

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910783538603321
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Titolo	Toward universal primary education : investments, incentives, and institutions / / Lead authors: Nancy Birdsall and Amina Ibrahim (Coordinators), Ruth Levine
Pubbl/distr/stampa	London ; ; Sterling, Va. : , : Earthscan, , 2005
ISBN	1-136-55007-0 1-280-47631-1 9786610476312 1-84977-357-2 600-00-0095-2 1-4237-0902-0
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (203 p.)
Classificazione	81.74
Altri autori (Persone)	IbrahimAmina LevineRuth <1959->
Disciplina	372.0115 372.91724
Soggetti	Education, Elementary - Developing countries Education, Primary - Developing countries Education - Developing countries Educational equalization - Developing countries 2
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	"Achieving the Millennium Development Goals"--Cover. Sponsored by the United Nations Development Programme on behalf of the UN Development Group.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. [167]-183).
Nota di contenuto	Toward universal primary education: investments, incentives, and institutions; Copyright; Foreword; Contents; Task force members; Preface; Acknowledgements; Abbreviations; Millennium Development Goals; Executive summary; Part 1 Setting the stage; Chapter 1 The task force's contribution; Task force methods; Audience and organization of the report; The contribution of the task force; Chapter 2 Education and society: multiple benefits, unrealized potential; Education is society's main instrument for reproducing itself and can be a key ingredient for

social change

Education is an end in itself and has tremendous benefits for individuals and society. The benefits of education are conditioned by the context; Chapter 3 The Goals and the history of goal-setting in education; Chapter 4 Trends in primary education and gender parity; A host of factors affect enrollment and retention rates; Learning achievement needs to be measured; Conclusions and future prospects; Part 2 Education systems in developing countries: income, institutions, and incentives; Chapter 5 Education systems in developing countries. High-performing educational systems can achieve results even with limited resources. Countries with low-performing systems need to address a variety of governance problems; Conclusion; Chapter 6 Strategies for creating more and better educational opportunities; Strategy 1: get out-of-school children into school; Strategy 2: create better institutions, increase transparency, and provide better incentives; Chapter 7 Financing the education Goals; Part 3 Forging an international compact for education: roles and responsibilities of donors and developing countries. Chapter 8 A global compact for basic education; Chapter 9 What donors should do; Recommendation 1: support bold political leadership and provide firm financial commitments to make Education for All and the Fast Track Initiative work; Recommendation 2: reform the donor business; Recommendation 3: use a transparent accountability framework for reporting; Recommendation 4: invest in genuine evaluation; Chapter 10 A call to action; Appendixes; Appendix 1. Commissioned papers for educational report; Appendix 2. Summary of the civil society e-discussion on the education report of the Task Force on Education and Gender Equality; Appendix 3. Success stories in policy interventions toward high quality universal primary education; Appendix 4. Data issues; Appendix 5. Major initiatives that promote the Millennium Development Goals on education and gender equality; Appendix 6. Need for postprimary education; Notes; References.

Sommario/riassunto

The Millennium Development Goals, adopted at the UN Millennium Summit in 2000, are the world's targets for dramatically reducing extreme poverty in its many dimensions by 2015?income poverty, hunger, disease, exclusion, lack of infrastructure and shelter?while promoting gender equality, education, health and environmental sustainability. These bold goals can be met in all parts of the world if nations follow through on their commitments to work together to meet them. Achieving the Millennium Development Goals offers the prospect of a more secure, just, and prosperous world for all. The UN Mi
