



## UNESCO COVID-19 Education Strategy

### Regional Webinar-Arab States

#### ***'Future Vision of GCED in the Arab States: Achievements and Way Forward'***

**Wednesday, 9 December 2020, 10 am-12 pm (Beirut time) / 5 pm -7 pm (Seoul time)**

**Registration: [https://unesco-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_eaL5eTs-SiCh2navC4j-UA](https://unesco-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_eaL5eTs-SiCh2navC4j-UA)**

**YouTube Live Streaming: <https://www.youtube.com/unesco Beirut office>**

## Background

The protracted COVID-19 pandemic and its socio-economic consequences have aggravated pre-existing inequalities impacting disproportionately on marginalized groups and threatened the virtue of common human values and peace. In the education sector, it does not only provoke multi-dimensional changes such as widely adopted distance education and homeschooling resulted from worldwide school closures but also resonated the importance of global solidarity, inclusiveness and tolerance for diversity. In this respect, global citizenship education (GCED) and common human values are more crucial than ever to help build the resilience of education systems and support the education stakeholders as it emphasizes active participation of citizens and their pivotal roles at local, national, regional and global levels to overcome such multi-faceted challenges thereby promoting equitable and inclusive education which would ultimately facilitate the achievement of sustainable development goals.

## Regional context

When it comes to the Arab States, a region embraces diverse cultures while facing many challenges in education such as insufficient provision of education resources and imbalanced development of educational infrastructures among countries, rethinking the futures of education for the region beyond COVID-19 crisis and highlighting the importance of GCED are essential and time-sensitive responding to current difficulties and challenges on education in the Arab region.

UNESCO Beirut Office, in partnership with the Asia Pacific Centre of Education for International Understanding (APCEIU), the Regional Center for Quality and Excellence in Education (RCQE), the Arab Bureau of Education for the Gulf States (ABEGS), the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (ALECSO) and the Global Citizenship and Peace Education Section in the UNESCO HQ, is co-organizing a webinar entitled '**Future Vision of GCED in the Arab States: Achievements and Way Forward**'. This webinar aims at exploring envisioned possibilities of education with a special focus on GCED in the Arab region by addressing the needs and challenges facing the education as well as enhancing the outcomes of regional GCED networks' activities.

## Objectives

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This webinar intends to serve as a venue for international and regional GCED networks to share their achievements in promoting GCED and common human values during these times of crisis and explore envisioned action plans to advance GCED mainstreaming in policy, curricula and practices built on the 2020 Riyadh Declaration. Specifically, the objectives of the webinar are as follows:

- Review the current status of GCED implementation at institutional and national levels
- Discuss the role of GCED and identify the needs and challenges of advancing GCED during and beyond the COVID-19 crisis
- Showcase of good practices and share lessons learnt in mainstreaming GCED into policy, curricula and practices in and outside the region
- Preparatory for the GCED online tutorial courses in the Arab States and enhance the regional GCED network through a joint action plan

## Expected Outcomes

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- Enhanced understanding of the role of GCED in facilitating social cohesion and resilience and in promoting intercultural dialogues, human rights, gender equality and other common human values.
- Concretized joint action plans to support GCED implementation and to mainstream GCED into policy, curricula and practices in the Arab region.
- Strengthened synergy of regional and international GCED networks and catalyzed inter-sectoral engagement and leadership to ensure commitments of stakeholders

## Target audiences and panelists

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The target audience will include education officials, school leaders, academia, teachers and educators, civil society organizations as well as any other relevant educational practitioners involved in GCED.

The panelists will be policymakers in the field of education, GCED experts from well-known international and regional organizations and civil society organizations, and professors and graduate students in the schools of education specialized in GCED.

## Registration

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- [Registration](#) is free and required in advance.
- Once you register, a unique join URL will be sent to your email.

## Live transmission via Youtube

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[Live streaming](#) will be provided for those who might not be able to register in advance or to join due to limited capacity of the platform.

## Languages

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The webinar will be conducted in Arabic and English. Simultaneous interpretation services (from English to Arabic and vice versa) will be provided.