

Breakout Session 1.1: Digital learning platforms to support teachers and pedagogical innovation

Mr Renato Operti, Senior Education Expert, UNESCO International Bureau of Education (IBE)

Mr **Renato Operti** holds a degree in sociology and master's degree in educational research. He is a senior education expert at the International Bureau of Education where he contributes to IBE knowledge production, capacity development, technical assistance and the implementation of several UNESCO-IBE flagship initiatives such as HELA (Hybrid Education, Learning and Assessment) and Green and Blue Curriculum. Operti is the President of the Council of Advisers of the Organization of Iberoamerican States and is the co-coordinator of UNESCO UCU (Catholic University of Uruguay) Chair on Hybrid Education.



Mr Quentin Wodon, Director, UNESCO International Institute for Capacity Building in Africa (IICBA)

Quentin Wodon is Director of UNESCO's International Institute for Capacity Building in Africa. Previously, he worked at the World Bank, including as Lead Economist, Lead Poverty Specialist, and manager of the unit on values and development. He has taught at the University of Namur, Addis Ababa University, American University, and Georgetown University. A business engineering graduate, after an assignment in Asia as Laureate of a Prize, he worked in brand management for Procter & Gamble. He then shifted career to join a nonprofit working with the extreme poor, leading him to pursue a career in international development. Quentin holds four PhDs, has over 700 publications, and has worked on policy issues across sectors in more than 60 countries.



Ms Anna Vater, Project Manager, Siemens Stiftung, Germany

Anna Vater is a project manager at the international Siemens Stiftung in the area of education. Her work focuses on STEM Education, Open Educational Resources (OER) and the CREA portal (Centre for Open Educational Resources). Anna holds a Master's degree in Communication and Intercultural Cooperation from the Munich University of Applied Sciences and a Bachelor's degree in International Cultural and Business Studies from the University of Passau and the University of Curitiba.



Ms Ana Gugushvili, Manager of International Relations and Strategic Development Projects, Education Management Information System (EMIS), Ministry of Education and Science, Georgia

Ana Gugushvili is a seasoned professional representing the Education Management Information System (EMIS) of Georgia, with over 10 years of extensive experience collaborating with government entities, donor organizations, international institutions, local and foreign universities, as well as companies and startups. She also serves as a distinguished lecturer of Entrepreneurship at Business and Technology University, where she actively develops relevant projects within EMIS. Ana seeks international partnerships to embark on engaging initiatives aimed at enhancing the education ecosystem in Georgia.



Ms Saara Paavilainen, Senior Advisor, FinCEED, Finnish National Agency for Education, Finland

Saara Paavilainen is professional in development cooperation and international education. Currently, she works as a Senior Adviser in FinCEED (Finnish Center of Expertise in Education and Development) enhancing capacity in development & education in Finland and is responsible for expert deployments. Paavilainen is inspired by innovative solutions that have potential to tackle global issues and people & organisation who are passionate about working towards more equal and healthier planet. She has Master's degree in Development Geography. LinkedIn: [linkedin.com/in/saara-paavilainen-967666b0](https://www.linkedin.com/in/saara-paavilainen-967666b0)



Ms Päivi Leppänen, Councilor of Education, Finnish National Agency for Education, Finland

Senior adviser **Päivi Leppänen** works for digitization of education in the Finnish National Agency for Education. Her areas of expertise and interest are digital competence, digital pedagogy, equity in digital learning and quality of digital services in learning. In the National Agency for Education Leppänen has for example led a development programme focusing on national framework for digital competences.



Ms Liddy Greenaway, Research and Education Specialist, Learning Equality, USA

Liddy Greenaway is a research and evaluation specialist working with humanitarian responders and not-for-profit organisations to support innovation and learning. She has worked with organisations such as UNHCR, GSMA and DEC to understand and communicate the impact of humanitarian innovation and digital tools, and support decision making. At Learning Equality, Liddy works with the program team and implementing partners to measure the effectiveness of Kolibri and our programs on teachers and learners in marginalised communities. Liddy is passionate about inclusion and creative storytelling in research and evaluation.



Mr Philip Abrami, Distinguished Professor Emeritus and Former Director, Centre for the Study of Learning and Performance, Concordia University, Canada

Philip Abrami is a Distinguished Professor Emeritus and Honorary Research Chair at Concordia University. He has formed a multi-disciplinary team of researchers, programmers, developers and NGO partners who, for the last dozen years, have been committed to applying the educational sciences for the benefit of teachers and their students in the Global South. Taking an evidence-based approach to instructional design incorporates research and theory into software construction and ensures the tools work to promote teaching and learning. Abrami and his team are the 2017 winners of UNESCO's World Literacy Prize.



Ms Anne Wade, Global Manager, Learning ToolKit+ (LTK+), Centre for the Study of Learning and Performance, Concordia University, Canada

Anne Wade has worked at the Centre for the Study of Learning and Performance for over 30 years and served as its Manager for 17 years. She currently serves as the LTK+ Global Manager coordinating a variety of international projects, including a KIX project unfolding in Kenya, Rwanda and Bangladesh. Wade is also a part-time professor in Education and 10+ years ago adapted her undergraduate course Introductory Information Literacy Skills for the online environment, with 300 students/term. She is the former President of the Quebec Library Association and of the Eastern Canada Chapter of the Special Libraries Association.

