



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



UNESCO COVID-19 Education Response

Regional Webinar for Arab States

Efficient teaching strategies for distance learning: Supporting teachers' continuous professional development in the digital age

Date: Tuesday, 3 November 2020, 12pm-2pm (Beirut Time)

Registration: https://unesco-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_dO5c7m9JRP6V6Tun4HRGGg

Password: 760258

Speakers and moderators for Q&A and discussion



Hegazi Idris

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Dr. Hegazi holds a PhD degree in "Educational Planning and Policy Studies from Pittsburgh University, USA (1996) and a Master degree in "Educational Evaluation" from the same university (1993). He joined UNESCO in 1996 as Associate Expert at the organization's headquarters in Paris, and in 1999 he moved to UNESCO Regional Office in Beirut as Programme Specialist of Basic Education and Literacy. During his career at UNESCO Beirut office, he has led several initiatives and projects in Lebanon and in the Arab states, including: enhancing access and quality in early childhood education, promoting inclusive education, strengthening capacities in adult education; creating alternative pathways to education in countries in crisis and strengthening Global Citizenship in learning content and delivery. He has published several books and teacher guides in his area of expertise.



**Abdulsalam Mohammed
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Prior to being an Advisor at the Arab Bureau of Education for the Gulf States since 2011, Dr. Abdulsalam was a Minister of Education in Yemen for 9 years. He has over 26 years of experience in the field of education mainly at Sana'a and Ibb Universities where he contributed effectively to its establishment. He published more than twelve articles in international scientific journals and an author of three books. He organized, coordinated and participated in many local, regional, international, scientific and educational conferences as well as seminars. He also supervised and discussed a number of research papers, and an arbitrator for several scientific journals. He is a member of several committees and boards (Steering Committee member for Education 2030, Teachers Task force steering committee, Alternate member of the board GPE 209-2011. Advisory Board member for the Regional Centre for Quality and Excellence). He also chaired a number of sessions and meetings for UNESCO, ALECSO and ICESCO.



Hesham A. Elsunni

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Dr. Hesham is an Assistant Professor of Educational Technology at the Faculty of Education, University of Khartoum, and the Director of the University of Khartoum Center for Advanced Training. He was the Head of the Department of Educational Technology, University of Khartoum during 2018/2019. He has a PhD in Educational Technology (Teacher ICT Capacity Building) from the Northwest Normal University, Lanzhou–China, and a Master’s degree in Educational Management (Policy and Leadership) from the East China Normal University–Shanghai- China.



Aly Hussein

Professor of curriculum and teaching methods at the Faculty of Education, Al-Azhar University, Egypt

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Dr. Aly has rich experience and expertise in curriculum development and teaching strategies in various educational modalities including distance and online learning. He is the core trainer in preparing and training external revisers for high education institutions, and he also works for the National Authority for Quality Assurance and Accreditation of Education “NAQAEE 2015-2020” in Egypt.



Khadeegha Alzouebi

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Dr. Khadeegha Alzouebi is currently the Educational leadership department chair at the School of Education, Hamdan Bin Mohammed Smart University in Dubai. She does research in Educational Policy, Educational Management and Educational Leadership. Her most recent publication is ‘Electronic portfolio development and narrative reflections in higher education: Part and parcel of the culture?’ published by Springer. She has a passion for work around educational reform and change.



Maurice Nkusi

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Mr. Maurice Nkusi has been trained as a Scientist in Physics and also, specialised in Systems Developments and Networks Administration at Masters’ Level from 1992 to 1994. He is a qualified Systems Developer, eLearning and mLearning Specialist, Instructional Technologist, Trainer and Senior Consultant. He went through extensive eLearning Systems Administration and development training at the Western Cape University in collaboration with InWent from Germany. He engaged various audiences, starting from learners, students, conference, and workshops’ participants on various technology tools for innovative pedagogies for more than 25 years. He attaches great value to professional growth, and he taught for many years IT related subjects in high school and tertiary levels.



Abtar Kaur Darshan Singh

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Dr. Abtar has more than 30 years of teaching and leadership experience at various learning institutions. She is an alumnus of University of Malaya (PhD), Syracuse University (MS Instructional Design) and Indiana University (Post-Doctoral Fulbright). She was attached to the Ministry of Education (Malaysia) before she joined the University of Malaya as a lecturer and Chief Instructional Designer, Open University Malaysia as Director for Centre of Instructional Design and Technology and later as Deputy Dean of Post Graduate Studies, and as Dean of School of E-Education, Hamdan Bin Mohammed Smart University (Dubai). She has provided consultancy and training under the auspices of World Bank, UNESCO, the UNDP and the Commonwealth of Learning (COL) to educators worldwide. Abtar has published widely in international journals, books, and book chapters and has won numerous international awards related to e-learning. Her research is focused on amongst others, how learning design can positively impact online, e-, m-learning and all aspects of learning. Abtar is currently looking into Next Generation Digital Learning Environments (NGDLE) and AI Technologies related to disruptive learning environments.



Raj Malhi

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Raj completed his Masters in Instructional Design and Technology six years ago and since then, and is deeply passionate about creating learning experiences that result in real-world upskilling for employees, and business uplift for organizations. He is an expert in creating 21st-century learning cultures for corporate organizations and educational institutions. Withing his portfolio, he has provided support and presentations for UNESCO, University of South Pacific (Fiji), Hamdan Bin Mohammad Smart University (UAE), Dubai Ministry of Education (UAE), Open University Malaysia as well as various local training and learning academies. At Maybank, Raj is driving the upskilling efforts for employees through the use of online distance learning techniques and has successfully increased employee productivity, as well as drive overall profits for the bank.