

Réponse de la Banque Mondiale

En mai 2015, la Ficeméa en partenariat avec plus de cent organisations nationales et internationales à travers le monde, ont publié une [déclaration](#) conjointe adressée au président de la Banque mondiale, Jim Kim. La déclaration exprime notre profonde préoccupation au sujet du soutien de la Banque mondiale à l'entreprise « **Bridge International Academies** » (BIA), une chaîne multinationale d'écoles primaires privées « low-cost » à but lucratif ciblant les familles pauvres au Kenya et en Ouganda. La déclaration commune constitue une réponse à un [discours](#) récent du président de la Banque mondiale, Jim Kim, qui avait à cette occasion fait l'éloge de BIA en tant que solution pour réduire la pauvreté.

Veillez trouver ci-dessous la réponse de Kim Jim à cette mobilisation internationale.



WORLD BANK GROUP

Jim Yong Kim
President

August 14, 2015

Ms. Salima Namusoby
Executive Director
Initiative for Social and Economic Rights (ISER)
Plot 60, Valley Drive, Ntinda-Ministers Village
UGANDA

Dear Ms. Namusoby,

Thank you for sharing the joint open letter from civil society organizations on the Bridge International Academies. I would like to take this opportunity to clarify my remarks on this issue.

The World Bank Group believes that every child has the right to a free, quality public education. As the world's largest provider of external development financing for education, the World Bank Group continues to be deeply committed to working with governments to strengthen their leadership in the education sector and to deliver equitable services through their public education systems. The vast majority – more than 90 percent – of World Bank Group's funding for education goes to the public sector, toward our stated goal of Learning for All.

However, public education systems in many countries face challenges in providing quality education to the poorest children. If 250 million children still cannot read or write, although many have attended school for years, this is a tragic breach of a solemn promise. Weak learning outcomes have serious consequences: nearly a billion people remain trapped in extreme poverty today, partly for lack of the literacy, numeracy, and non-cognitive skills needed to unlock human potential in the 21st century.

The inability of many public systems to effectively reach poor and marginalized communities, coupled with low levels of learning, are reasons that many parents opt to put their children in private schools – even if the quality is not higher. For these reasons, the World Bank Group is supporting governments to harness private providers to expand access to quality education, while at the same time strengthening their public education systems. In addition to expanding access and financing, the private sector can be a source of knowledge and innovation that can lead to more innovation and greater effectiveness in the public sector. Our global education strategy is directly focused on helping governments raise the quality of learning in their public education systems so that parents are encouraged to enroll and keep their children in public schools.

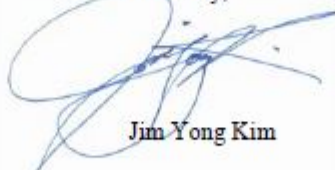
The World Bank Group is working with the governments of Kenya and Uganda to strengthen public education through IDA and other resources. In Kenya, the Bank is the supervising entity for the recently negotiated Global Partnership for Education (GPE) financed Primary Education Development project, and is also undertaking a detailed policy analysis of the sector, which is likely to lead to a complementary IDA-financed project in the near future. In Uganda, we are the supervising entity for the GPE Teacher and School Effectiveness project, and we are also supporting the skills development and post-primary education sector. Our support for Bridge International Academies – which has become an option for low-income families – is complementary to our public sector support, to ensure that parents who decide to invest in private schooling are also getting the best possible education for their children.

We also agree, however, that even if private schooling is relatively low-cost, any price is too high if it keeps just one child from learning, or forces already poor families to stay in poverty to pay for education. Therefore, where private provision is part of the country's toolbox to expand access to quality education, the World Bank Group also works with governments to provide public subsidies for poor and disadvantaged children to attend effectively regulated private schools.

It is clear that we need more evidence of which programs work best. We are launching a rigorous, independent impact evaluation of the Bridge International Academies program in Kenya, which will be the first large-scale, randomized, controlled trial of fee-paying schools in sub-Saharan Africa. Measuring effectiveness of these schools will help governments, policymakers, and parents determine how best to manage growing school enrollments and improve quality.

As I said at the World Education Forum in Incheon, we must ensure that all children have access to quality education and learning opportunities throughout their lives, regardless of where they are born, their gender, or their family's income. We owe it to the world's children to do everything we can to achieve the new global goal of Learning for All.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jim Yong Kim', is written over a light blue grid background. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'J'.

Jim Yong Kim

cc: Mr. Louis Rene Peter Larose, Executive Director, The World Bank Group