Breakout Session 1.2: Digital Learning Platforms for students



Ms Jacqueline Altamirano, General Director, Online Program, Central University of Ecuador, Ecuador

Jacqueline Altamirano Vaca holds a PhD in Education from the National University of Rosario (Argentina), a Higher Diploma in University Teaching, a Master's Degree in Early Childhood Education, and a Master's Degree in Design and Management of Socio-educational Projects from the Central University of Ecuador. She is a Professor at the Faculty of Philosophy, Letters and Educational Sciences, and works as General Director of the Online Program of the Central University of Ecuador. She has published several books and scientific articles of national and international interest.
<https://www.facebook.com/UCEenLinea?mibextid=ZbWKwL>
<https://www.youtube.com/@UCEenLinea>



Ms Jacqueline Ali, Supervising TESD Specialist, National Institute for Technical Education and Skills Development, Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), Philippines

Jacqueline Ali is the Supervising Technical Education and Skills Development Specialist of the eTESDA Division under the National Institute for Technical Education and Skills Development (NITESD). She supervises the eTESDA, the division in-charge of the TESDA Online Program, TESDA's National eLearning Platform for TVET. Her interests are research and development, partnerships and linkages and data-driven governance towards a people-centered social development.



Ms Ana Raad, Founder, Reimagina Fundación, Chile

Ana María Raad is an anthropologist and the founder of Fundación REimagina and AprendoEnCasa.org, a digital platform and an ecosystem that accelerates collaboration and collective impact between 80+ educational organizations from different countries in Latin America, promoting 21st century education and inclusion. Ana is also the director of "ecosISTEAM" an initiative in STEAM education promoting young students' potential and opportunities. She has been appointed as a board member in different global organizations including the Ministry of Culture in Chile, The US-Chile Council of Science, Technology, and Innovation.



Ms Jue Wang Szilas, Lecturer, University of Geneva, Switzerland

Jue Wang Szilas holds a double doctorate in language science from Inalco and the University of Geneva and is a recognized expert in the didactics of languages and cultures with digital technology. She is a researcher associated with the PLIDAM team at Inalco and the ELCF at the University of Geneva. Her interests include didactics, plurilingual online exchanges and interculturality. She is co-author and coordinator of Inalco's MOOC "Kit de contact en langues orientales : chinois" and co-author and executive manager of the MOOC "Initiation à l'écriture Dongba".



Mr Joël Bellassen, Member, PLIDAM Research Team, INALCO, France

Joël Bellassen is a specialist in language and culture didactics and former university professor and a member of the PLIDAM team at Inalco. He was the first Inspector General of Chinese language teaching appointed by the French Ministry of Education. He is co-author of Inalco's MOOC "Kit de contact en langues orientales : chinois" and initiator and co-author of the MOOC "Initiation à l'écriture Dongba".



Mr Mahmoud Hamed, Director of Syrian Educational Platforms, National Center for Curriculum Development, Syria

Mahmoud Hamed was a teacher at the ministry of education and became the Head of Syrian Platforms at the National Center for Curriculum Development since its establishments. He has good experiences in digital learning and computer sciences. He holds a master's degree in educational technology.

Breakout Session 1.3: Digital Learning Platforms for adult learners



Ms Annapurna Ayyappan, Assistant Programme Specialist, UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning

Annapurna Ayyappan is an Assistant Programme Specialist at the UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning. Her work focuses on youth and adult literacy, technology in lifelong learning, and coordinating and contributing to the design of thematic courses and learning offers on the virtual learning platform- the UIL Learning Hub. She has extensive experience in the non-profit sector, working as a teacher and teacher trainer in India. Annapurna holds an MA in Education with a focus on Human Development and Psychology from Harvard University, USA, and a Bachelor of Technology in Information and Telecommunication Engineering from SRM University, India.



Mr Michael Thiel, Project Leader, VHS-Lernportal, Germany

Michael Thiel is the Project Leader at vhs-Lernportal, a digital learning platform focused on basic skills education, literacy, and German language acquisition for adults. The vhs-Lernportal project is supported by The German Adult Education Association (DVV) and funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF). With a background in Media Studies, German Literature, and Political Science from Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität Bonn, Michael gained experience in



digital learning through internships and freelance editing jobs. Prior to joining DVV, he worked as an editor and concept developer on various projects promoting digital skills.



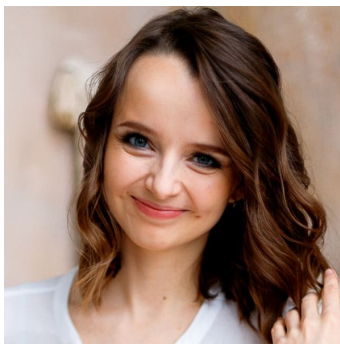
Ms Marija Renic, Expert in Adult Education, Roda – Parents in Action, Croatia

Marija Renic is an expert in adult education with over 10 years experience in the NGO sector. She has consulted on, led and developed adult learning courses, curricula and training throughout the EU on a wide range of topics. Marija is currently working on trainers in adult education for persons with disabilities. She has written and implemented several EU projects, has written two handbooks on adult education for persons with disabilities and e-courses on topics ranging from health and rights to inclusion and training.



Ms Claire Louise Sterngold, Market Engagement Manager, Digital Inclusion GSMA, UK

Claire Louise Sterngold is the Market Engagement Manager for the GSMA's Mobile for Development, Digital Inclusion Programme where she oversees their work on digital skills. Claire previously worked for the International Trade Centre – the joint agency of the World Trade Organisation and United Nations, where she managed their global community for youth entrepreneurs and supported capacity building initiatives for youth-led small business as part of ITC's Youth & Trade Programme. She has experience working across various projects and initiatives to advance mobile digital skills, financial inclusion, youth entrepreneurship and employment in Africa, Asia, and MENA. Claire holds a Master's Degree in Social and Cultural Anthropology from the University of Amsterdam.



