

## **Education, Youth & Children**

## **Position Paper**

ducation is a fundamental human right and an essential element for the economic and social development of individuals and peoples. Quality education is a crucial factor in efforts to reduce poverty, improve the health and living conditions of populations, and build societies that are more inclusive, peaceful and sustainable.

Quality education enables people to acquire basic knowledge and skills, while promoting creative thinking, understanding and respect for human rights, equity and cultural diversity, all of which are fundamental to more responsible and sustainable human development.

Dianova believes that education is a right that must be guaranteed by the state and strengthened by civil society as a whole. The right to education must apply to the entire population: children (boys and girls), adolescents and adults.

The primary objectives of education should be:

- To allow individual personalities to thrive, to develop talents and mental and physical abilities to their full potential;
- To instil respect for human rights and freedoms;
- To instil respect for the identity of individuals, their

- language, cultural values, national values specific to their country of residence or origin, and respect for civilizations and cultures different from their own;
- To enable individuals to assume their life responsibilities in a free society in a spirit of peace, tolerance, gender equality and friendship among peoples;
- To instil respect for natural environments and ecosystems.

Dianova implements formal (organized and certified), nonformal (organized but non-certified - therapeutic and prevention programs, marketing and social advertising campaigns, etc.) and informal (spontaneous) education, with the aim of contributing to the achievement of the identified objectives.

Dianova is also lobbying and advocating for everyone to have access to education throughout the world. From this perspective, the Dianova network intervenes vis-à-vis international organizations and states in order to promote education for all and with all and to remove the barriers that prevent them from accessing it.

Lastly, Dianova believes that it is essential to implement

interdisciplinary strategies to ensure that young people have the means and conditions to attain professional and social integration. These strategies must increase the participation of young people in civic life and requires financial, social, and political investments to help youth. Strategies to help young people must also include the civil society organizations, families, teachers and employers as active participants.

Dianova therefore supports UNESCO's Youth Strategy (2014-2021), which involves three implementation strategies:

- Policy formulation and review with the participation of young people;
- · Capacity building for the transition to adulthood;
- Civic engagement, democratic participation and social innovation.

