

PATH TO LEARNING RECOVERY

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The Philippines has been greatly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, with widespread school closures leading to significant disruptions in the education sector. This has had a detrimental impact on the basic literacy and numeracy skills of students in the country. In order to address this problem, the government, specifically the Department of Education, must take immediate and appropriate action to aid in the recovery of learning for students.

Literacy and numeracy skills are essential for thriving in an ever-changing world. Children must master foundational skills before progressing to higher-level skills such as knowledge application, problem-solving, and critical thinking, as well as other 21st-century skills such as creativity, collaborative teamwork, and communication. Getting this right is a necessary precondition for children's educational success, as well as their future integration into labor markets and as active members of society.

One of the main challenges in catching up on lost learning is the lack of access to technology and resources for many students in the Philippines. Many students do not have access to the internet or devices necessary for remote learning, making it difficult for them to participate in online classes. Additionally, many families are facing financial difficulties due to the pandemic, making it difficult for them to provide their children with the resources they need to continue their education.

The government should take steps to address these challenges by providing students with access to technology and resources. This could include distributing laptops

or tablets to students, as well as providing internet access in areas where it is not currently available. Additionally, the government should provide financial assistance to families that are struggling to provide their children with the resources they need to continue their education.

Another important aspect of learning recovery is ensuring that students are able to access quality education. This includes providing teachers with the necessary training and resources to effectively teach in a manner that students will immediately catch up lost learnings. It also includes ensuring that students have access to a curriculum that is relevant and challenging, and that provides opportunities for them to develop their critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

Efforts to improve teachers' professional development are critical to improving learning outcomes and regaining lost learning from the COVID-19 school closures. Teachers are central to improving low-performing students learning. In almost every country, broad reforms are required to improve the teaching force. However, in the short term, the most effective strategies for assisting struggling students may be structured pedagogy programs specifically aimed at assisting teachers in teaching foundational literacy and numeracy or other missing skills.

The main objective of learning recovery is to ensure that students are able to catch up on the learning they missed during the pandemic and to ensure that they are able to continue their education. This is important for the overall development and growth of the nation, as well as for the future of the country's economy. Education is a key driver of economic growth, and it is essential that students are provided with the opportunity to develop the skills and knowledge they need to succeed in the workforce.

To support the recovery of learning lost due to the COVID-19 school closures, as well as to improve learning overall, lawmakers must shift their focus from improving education quality to improving learning. Getting foundational learning right is a

necessary condition for children to succeed in school, in the labor market, and as active members of society. Early childhood education is the most effective investment that governments and families can make.

References:

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