Ms Yulia Plakhutina, National Associate Project Officer, UNESCO Institute for Information Technologies in Education

Yulia Plakhutina has joined UNESCO Regional Health Education Programme for Eastern Europe and Central Asia (EECA) in 2012 to contribute to building of then-nascent health and sexuality education landscape in the region. Over a span of 10 years of her progressively responsible experience with UNESCO, Ms. Plakhutina conceptualized, developed and launched projects on comprehensive sexuality education, bullying prevention and adolescent development, aimed at various audiences, including youth, educators, youth experts, parents and general public, with overall reach exceeding 15+ million clients/users. Her particular professional interest lies in the area of ICT-based solutions and online media in health education.



Mr Didier Jourdan, UNESCO Chair on Global Health & Education

Professor **Didier Jourdan** is the UNESCO chair on Global Health & Education and the head of the WHO collaborating center for Research in Education & Health. He is a full Professor, previously serving as Dean of the Faculty of Education and Vice-President of Blaise Pascal University. Formerly President of the French High Council for Public Health's Commission on Prevention, Education, and Health Promotion and Director of the Health Promotion Division at the French National Public Health Agency, he is a prominent European expert in health education. He is dedicated to capacity building in health and education.

Breakout Session 2.1: Norms to steer non-discriminatory algorithms and inclusive accessibility of digital learning platforms



Ms Jodi Lis, Co-lead, Competency Working Group, IEEE Industry Connections Industry Consortium on Learning Engineering, USA

Jodi Lis has over 25 years experience implementing and monitoring digital learning interventions in workforce development, pre-service education and capacity-building initiatives in low-resource environments. She has advised digital education programs in primary and secondary schools, teacher training colleges, and health training institutions and facilities throughout Africa and Asia, directed an organization to promote education technology in West Africa, and taught computers at an international school in The Gambia. She is on the board of SXSWEDU, executive committee IEEE Consortium on Learning Engineering, and external expert for BroadBand Commission AI Capacity Building Working Group.



Ms Sara Ratner, Research Officer, Learning for Families through Technology, University of Oxford, UK

Sara Ratner is an Academic Researcher at the University of Oxford with the Learning for Families through Technology (LiFT) project which is a collaboration between Ferrero international and three research groups in the Department of Education: Applied Linguistics, Learning and New Technologies, and Families, Effective Learning, and Literacy. The project aims to examine key questions about children's learning with technology, with a focus on language and literacy skills. Sara's contribution to the project is centred upon the development of digital book platforms including guidelines for the ethical and effective use of Generative AI in Education and literacy learning.



Ms Zeynep Varoglu, Senior Programme Specialist, Section for Universal Access to Information and Digital Inclusion, Communication and Information Sector

Zeynep Varoglu is the Senior Programme Specialist in the Universal Access to Information Section of the Communications and Information Sector at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris. Ms. Varoglu is responsible for supporting the implementation of the UNESCO OER Recommendation, and the UNESCO ICT Competency Framework for Teachers (ICT CFT) as well as initiatives in open, distance, flexible and online education. Ms Varoglu holds a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Toronto and a Master of Education from the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (O.I.S.E.), University of Toronto.

Breakout Session 2.2: Data for learning: A double-edged sword



Mr Borhene Chakroun, Director, Policies and Lifelong Learning Systems Division, UNESCO

Borhene Chakroun is an engineer and has a PhD in Education Sciences from Bourgogne University in France. Borhene worked, during the 1990s, as trainer, chief trainer, project manager. He has also worked as short-term consultant for the EU, World Bank and other international organisations before coming to the European Training Foundation (ETF) in 2001. At the ETF, Borhene worked as Senior Human Capital Development specialist. He is now Director of Policies and Lifelong Learning Systems Division at UNESCO. Much of his most recent work focuses on global trends in reforming education and training systems and global agenda for skills development in the context of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.



Ms Pascale RAULIN-SERRIER, Senior Adviser in Digital Education and Coordinator of the international Digital Education Working Group, CNIL, France

Pascale RAULIN-SERRIER works as a Digital Education expert at the French CNIL (Data Protection Authority). Pascale has been developing collaborative projects targeted towards children, youth and teachers and resources in digital education, including an international Data Protection Competency framework. Pascale is currently addressing awareness workshops and training activities on privacy best practices. She leads the GPA international working group of 70 Regulators aiming at fostering capacity building, sharing resources in privacy matters and promoting children's rights in the digital environment. Pascale also works as a member of the Council of Europe's expert group on Digital Citizenship Education.



Ms Velislava Hillman, Founder, Education Data Digital Safeguards (EDDS) and Visiting Fellow, London School of Economics and Political Science, UK

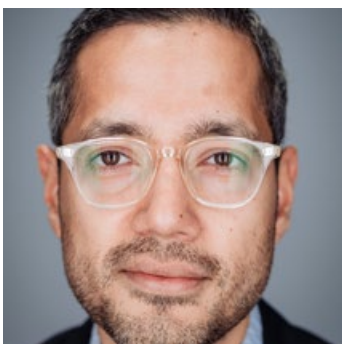
Dr **Velislava Hillman** is a Visiting Fellow at the London School of Economics and founder of Education Data Digital Safeguards (EDDS) which conducts audits and assessments of EdTech products across law, ethics, international standards, and pedagogy. As a researcher Dr Hillman's work broadly lies in education, policy, and governance with focus on the impact of algorithmic systems on children's learning and their fundamental human rights and freedoms in education. Dr Hillman is an alumna of Berkman Klein Centre for Internet and Society, Harvard University, a trustee of a public high-school in the UK, and mother of three young children.

