Education for who and for what? A call for holistic education for sustainable national development
Why educate?

• Education has both instrumentalist and utilitarian value to individuals and societies.
• Our societies always educated for survival; prosperity; and peace.
• Kenya has eight national goals of education articulated as follows:
  – fostering nationalism, patriotism and promoting national unity;
– promoting social, economic, technological and industrial needs for national development;
– promoting individual development and self-fulfilment;
– promoting sound moral and religious values;
– promoting social and responsibility;
– promoting respect for and development of Kenya's rich and varied cultures;
– promoting international consciousness and fostering positive attitude towards other nations;
– promoting positive attitudes towards good health and environmental protection.
The big question:

• Does the current education model meet the aspirations of the individual and the society?
What does the evidence show?

• No!
Our Findings 2012 - 2016

• Only 4 in 10 children of ages 6 – 16 years know what the colours of our national flag means
• In Mandera East district 7 in 10 children know
• In East Pokot district only 2 in 10 children know
Evidence continued

• In 2016 assessed 16000 children in class 5 & 6 in 200 schools in 10 districts across the country
• 41% were able to read class 4 story
• Out of the readers, 45% had recall comprehension; 47% had inferential comprehension; and 23% had application comprehension
• 13% could write a relevant passage
• 42% of class 5 and 36% of class 6 could not write at all
Policy Implications

• Curriculum reforms and implementation
• Parental involvement and role of out of school, unscripted learning in education
School management

- Conduct an in-depth qualitative inquiry in 5 schools; data processing
School management continued

• Identify and package PD interventions for “marketing”
Thank you