

Ladies a gentlemen,
Beste genodigden,
Chers experts en education

Today, I am honored to speak to you about a subject close to my heart – the transformative character of education in development cooperation and its profound impact on the access to and creation of decent work opportunities worldwide.

As we all know, education is not just about acquiring knowledge & skills; it is the key to empowerment, self-sufficiency, and sustainable development.

Education is a catalyst for breaking the cycle of poverty. It is the cornerstone upon which we can build a society that fosters decent work opportunities for all. It equips individuals with the knowledge, skills, and values necessary to navigate the complexities of the modern labour market.

When individuals have access to quality education, it equips them with the tools needed to secure decent work, to escape the clutches of low-paying and exploitative jobs, and to build a brighter future.

In a rapidly changing world, where the nature of work is evolving at an unprecedented pace, it is imperative that we recognize the pivotal role that education plays in shaping not only our workforce but also our society as a whole.

That is why our education system must be adaptable. We must equip learners with the ability to adapt to these changes, fostering a culture of lifelong learning. This means not just teaching them specific skills but also cultivating critical thinking, problem-solving, and creativity.

Additionally, we cannot discuss decent work without addressing the issue of labor rights and social protection. Education should instill in our citizens a deep understanding of workers' rights and – social - dialogue. By investing in education, we pave the way for an inclusive and equitable labor market.

In conclusion, education is the cornerstone of development cooperation, and its transformative power cannot be overstated. It has a profound impact on the creation of decent work opportunities, breaking the cycle of poverty, fostering economic growth, promoting gender equality, and building peaceful and inclusive societies.

That is why I am committed to working tirelessly to ensure that our education system is inclusive, adaptable, and aligned with the needs of the labor market. Together, we can build a society where every individual has the opportunity to enjoy the dignity and fairness that decent work provides.

Thank you.