Breakout Session 3.1: Low-tech or offline solutions to facilitate universal use of digital platforms



Ms April Somboun, Education Research and Innovation Manager, International Rescue Committee, USA

April Somboun is the Education Research and Innovation Manager at the International Rescue Committee. She supports the implementation of projects across the portfolio of Education Global Research and Innovation Priorities to reach last-mile children providing them with quality and sustainable education solutions. With a background in non-profit and corporate partnerships, April has developed in-school programs focused on economic mobility, financial literacy and health. Previously she worked with the IRC's Afghan Priority 2 team and organizations like Scholastic and the Council for Economic Education. April holds a Master of Public Administration from Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs.



Mr Atish Gonsalves, Global Lead, Research & Innovation in Education International Rescue Committee, USA

Atish Gonsalves is the Global Lead for Research & Innovation in Education at the International Rescue Committee. He's also the Founder of Gamoteca, a collaborative digital platform that enables organizations to create their own mixed-reality learning games. With a background in software engineering and AI, Atish's experience includes leadership roles at technology and international non-profits including the United Nations. Atish has implemented a number of successful edtech solutions that have helped democratize learning for millions of learners in difficult contexts. Atish has lived in six countries and is a regular speaker at conferences on the role of technology-enhanced learning.



Mr Creesen Naicker, Vice-President of Strategic Partnerships Curious Learning, South Africa

Creesen Naicker, VP of Strategic Partnerships (Curious Learning), is South African born and raised. While pursuing a professional cricket career and studying to become a psychologist, he built a national sports program to help kids develop the life-skills they need to thrive. This led to interest in the intersection of technology, education and development, and becoming part of the Curious Learning team. He has previously co-founded and been a director of VisionRSM and Sportstec, and a Board Member of the Mr Price Foundation. He holds an International Masters in Management and Law, and is a Mandela Washington Fellow.



Ms Nat Dinham, Partnerships Lead, Imagine Worldwide, UK

Nat Dinham is Partnerships Lead at onebillion, a non-profit organization based in the UK which develops comprehensive EdTech solutions for children learning to read and become numerate, in their own language. Nat supports global partners to implement onebillion's onecourse software and onetab dedicated educational device, including in Malawi where onetab is being scaled to 3.5 million children across government schools.



Ms Vanessa Portilla, Program Manager, World Literacy Foundation, Colombia

Vanessa Portilla is a Social communicator with a master in Marketing and different studies in Innovation. Passionate about social innovation and community centered development. Had worked in economic development projects in Colombia. Also, had done cultural immersion in India to study social entrepreneurship and bottom of the pyramid. Currently working as Program Manager at the World Literacy Foundation, for the project Sun Books, implementing strategies to grow the impact of the project in the communities in Sub-Saharan Africa.



Mr Mohamed-Slim Alouini, UNESCO Chair on Education for Connecting the Unconnected, King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (KAUST), Saudi Arabia

Mohamed-Slim Alouini was born in Tunis, Tunisia. He received a PhD Electrical Engineering from the California Institute of Technology in 1998. He served as a faculty member at the University of Minnesota then in the Texas A&M University at Qatar before joining in 2009 the King Abdullah University of Science and Technology where he is a Distinguished Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering. Prof. Alouini is a Fellow of the IEEE and OPTICA. He is currently particularly interested in addressing the technical challenges associated with the uneven distribution, access to, and use of information and communication technologies in rural, low-income, disaster, and/or hard-to-reach areas.

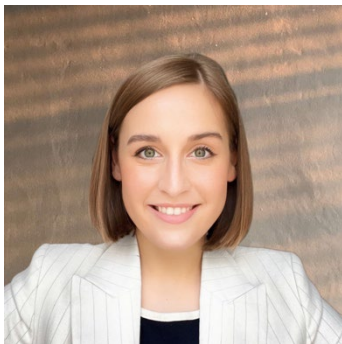


Breakout Session 3.2: Promoting inclusion and gender equality in the use of platforms for education



Mr Yonah Welker, Explorer, Public Evaluator, Board Member, Future of Algorithms, Research & Policy

Yonah Welker is a technology explorer, public expert and influencer for the algorithmic spectrum - algorithms, tech and policies addressing human capacity, wellbeing, ability, such as social and human-centered AI and robotics. It includes the co-creation of emerging technologies and algorithms, screening, evaluating and cooperating with national, public and private projects and funds, co-contributing to policy, ethics and research frameworks, curating experiential projects and experiments. Driven by their own journey, Yonah has spent over 60 world appearances and commentary to bring awareness to social and assistive technologies, AI and robotics for cognitive disabilities, health, education, work.



Ms Olena Rusnak, Digital Learning Advisor, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, Germany

Olena Rusnak is an experienced professional dedicated to improving education through digitalization. Over the past 8 years, she has worked on international education projects in Ukraine, where she contributed to higher education quality assurance and in China, Vietnam, and Africa, focusing on areas such as technical and vocational education and youth employability. Her work includes supporting the Pan-African University and collaborating with the Ethiopian Ministry of Education on digital skills initiatives. Olena's current role involves developing the atingi digital learning platform, aiming to provide inclusive and high-quality education opportunities worldwide.



