



ECOSOC
YOUTH FORUM

YOUTH2030

Economic and Social Council Youth Forum

"Accelerating the COVID-19 recovery and full implementation of the 2030 Agenda with and for youth"

SIDE EVENT AT THE 2023 ECOSOC YOUTH FORUM

**South-South Inter-generational Dialogue:
"Partnerships to promote innovative education: connecting SDG 4
and SDG 17"**

25 April 2023, 13h00-15h00

1. Background

Following the [Transforming Education Summit](#) in September 2022, UNESCO IESALC, in collaboration with various partners, has been committed to creating spaces for inter-generational dialogues that share actions, ambition, solidarity, and solutions to transform education under the following action tracks, with a focus on 2, 3 and 4:

1. Action Track 1: **Inclusive, equitable, safe and healthy** schools.
2. Action Track 2: **Learning and skills** for life, work and sustainable development.
3. Action Track 3: Teachers, **teaching** and the teaching profession.
4. Action Track 4: **Digital** learning and transformation.
5. Action Track 5: **Financing** of education.

The aim of dialogues is to assess how different generations of students have been involved in student-centered learning process with the adoption of digital tools and broader forms of innovation, to gather good practices and to provide recommendations on how innovative learning can contribute to the advancement of SDG 4 and the whole 2030 Agenda, engaging all educational stakeholders. Dialogues are generally organized for 1.5-2 hours, with a focus on higher education, including university and higher technical and vocational education and training, as well as education transiting to and out of higher education.

Hosted by UNESCO IESALC in collaboration with Transforming Education Youth Representatives hosted by United Nations Girls' Education Initiatives, this South-South Dialogue is the thematic Dialogue for multi-stakeholders, especially youth, from the Global South to share their views on innovative learning, highlighting the cooperation and partnerships needed in the pathway to meaningful, inclusive, quality and innovative education for all. The main objective is to strengthen the nexus between SDG4 and SDG17 by broadening the ways through which innovative learning practices and innovative forms of collaboration among youth, higher education institutions and other stakeholders can renew policy making and action in education.

2. Objectives of the side event, including relation with the SDGs identified in the Guidelines

To innovate education, we need innovative learning approaches that go beyond the traditional teacher-centered pedagogy and engage learners as protagonists of their own educational journeys. However, the leap from traditional educational models to innovative ones cannot depend solely on one side of either teachers or learners; it can only be achieved with a multi-level and multi-stakeholder partnership, that extends from the classroom to the policy-level. Through strengthening the means of implementation and revitalizing the global partnership for sustainable development as indicated in SDG17, SDG4 will be supported on the global journey to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.

To provide insights to connect SDG4 and SDG17 through the broader scenarios of innovation, this South-South Dialogue will create an opportunity for youths, higher education institutions and other stakeholders to 1) share their contextualized view on innovation and education and identify common challenges; 2) share innovative learning practices, and how they contribute to the 2030 Agenda in higher education, particularly connecting SDG4 and SDG17; 3) express what support and collaboration are needed to innovate in higher education and create multistakeholder partnerships in each context; 4) create pathways for collaboration and networking among the Global South contexts, particularly through South-South cooperation.

During the Dialogue, three rounds of discussions will be generated with the following goals:

- 1) Define innovative learning in each national or regional context, putting it into contrast with current learning practices, and highlighting the main challenges to transform it.
- 2) Share innovative learning experiences, technologies, techniques and methodologies within higher education, inside or outside the classrooms, that are based on collaboration and partnerships with a focus on social change, thus bringing light to the connections between SDG 4 and SDG 17.
- 3) Define the main obstacles and challenges to advance in innovative learning practices and call for strengthened support among educational stakeholders to build transformative partnerships to promote innovative learning and its role in

renewed educational systems. Suggest innovative educational solutions and partnerships they can contribute to SDG 4.

