

WEF 2020 Reflection



I had the privilege to attend the Annual World Economic Forum held in Davos in January. As part of team of extremely qualified individuals, I helped set up a panel on Education for Transformation. The topic was how to address SDG Goal 4: ensure inclusive and equitable education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all given the current socioeconomic and political inequalities around the world. We brought together individuals from all diverse fields. This included but was not limited to; scholars, practitioners, education investors, politicians and philanthropist. Our Dean Rachel Kyte gave the keynote, where she made it clear that the future development of our world depends on how we begin to provide education for all; were we not only make learners better scholars, but also better humans. Further, what stood out to me was how we begin to rethink education. The panelists and the discussion with esteemed colleagues, made it clear-Instead of Education, it is Learning. Learning never truly stops. The process begins the minute we are born in our households, via our immediate family and surroundings. Eventually we begin to get access to formal education,

although very important it is not complete without learning how to be a better and more environmentally conscious person. Of note, a better and a constructive member of society. Understanding this premise, then one can begin to deconstruct the difference access points to how an individual learns throughout their life. These access points can then have innovative solutions that are culturally sensitive and contextually sound. The conversations eventually ended with the agreement that the solutions will most likely be grounded in technology. However, the conversation sparked the next potential topic; How can we use technological innovations to provide equitable education solutions to those that need it the most, while protecting their data privacy and rights.

On a personal note, attending the Forum was unforgettable and one that I will cherish for many years to come. Besides the learning from the event hosted, I had the privilege to interact with individuals that inspired me in many ways. Particularly, it was truly humbling to see how



accomplished the individuals at this conference were. In their own respective ways, these individuals had impacted sectors and lives across a diverse and rewarding professional career. By interacting with them at other panels and events around Davos, these people instilled a new sense of additional motivation for me continue to pursue a career of impact. Meeting my professional inspiration-Gita Gopinath (IMF Chief Economist)-helped. Overall, Fletcher has instilled the knowledge and skillset required to pursue my professional goals. The World Economic Forum has provided me the practical leverage and network required to make sure that I can meet my professional goals.

Link to video:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4JI9bi7xpho&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR0_uXlZ2GhJ3oLPqa4hml73pTK-SubaUgzkq7jRDwG3K4RcvQOZXb75XhvU