Ms Sriya Chakravarti, Committee Lead, Program Establishment in Entrepreneurship and Innovation, Higher Colleges of Technology, UAE

Dr. Sriya Chakravarti is an accomplished education leader, recognized for her innovative approaches to improving applied education through inclusion, digitization, relevant curriculum, and entrepreneurship. Her work focuses on developing skills for wealth-generating careers, personalized anywhere anytime education service, and projects that deliver National Priorities. She is committed to promoting a culture of excellence, ethics, and engagement in her work. Sriya holds an MBA and a PhD in Education degree from the University of San Francisco. Sriya's impressive career has been recognized with numerous awards and post-nominals, including the FRSA, FRAS, and PFHEA. More details here: <https://www.sriyachakravarti.com>



***Ms Sabine Sandros, Training Programs Expert, Mada - Qatar
Assistive Technology Center, Qatar***

Sabine Sandros, an advocate for education and accessibility for 22 years, holds degrees in social and medical counselling, special education, and project management. Her significant tenure at Qatar's Mada Assistive Technology Center since 2010 underscores her commitment to promoting inclusivity. She currently service as the Training Programs Expert. With a practical approach, she aims to enhance accessibility in education. Sabine's experience brings valuable insights to the conference, focusing on practical strategies for fostering a more inclusive future.



Breakout Session 3.5: Future of digital education



Mr Hassan AlMuhairi, Assistant Undersecretary for the Curriculum Sector, Ministry of Education, UAE



Mr Chris Dede, Timothy E. Wirth Professor in Learning Technologies, Harvard Graduate School of Education, Harvard University, USA



Mr Tim Unwin, Emeritus Professor of Geography at Royal Holloway, University of London, UK and Founder and Catalyst of the ICT4D Collective



Mr Quddus Pativada, CEO, DigestAI



Mr Waleed Al-Ali, Secretary General and Board Member, Digital School Project, UAE



Ms Erika Twani, Director, Digital School Project in Colombia



Mr Saadettin Muvakit, Executive Director, Human Aid and Development (HAND) and Director, Syrian Refugees Digital School Project in Lebanon



Mr Limam Humoud, Director of Socio-Educational, Ministry of National Education and Educational Reform, Mauritania and Director, Digital School Project in Mauritania



Mr Fuzan AlKhalidi, Director of Health, Education and Community Development Affairs, Prime Minister's Office, UAE

Breakout Session 4.1: Definitions of algorithm literacy and data literacy



Ms Kate Arthur, CEO, Digital Moment

Kate Arthur is the founder and CEO of Digital Moment, a national charity that introduces computational thinking, coding, artificial intelligence & ethics to communities across Canada. Kate was raised and educated in the U.K., Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, Argentina and Canada and has experienced the powers of education on societies. She received a Bachelor of Arts degree in English Literature from Concordia University (Canada), and an executive MBA from McGill and HEC universities (Canada). Kate actively speaks at international conferences on the powers of digital skills education and contributes to federal and global policy discussions to make sure youth are included in decisions on AI, data and algorithms.



Mr Renato Opertti, Senior Education Expert, UNESCO International Bureau of Education (IBE)

Mr **Renato Opertti** holds a degree in sociology and master's degree in educational research. He is a senior education expert at the International Bureau of Education where he contributes to IBE knowledge production, capacity development, technical assistance and the implementation of several UNESCO-IBE flagship initiatives such as HELA (Hybrid Education, Learning and Assessment) and Green and Blue Curriculum. Opertti is the President of the Council of Advisers of the Organization of Iberoamerican States and is the co-coordinator of UNESCO UCU (Catholic University of Uruguay) Chair on Hybrid Education.



Ms Cathy Adams, Professor in the Faculty of Education, University of Alberta, Canada

Cathy Adams is a professor of educational computing in the Faculty of Education from University of Alberta in Canada. Her research investigates digital technology integration across K-12 and post-secondary educational environments; ethical and pedagogical issues involving digital technologies, including Artificial Intelligence; and K-12 Computing Science curriculum and computational thinking (CT) pedagogy. Dr. Adams is affiliated with the Faculty of Education's Technology and Learning Sciences Lab (TALS). She is an Emeritus board member of the Mitacs Research Council (MRC) and Vargo Teaching Chair (2018 - 2022).



Mr Ki-Sang Song, Professor, Korea National University of Education, Republic of Korea

Ki-Sang Song is a Professor of Computer Education and Director of the Global Education Cooperation Center at the Korea National University of Education. Mr Song is an international expert of ICT in education and was the principal investigator of the development of Global ICT in Education Indicators for Education Development project during 2008-2012 funded by KERIS. He holds a Ph.D. from the University of Washington and his research concentrates on the area of ICT application in education and Learning Science. He has published more than 150 articles and presentations and around 90 papers, focusing on AI Applications in Education, Intelligent Tutoring Systems, Multimedia and Computer Applications for Education, ICT in Education, ICT in Education for Developing Countries.



Ms Nisha Talagala, CEO, AIClub, USA

Nisha Talagala is the CEO and founder of AIClub.World which brings AI Literacy to K-12 students and individuals worldwide. Nisha has significant experience in introducing technologies like Artificial Intelligence to new learners from students to professionals. Previously, Nisha co-founded ParallelM which pioneered the MLOps practice of managing Machine Learning in production for enterprises. Nisha is a leader in the operational machine learning space, having also driven the USENIX Operational ML Conference, the first industry/academic conference on production AI/ML. She holds a PhD from UC Berkeley, specializing in clusters and distributed systems. Nisha holds 75 patents in distributed systems and software and over 25 refereed research publications.



