie Lovegrove will also be actively participating in the meeting as will several ASPBAE's members from the Asia South Pacific region. They will also be making their voices heard at a preparatory meeting of civil society organisations from the region in the lead-up to APMED 4 that will be facilitated by ASPBAE's Bernie Lovegrove and Anita Borkar. We will bring you the main assertions and advocacy demands that will emerge from this meeting on our social media sites. Keep watching!



But first, we kick-start the action this week with an ASPBAE-organised **Sub-Regional Advocacy Workshop** for civil society organisations in the South Pacific. The workshop, being held in Suva, Fiji, from 2-4 July 2018, aims to - (1) share knowledge and experiences in education advocacy; (2) share experiences in analytical skills regarding national education policy alignment with SDG 4, education policy in relation to

inclusion, and national education budgets; (3) analyse the Pacific regional education architecture, key players, and opportunities for regional engagement; (4) participate in the Vaka Pasifiki Conference (5-6 July 2018) to get to know a broader range of Pacific educators; and (5) liaise with Fiji-based education civil society organisations. ASPBAE's Bernie Lovegrove and Peter King are at the event. Stay tuned to ASPBAE's social media for photos and more updates. [END]