ABSTRACT

Based on the evidence from several studies, the paper emphasizes the importance of looking to the quality of education as the true engine of economic development. It points out that societies that fail to follow adequate policies in educational matters run serious risks of losing competitiveness, submerging themselves indefinitely in underdevelopment and widening the gap with developed countries. Some noteworthy measures seeking to promote the quality of the educational systems include: results-oriented systems in the sense of enhancing the assessment of students, teachers and educational centers; reinforcing the opportunity of quality for all, due to the major differences in academic and work performance resulting from current disparities in terms of quality; greater flexibility and opening up of the curricula in order to develop the competencies required by the new era of learning and, finally, policies aimed at raising the social status of teachers.