Mr Subhankar Mishra, Assistant Professor, National Institute of Science Education and Research, India

Subhankar Mishra holds the designation of Reader-F within the School of Computer Sciences at NISER located in Bhubaneswar Odisha. His primary research focus revolves around the dynamic realm of Machine Learning. Dr. Mishra holds a PhD from the University of Florida and holds a BTech from NIT Rourkela. He was honored with the Fulbright-Nehru Academic & Professional Excellence Award for the 2021-22 cycle for working on "Secure, Private, and Fair Machine Learning for Insider Threat Detection." Furthermore Dr. Mishra secured the Microsoft Academic Partnership Grant in 2023 for his project on 'Neural Networks at a Fraction'. Dr. Mishra also leads TIRTHA Project, an academic initiative focusing on creating 3D models of heritage sites through crowdsourced images.

Breakout Session 4.2: Preparing students and teachers for responsible use of AI



Mr Patrick Hould, Coordinator, Digital Culture Development Division, Ministry of Education of Québec, Canada

Patrick Hould holds a bachelor's degree in teaching and a master's degree in educational technology. With over twenty years' experience in the field of education, he has successively been a teacher, a pedagogical advisor in digital integration and an assistant principal. He is now coordinator of the Digital Culture Development Department at the Ministry of Education and a lecturer for future teachers at University of Laval. Distinguished by his interest in the ongoing development of school staff, this pedagogue is recognized by his peers and partners for his intellectual rigor and humanistic approach to management.



Mr Yvan Fortier, Director, Digital Culture Development Division, Ministry of Education of Québec, Canada

Yvan Fortier has been working in the field of education since 1998. He holds a bachelor's degree in teaching and a master's degree in school administration. Since then, he has held various positions within the Quebec education system: teacher, vice-principal and school principal. A proud digital ambassador, he is now Director of Digital Culture Development at the Ministry of Education. Through his collaborative approach and leadership, he aims to contribute to the development of digital skills for the benefit of all learners.



Ms Natalia Cruz, Coordinator, Governance and Partner Relations Division, Ministry of Education of Québec, Canada

Natalia Cruz currently plays a key role within the Quebec Ministry of Education as coordinator of the Artificial Intelligence Expertise Centre and the Digital Intelligence Support Centre. Her work helps to transform the digital management practices of Quebec's education network in the digital age. Born in Colombia, Natalia enriched her career with a background in management. She holds a degree in industrial engineering and completed a master's in strategic project management at Université Laval in 2018. She has also completed a microprogram in

information technology management. With over ten years' experience in the Colombian and Quebec public sectors, she brings valuable expertise to her current role.



Mr Kenneth Y T Lim, Senior Research Scientist, National Institute of Education, Singapore

Kenneth Y T Lim is a Senior Research Scientist at the National Institute of Education, Singapore. He sits on the Editorial Board of 'Computers and Education Open', which is an Elsevier Gold Open Access journal. In 2023, Kenneth and his team were identified by UNESCO to facilitate a workshop themed on Learning at the intersection of AI, physiology, EEG, our environment and well-being (the Life2Well Project) as part of the ESD-Net 2030 series. He was also a member of UNESCO's inaugural

Symposium on the Future of ESD (Asian case study), 2016 - 2017. His team's website is: <https://sites.google.com/site/disciplinaryintuitions/>



Mr Ahmed H Hilmy, Executive Research Assistant, National Institute of Education, Singapore

Ahmed Hilmy is a researcher and project manager with extensive experience in games, virtual worlds, generative AI, machine learning, and IoT sensor networks. He has expertise in managing stakeholder relationships; catering to clients from various sectors from education and government to the tech industry.



Mr Colin de la Higuera, Professor of Computer Science, Nantes University, France

Colin de la Higuera is a Professor in Computer Science at Nantes University, France. He is director of the "Knowledge for All Foundation" and a Director of International Research Centre in Artificial Intelligence. He holds a UNESCO Chair in Artificial Intelligence and Open Educational Resources at Nantes University, France. He is a computer scientist with a speciality in Machine Learning. Colin holds a Doctorate from the University of Bordeaux. His expertise is on Machine Learning and Open

Educational Resources. Overall, He has published two books, around 40 research articles and about 60 presentations in international conferences, focusing on machine learning.



Ms Catherine De Vulpillières, Co-Founder & Chief Innovation Officer, EvidenceB, France

GM, Chief innovation officer and cofounder of EvidenceB since 2017, **Catherine De Vulpillières** is in charge of research development in cognitive science and AI for EvidenceB. She is in charge of partnerships with research labs, researchers and universities. She is an alumna of Ecole Normale Supérieure de Paris, agrégée of Modern Letters and has worked previously as a consultant (BDCC consulting - internal communication, change support, strategy consulting). She was a winner of "Amplify/Girls in Tech" France-Singapore year 2019, and a world finalist "She loves Tech" Beijing 2019. <https://twitter.com/KdeVulpillieres>



Mr Thierry De Vulpillières, Co-Founder & CEO, EvidenceB, France

Thierry De Vulpillières is the CEO and cofounder of EvidenceB, an EdTech startup developing adaptive learning modules for K-12 core knowledge, founded on cognitive science research, reinforced with AI engine. He led the Educational Partnerships Program at Microsoft for 12 years, where he initiated the www.classe-immersive.fr and was a member of the steering committee of the Partners in Learning program present in 120 countries. He worked for several years in the educational publishing industry as managing editor of the electronic schoolbag project (Nathan and Bordas). He is an active member of the French-speaking EdTech community. He is a Knight in the Order of Academic Palms. <https://twitter.com/tdevul>



Mr Benjamin Clement, Lead Data Scientist, EvidenceB, France

Benjamin Clement is the Lead Data-Scientist at EvidenceB and works on the AI strategy and the exploitation of machine learning to build personalized educational systems. He did his PhD in the Flowers team at Inria Bordeaux where he worked 9 years on the topic of adaptive learning and curriculum personalization. He now works on transferring the results of research in AI for education into EvidenceB products and works to build processes to foster and develop the collaboration between EvidenceB and researchers.



