

**The 4th World Teachers' Day in Thailand
and
12th UNESCO-APEID International Conference
*Quality Innovations for Teaching and Learning***

**8-11 December 2008
IMPACT Exhibition and Convention Centre, Bangkok, Thailand**

More and better teachers still needed, so states the Education for All Global Monitoring Report 2008. To cope with enrolment increases and to reach the Education for All goals, more than 18 million new primary education teachers are needed by 2015.

The 2008 Report also notes the high pupil/teacher ratios in many countries, suggesting that teachers are overstretched and that the quality of teaching and learning suffers. To cope with shortages, many governments are hiring contract teachers to increase the teaching force. This practice, however, could impact negatively on the quality of education in the long term because such teachers may lack adequate and appropriate training.

The Asia-Pacific Programme of Educational Innovation for Development (APEID), UNESCO Bangkok and the Ministry of Education of Thailand are convening the 4th World Teachers' Day in Thailand and the 12th UNESCO-APEID International Conference from 8-11 December 2008, in Bangkok, Thailand, to address these problems and other issues facing teachers, teacher educators, administrators, planners and policy makers in providing quality teaching and learning opportunities.

The organizers invite papers on the Conference sub-themes. Submit English abstracts, no longer than 200 words, on forms available from the Conference website at <http://www.unescobkk.org/education/apeid/conference>.

To compensate for the technical disruptions to the online registration and submission process, please note the revised deadlines below.

Revised deadlines

Submission of abstracts: 15 September 2008

Payment for early bird registration fees: 31 October 2008

Payment of registration fees: 15 November 2008

For further information and to register for the Conference, visit <http://www.unescobkk.org/education/apeid/conference>

Take advantage of the early bird registration by paying your fees by **31 October 2008**.

News update

On Wednesday, 13 August 2008, the education in emergencies community lost three exceptional members, all employed by the International Rescue Committee (IRC), in an ambush of a humanitarian aid vehicle in Logar Province, Afghanistan. One of the victims was Jacqueline Kirk, an education technical advisor who provided support for the IRC's children's education programmes worldwide.

Ms. Kirk was invited to speak on gender and teacher-related issues at the UNESCO-APEID Conference. The Conference organizers would like to join Ms. Kirk's colleagues in paying particular tribute to her tireless work in advocating for quality education. For those of you who would like to share your remembrances of Jackie Kirk, the IRC is putting together a memorial book in her honour; please send any contributions to: children@theirc.org.

"Who dares to teach must never cease to learn."
John Cotton Dana