3. Agenda, format and name of presenters

Date: 25 April 2023

Time: 13h00 – 15h00 (GMT-4)

Format: Online (Zoom)

Language: English

Interpretation: Spanish

Event Moderator: Dameon Black, Commissioner/Executive Director, Jamaica Tertiary Education Commission, **Jamaica**; President of UNESCO IESALC's Governing Board.

Speakers

- Francesc Pedro, Director, **UNESCO IESALC**
- Bosen Lily Liu, Lead on Young People Transforming Education Project, **UNESCO IESALC**
- Okan Dursun, Youth Leader for Sustainable Development Goals, **Office of Secretary General's Envoy on Youth**

Panelists:

- Youth panelists:
 1. Alejandra Ramos Gomez, Representative of Transforming Education hosted by United Nations Girls' Education Initiatives, **Mexico/US**
 2. Eugene Gato Nsengamungu, Founder of Rwanda Youth Technology Informants, **Rwanda**
 3. Laeek Siddiqui, Research Scientist at International Institute for Population Sciences Mumbai, Youth Leader of UNESCO SDG4Youth Network, **India**
 4. Rafik Amrani, Founder of Beyond Tekhmamek, Youth Leader of UNESCO SDG4Youth Network, **Algeria/Lebanon**
- Partner panelists:
 5. Mariam Temitope Masha, Senior Special Assistant to the President on Humanitarian Interventions; Executive Secretary, North East Children's Trust, **Nigeria**
 6. Miriam Alpizar Santana, Head of the Secretary of the Minister, Ministry of Higher Education, **Cuba**; Vice-president of UNESCO IESALC's Governing Board, UNESCO IESALC
 7. Xiaojun Grace Wang, Trust Fund Director, **United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation**
 8. Francesc Pedro, Director, **UNESCO IESALC**
 9. Martha K. Ferede, Education Specialist, SDG4 Global Cooperation Section and Inter-Agency Secretariat, **UNESCO**

Time	Agenda
13h00 – 13h05	Welcoming Remark: Important aspects of partnership in transforming education
13h05 – 13h10	The role of youths in partnership, especially in the Global South contexts
13h10 – 13h20	Ice breaking activity
13h20 – 13h40	Discussion ONE: Establishing the baseline to connect SDG4 and SDG17 in the Global South contexts.
13h40 – 14h10	Discussion TWO: Sharing current practices of SDG4 and SDG17 on innovative learning.
14h10 – 14h40	Discussion THREE: Innovating partnership(s) to support innovative education.
14h40 – 14h50	Engaging with the audiences
14h50 – 14h55	Taking aways with call-to-actions
14h55-15h00	Closing remark

4. Guiding Questions for presentations and discussion

Discussion 1 (What is innovative learning and how it connects SDGs 4 and 17)

Question 1 (Youths): What is innovative learning in your national, regional or global context?

Question 2 (Partners): Connecting SDG 4 and 17, what are the main challenges and obstacles to promote cooperation?

Discussion 2 (What initiatives are already in place connecting SD4 and 17 through innovative learning)

Question 3 (Youths): What are your innovative learning experiences within higher education that are based on collaboration and partnerships with a focus on social change.

Question 4 (Partners): Through what means is your institution, ministry, or organization promoting innovative education and how are youths involved in the partnership?

Discussion 3 (Support and partnerships needed)

Question 5 (Youths): What support is needed from higher education institutions and other educational stakeholders to build transformative partnerships to engage in innovative learning and build a collaborative educational system?

Question 6 (Higher Education): What support is needed from different stakeholders, within and beyond higher education, to build transformative partnerships that promote innovative learning and build a collaborative educational system?

Question 7 (Other Partners): Drawing from the former comments by youth and higher education, what could be done to strengthen partnerships and, particularly South-South cooperation, in the field of innovative learning and its transversal role in the 2030 Agenda?

5. Platform to be used for virtual side events and Registration link

Platform: Webinar, Zoom

Registration/Participation Link: https://unesco-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_pNHasfqUTpqHXLpEUepj1A#/registration