Mr Anantha Kumar Duraiappah, Director, UNESCO Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Education for Peace and Sustainable Development (MGIEP)

Anantha Duraiappah took the position as inaugural Director of the UNESCO Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Education for Peace and Sustainable Development based in New Delhi, India in 2014. A science-policy pacesetter, with over 33 years' experience, he now plays a key

role in positioning UNESCO MGIEP as a leading research institute on education for peace, sustainable development and global citizenship.

Mr Shitanshu Mishra, National Project IT Officer, UNESCO Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Education for Peace and Sustainable Development (MGIEP)

Shitanshu Mishra is a learning and educational technology scientist with over eleven years of experience. He completed his Ph.D. at the Educational Technology department in IIT Bombay (Mumbai, India) and then worked with the Computer Science department at Vanderbilt University (Nashville, USA). Shitanshu has also worked with EdTech IIT Bombay as a research scientist. His research areas include Artificial Intelligence in Education, Multimodal Learning Analytics, Modeling Cognitive and Metacognitive strategies, Affective Computing, and Technology Enhanced Learning of Transdisciplinary Competencies.

Breakout Session 4.3: Harnessing digital technologies to promote open education and green skills



Ms Natalia Amelina, Senior National Project Officer in Education, Chief of TPDN Unit, UNESCO Institute for Information Technologies in Education

Ms Natalia Amelina, PhD, is Senior National Project Officer in Education and Chief of the Unit of Teacher Professional Development and Networking, UNESCO IITE. Her professional activities are focused on new model ICT- and AI-based approaches to teaching-learning environment for the accessible and quality education in the 21st century. Ms. Amelina coordinates projects connected to studying, analyses and development of training materials and recommendations on various trends of ICT use in educational process, including use of ICT for vulnerable groups of students, ICT for skills development, ICT competency development of teachers, etc.



Mr Robert Okinda, Skills Advisor, Commonwealth of Learning

Robert Okinda is currently Advisor: Skills at the Commonwealth of Learning (COL). He is an experienced TVET trainer of trainers with specialization in instructional Systems Design and Technology. Previously, he was the head of Kenya's National Open Distance and eLearning (ODEL) in TVET Secretariat. He was also in charge of ODeL at Kenya Technical Trainers College (KTTC) and founding chair of the African Foundation for Quality eLearning in TVET. He had short-term ODeL engagements with InWent, VVOB, SCI, UNESCO, GIZ, World Bank, DHL, SOS Children's Villages International, Colleges and Institutes Canada, JICA, and Social Enterprise Academy (Scotland), among others.



Ms Oksana Novikova, Vice-Chairholder of UNESCO Chair on Distance Education in Engineering

Oksana Novikova is the vice-chair of UNESCO Chair on Distance Education in Engineering of Saint Petersburg State University of Aerospace Instrumentation. She holds an Engineer degree in Computer Science with scientific and research work on adaptive educational 3D environments with immersion. She has professional skills in distance courses development and over 20 years of experience in ICT application and distance learning programs. She has over 20 years of teaching experience as a senior lecturer and more than 50 publications on the topic of new technologies application in education, distance learning features and benefits, teachers' training, UNESCO programs and networks interaction in the field of education to achieve SDG 4.



Ms Svetlana Knyazeva, Senior National Project Officer in Education, Chief of DPLM Unit, UNESCO Institute for Information Technologies in Education

Svetlana Knyazeva (PhD in Information and Library Science) is Senior National Project Officer in Education and Chief of the Unit of Digital Pedagogy and Learning Materials at the UNESCO IITE, Moscow. For more than a decade she coordinated projects on Open Educational Resources in non-English-speaking countries, promoted OER through analytical and diagnostic studies, strategic advice and facilitation of professional development related to the use of ICT and OER/MOOCs in teaching and learning. Recently she coordinated a project on talent ecosystem for digital transformation in the Middle East and Pakistan supported by HUAWEI. Her research interests cover open education, innovative teaching methods and foresight in ICT in education.



Mr Ray Rui, Head of the UNESCO Chair on Green Transition for Carbon Neutrality and Climate Change

Dr. **Ray (Zhenhua) Rui** is a Distinguished Chair Professor and Associate Dean of Carbon Neutrality Future Technology at China University of Petroleum, Beijing. He is head of the UNESCO Chair in Green Transition for Carbon Neutrality and Climate Change. Previously he was a lead research scientist at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA. His research interests include CO₂ capture, utilization, and storage. He is the principal investigator (PI) of the National Key Research and Development Project and other national projects. He is a United Nations Resource Management Committee member and Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Energy Resources Technology, Transactions of the ASME. He received SPE International PF&C Award, SPE Distinguished Member, etc.



Breakout Session 5.1: Educational AI and the use of AI in education



Ms Meirav Zerbib, Director of Research & Development, Ministry of Education, Israel

Meirav Zerbib is the director of R&D, Israeli Ministry of Education, leading impactful development processes within the education system. With a focus on innovation and problem-solving, she spearheads projects, collaborates with stakeholders, and represents Israel in international initiatives. Meirav has a successful track record of managing education reform programs, developing infrastructure for quality teaching, and establishing a network of futuristic schools. She brings extensive experience from diverse educational positions, including teaching, pedagogic guidance, and leadership roles. Meirav holds a Master's degree in Education Administration & School Leadership.



