

Earlier in the year, IEG participated in two important events to disseminate the findings of the evaluation “Higher Education for Development: An Evaluation of the World Bank Group’s Support”. One was a high-level knowledge session in India with government officials, academics, directors of university associations, international partners and World Bank Group staff. Additionally, IEG participated in [Going Global 2018](#) where some key findings of the higher education evaluation were discussed at a parallel panel session on the Role of Big Funders in Higher Education.

High-Level Knowledge Workshop

India, April 30, 2018: IEG participated in a knowledge session to disseminate key findings of the evaluation with India and South Asia World Bank and external audiences organized by the WB higher education coordinator, Francisco Marmolejo. The session was attended by external representatives from India, including government officials from the Ministry of Higher Education, academics and directors of university associations, and international partners working on India, as well as by the World Bank country offices of Nepal and Sri Lanka and World Bank representatives working on Bangladesh. The evaluation report was well taken and generated a rich discussion around its implications for the role of the World Bank in higher education in India and other countries, as well as some of its implications for higher education in India – which is one of the case studies of the report. The discussion emphasized aspects related to the role of private higher education, regulatory frameworks and monitoring and evaluation, including how to best measure the outcomes of higher education, admittedly an area with still many deficiencies.

[Going Global 2018](#)

Malaysia, May 3, 2018: IEG participated in the [Going Global, 2018](#) conference which was taking place in Kuala Lumpur from May 4-6, 2018. The Going Global conference, sponsored by the British Council, is one of the most important conferences on international education: since its inception in 2004, the conference has grown to become a unique platform for policy makers and practitioners in the field of international education. This year’s conference, co-hosted by the Ministry of Higher Education of Malaysia, focused on the future role of tertiary education in the global context and, in particular, on what are the priorities in ensuring national tertiary education is fit to shape societies of the future and meet the future needs of students and communities. It counted with government ministers, senior policy makers, university presidents, academics and other international experts from over 80 developed and developing countries.

IEG was invited to present and discuss some key findings of the higher education evaluation at a parallel panel session on the Role of Big Funders in Higher Education. The session was to explore, among some other minor issues, the impact of large funders (international and national) on the funding and governance of universities and higher education systems. The panel was also composed of representatives from the Asian Development Bank and UK and South African Universities and the overall session was very well attended with about eighty participants. Supported by a few slides, I focused my presentation and comments on key figures and areas of support of the WBG’s engagement in higher education (what it does well and less well), highlighting the implications of these findings for universities and higher education systems. My presentation and the overall panel discussion were well taken and generated several questions from the audience during and after the session, including on aspects related to private higher education, university autonomy, the role of employers and the private sector, and, more particularly related to my presentation, the role of IEG and data and evaluation methods used.