



GLOBAL EDUCATION DIALOGUES:

THE
**SOUTH
ASIA
SERIES**

Critical Issues.
Credible Research.
Crucial Discourse.

2013-2014

GLOBAL EDUCATION DIALOGUES: THE SOUTH ASIA SERIES 2013-2014

WHAT IS A GLOBAL EDUCATION DIALOGUE?

What is a Global Education Dialogue?

A **Global Education Dialogue** brings together key policy-makers and influencers so that they can reflect on and debate the challenges and opportunities facing international higher education. It is a facilitated dialogue between governments, universities and industry with contributions and fresh perspectives from our network of leading thinkers. Each event therefore provides space and time for participants to explore the shifting international higher education landscape - with its rapidly changing expectations and responsibilities - so that they are better equipped to play their role in the future-proofing of higher education in their countries.

The South Asia Series provides a six-part programme of dialogues to frame the debate on the issues affecting higher education in South Asia and the UK. Each Policy Dialogue features the latest thinking in its area with new research and input from government and industry leaders. Papers and research from the policy dialogue will be published so that they can contribute to evidence-led policy developments.

Each of the six events in the South Asia Series has participants from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, the UAE and the UK. Some specific Policy Dialogues also have participants from China, Egypt, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Jordan and Malaysia.

Each Policy Dialogue has a specific and focussed agenda, with a limited number of places in order to maximise knowledge sharing and interaction. For this reason participation is by invitation only. If you are interested in attending one of the events please register your interest as early as possible by email to:

sasiapolicy.dialogue@britishcouncil.org.pk

The South Asia Series of Global Education Dialogues consists of the following events:





TRANSFORMING HIGHER EDUCATION IN SOUTH ASIA

Perspectives from South Asia and
the UK on new models of delivery
in public, private and TNE
(Transnational Education) provision

18-19 June 2013
Colombo, Sri Lanka

Themes

- Review of current trends in overseas delivery models
- Impact on student flows and the quality of the student experience
- Quality assurance and regulation – what works and why
- Quality, cost and access – the equation of choice in TNE
- Collaboration or competition – the reality on the ground

In meeting new challenges, universities globally are becoming increasingly innovative about where and how they operate. South Asia has seen a significant growth in the number of private sector universities in the past decade, and other new models are emerging. Students are more likely to study in another country for all or part of their course, e-learning and distance learning are more common. Regional education hubs are developing with international university campuses.

Are these new models challenging the existing state provision? Are there unintended consequences contributing to a "flight of talent"? Are we seeing the privatisation of HE or the internationalisation of national systems? Is there sufficient regulation to inspire confidence?

This policy dialogue reviews the trends in university provision in South Asia. It identifies models of good practice in international partnerships in South Asia and in the UK. It asks "what works and why?".

Research:

- British Council commissioned research: an analysis of current themes, heat maps of activity and trends across South Asia
- The student experience for transnational education
- The regulatory framework and where is changing

Participants: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Hong Kong, Nepal, Malaysia, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, UAE & UK



Themes

- Review of current trends and best practices in South Asia and the UK
- The economics of Skills and HE in South Asia – what works and who works
- Can skills support research networks?
- Skills, HE and status – an international dilemma

Skills and employability have been seen as the preserve of the further education sector. Now, with an increasing demand for high level skills, flexible approaches to employability and a challenge to traditional models of HE, a new skills revolution is underway in South Asia.

In South Asia, many of the biggest industries require education and training pathways which stretch from school through to vocational and higher education. These industries are underpinned by advanced research. High level skills requirements for successful employment challenge the traditional routes of HE access. What are the key skills that will define the economic needs for South Asia, how are these contributing to economic growth and what role does HE play in the new skills agenda? Can national policies drive forward best practice or should this be a market-driven approach?

This Policy Dialogue will bring together tertiary and workforce policy-makers at national and regional levels, members of the business community and key practitioners from South Asia and the UK to examine these core themes.

Research:

- British Council commissioned research on South Asia trends in skills
- Employer data trends

Participants: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Germany, India, Malaysia, Nepal, Netherlands, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, UAE & UK

THE QUEST FOR EXCELLENCE

The Skills Revolution in the UK and South Asia perspectives and challenges



23-24 September 2013
London, UK





21ST CENTURY UNIVERSITIES

The future of Higher
Education in South Asia

Themes

- Higher Education and the new normal
- Private vs. State - the rise of the private sector
- Best practice models for the 21st century in South Asia
- The Entrepreneurial University and what it does

Higher Education is in the forefront of globalisation and world rankings are seen as key to future success. We are witnessing a global hunt for talent and ever closer forms of collaboration. Yet at regional and national level new models of funding and the rise of private sector provision is challenging national systems.

What does this mean for the future of HE in South Asia and the UK? What are the models for HE excellence that are delivering the best value for the government and for the student? Is regulation keeping pace and what is the student experience?