Mr Yishay Mor, Chief Scientist, Complex Experiments Laboratory, Ministry of Education, Israel

Yishay Mor is the Chief scientist, complex experiments laboratory, Israeli Ministry of education. Yishay holds MSc in computer science in addition to a PhD in Education. He is a world-recognized expert in innovation, excellence and technology in education.

<https://www.yishaymor.org> <https://www.linkedin.com/in/yishaymor>



Mr Mikko-Jussi Laakso, Director, Turku Research Institute for Learning Analytics, University of Turku, Finland

Professor **Mikko-Jussi Laakso** (PhD) is the Director of the Turku Research Institute for Learning Analytics at the University of Turku, Finland. His main research interests are Learning analytics, Computer Assisted Learning, Math & Programming Education, Gamification, Learning Design, Learning at Scale, Learning Difficulties & Losses, Machine Learning & AI in Education. He has 20 years of experience from university and research-based development of the education through educational technology solutions. The institute is developing the UNESCO awarded #1 digital learning platform in Finland: VILLE – the collaborative education tool. The unit is developing unique nationwide Teaching and Learning ecosystem.



Ms Anna Pons, Project Lead, OECD Schools+ Network, OECD

Anna Pons leads the Global Teaching InSights and the Schools+ Network teams. Previously, she coordinated a Video Study to understand teaching practices in 8 different countries. She has also written reports on education systems and provided advice to ministries of education in Europe, Latin America and Asia. Prior to joining the OECD in 2010, Anna gained work experience in the Catalan government and a local government. Anna holds a BA in Economics and a BA in Political Science from University Pompeu Fabra, and a Master in Economics and Public

Policy from Sciences Po, ENSAE and École Polytechnique.



Ms Leila Loupis, Network Coordinator, OECD Schools+ Network, OECD

Leila Loupis is the Network Coordinator for the OECD's Schools+ Network. Previously she was working at UNESCO as the Senior Project Officer in the International Task Force on Teachers for Education 2030, as well as serving in the team which produces the Global Education Monitoring Report as Operations and Communications Manager. She has also worked in UNESCO's statistical branch as well as in the public sector in the NSW Government, Australia. Leila holds a Masters' Degree in Public Affairs – International Development from the University of York

as well as degrees in Communications and Arts from both France and Australia.



Mr Simone Ravaioli, Director of Global Ecosystem and Innovation, Parchment, Italy

Simone Ravaioli leads Parchment's global ecosystem and innovation strategies, centered on turning credentials into opportunities. Based in Italy but with global remit, his focus is on advancing the global credentialing landscape by driving technical and human interoperability across education and work. He spearheads key open standards initiatives, solidifying the global credentialing infrastructure as the Co-chair of the W3C Verifiable Credentials for Education task force. Simone

has contributed to and leads advisory boards of influential organizations like the Learning Economy Foundation, Groningen Declaration Network and Open Recognition Alliance.

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/simoneravaioli/>



Ms Deborah Boyer, Chief Operational Officer, Technovation, USA

is the COO at Technovation and also leads the product team in developing and maintaining the platform that supports the participation of girls around the world in the Technovation Girls program. She has previously worked as a software project manager focusing on sustainability and open data initiatives. She holds a Master's degree in Public History and has taught graduate courses in the use of digital tools in the history field.



Ms Rebecca Anderson, Senior Program Director, Technovation, USA

Rebecca Anderson is Senior Program Director at Technovation. She leads the Program Team to create tech entrepreneurship curriculum and run programs and professional development for leaders, students, and alumnae around the world to solve problems in their communities. She previously served as Director of Educational Programs at Global Language Project. She has worked as a K-12 teacher in Colombia, Japan, and as a Peace Corps Volunteer in the Dominican Republic. Anderson holds a BS in Middle and Secondary Education from the University of Kansas and an MA in International Educational Development from Columbia University Teachers College.

Breakout Session 5.2: Generative AI art: Will it usurp human artistic imagination or inspire art education?



Mr Jason M. Allen, Founder and CEO, Art Incarnate Inc., USA

Jason M. Allen is the Founder and CEO of Art Incarnate. Jason created and entered an AIC titled Théâtre d'Opéra Spatial into a Fine Art competition. The entry won first place, which sparked a controversy that garnered worldwide attention and propelled Théâtre d'Opéra Spatial to become one of the most widely recognized A.I. artworks ever created. It's Jason's desire to bring a positive awareness to the world regarding AI's impact not only on art but also its implications across a variety of fields in this new avant-garde movement, which he refers to as "Artilectualism."



Mr Ali Nadaf, Director of Data and Research, Alef Education, UAE

Dr Ali Nadaf is the Director of Data and Research at Alef Education. He holds a PhD in Mathematics from Simon Fraser University and held postdoctoral fellowships in Machine Learning. His research spans a wide range of fields within the mathematical sciences and Machine Learning, and he has received numerous academic awards and demonstrated a record of scholarly accomplishments with published papers. He has more than 15 years of working experience in the United Nations and PayPal. His current interest is to develop an AI solution to identify and measure students' motivational and meta-cognitive behaviour using students' interaction data within an educational platform.



Mr Richard Brooker, Lead Data Scientist, Alef Education, UAE

Richard is an innovative thinker, with a natural curiosity and inventive streak that drives him to continuously explore new ideas and push boundaries. He has worked with some of the world's most innovative brands and leading data scientists over the past decade, gaining experience across multiple domains including marketing, logistics, recommendation engines, computer vision, natural language processing, analytics, data mining and enrichment. Richard is passionate about empowering people through knowledge sharing – he is an effective engineer with the ability to quickly understand and reframe complex business problems. His combination of technical expertise and commercial acumen makes him uniquely placed to deliver impactful solutions that drive real results.