This Policy Dialogue looks at the emerging trends in South Asia in higher education delivery and where best practice exists. It will review the lessons from the UK and South Asia in the quest for excellence and university rankings. It will review the role of the private sector and examine whether state systems have a long-term future.

Research

- Analysis of current trends in institutional and sectoral provision and trends across South Asia
- Student voices and quality provision

Participants: UK, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Nepal, Afghanistan, UAE, Jordan & Egypt

8-9 October 2013

Dubai



Themes:

- Higher education and the employability challenge
- Advanced skills and research in the new paradigm
- Skills and higher education – whose agenda is it?
- Employers and higher education

To achieve global success every nation has to find ways to make strategic use of its higher education sector to build and develop workforce capability. Advanced skills and enhanced employability will be essential to mobility and growth. Employability is now a key benchmark of success for Higher Education Institutions and a component of international league tables.

This South Asia Policy Dialogue is dedicated to understanding the ways and means by which higher education can effectively incorporate the development of skills that enhance graduates' employability into their activities to serve national interests in the countries of South Asia and in the UK. The forum will share new, specially commissioned research findings and examples of innovation and effective practice. It will also provide delegates from industry, government and higher education with an opportunity to critically and creatively engage with one another as partners.

Research

- British Council: South Asia and employability - employability statistics and trend analysis
- Employability and the HE sector - an analysis in South Asia

Participants: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Hong Kong, India, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, UAE & UK

HIGHER EDUCATION AND EMPLOYABILITY:

A new paradigm, a new
challenge – South Asia
and UK perspectives

9-10 January 2014
Mumbai, India





DANGEROUS DEMOGRAPHICS

Women, Leadership and the
Looming Crisis in Higher
Education

22-23 February 2014
Dhaka, Bangladesh

Themes:

- What makes a world class leader in HE today? The new leadership paradigm and the barriers to success
- Women in HE in the UK and South Asia
- Best practice models from South Asia and the UK

There is a global quest for talent in the HE sector as Higher Education Institutions seek to position themselves in world rankings, but where have all the women gone in HE leadership? Effective leadership is essential to transform universities into world class institutions, but what makes a good leader in the HE sector today and what are the barriers to success for women in HE and in leading HE institutions? Universities are highly complex organisations facing unprecedented challenges in the new globalised context and in these challenging times it is not just the person at the very top who needs to demonstrate leadership. This policy dialogue looks at how women are engaging in ever increasing numbers in higher education in South Asia, what the return on investment is, what are the barriers for women and what are the best models for talent management in HE.

Research:

- Mapping the demographics of women leaders in Higher Education
- Data analysis on progression and mobility amongst women researchers

Participants: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, China, India, Nepal, Netherlands, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, UAE & UK



Themes:

- Mapping international research collaboration – future trends
- Research networks and building capacity
- Sustainable research – funding solutions for partnerships
- Knowledge transfer and innovation – emerging models
- Talent management and retention
- Absent talent – where are the women researchers?

South Asia's future as an economic force is being driven by higher education systems supported by international partnerships. South Asian universities are expanding and deepening their research base and attracting increasing numbers of international research partners. The number of Asian universities in the top 500 international universities is growing quickly, but some countries still lag behind.

This Policy Dialogue explores the trends in research collaboration across South Asia, the types of networks, the funding models, and the outcomes. What are the models of best practice and why they have worked? What are the future priorities for research and how can these collaborations be funded? How will we harness international talent and the funding to drive innovation?

Increasing amounts of research investment is focussed on creating knowledge transfer and innovative partnerships with industry. Universities and their business partners are building global innovation networks in new ways. What does this mean for research strategy?

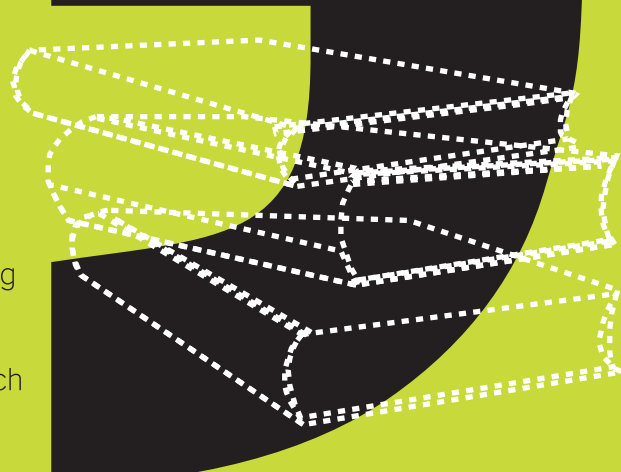
Research:

- Mapping international research collaboration and knowledge transfer collaboration in South Asia to identify networks of excellence and future trends
- The demographics of talent – mapping the mobility of talent in South Asia and between South Asia & the UK

Participants: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, UAE, UK and international research networks

RESEARCH AND RELEVANCE

Research networks, talent management and the quest for international relevance



6-7 May 2014
Lahore, Pakistan



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