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Gateways to Public Digital Learning

A multi-partner initiative to create and strengthen inclusive digital learning platforms and content

*All children, youth, and adults deserve opportunities to learn through high-quality public digital gateways to education. At the Transforming Education Summit, **UNESCO** and **UNICEF** are launching Gateways to Public Digital Learning, a global initiative to move the world closer to this goal. The new Initiative will map, describe and analyze existing public platforms and content; help countries create and strengthen national platforms; identify and share best practices; and establish international norms and standards to guide the development of platforms in ways that advance national and international goals for education.*

Reaffirming digital education as a public good

The time has come for countries as well as the international community to treat digital technology and virtual environments as core to the educational enterprise. They demand the same rigor, care, and attention that are paid to the physical infrastructure of learning. Schools and their resources have long been treated as public goods. And rightly so. They benefit everyone and, as such, demand public support, oversight, and governance. The same needs to be done for the digital spaces and infrastructures of learning.

Objective and proposed actions

The main objective of the Gateways Initiative is to establish and technically support an international movement to ensure that every learner, teacher, and family can easily access, find, and use high-quality and curriculum-aligned digital education content to advance their learning.

In most contexts, content should be accessible via a national platform that is overseen, sustained, and improved with public resources. These platforms should be free for all users and complement and support teaching and learning that happens in school. They should also open avenues for self-driven education and lifelong learning.

The Gateways Initiative will further seek to help countries recognize and act on national, regional, and global possibilities to advance education through digital cooperation and solidarity. The internet allows unprecedented – although currently underutilized – possibilities for sharing, cooperation, and the pooling of resources that can benefit learners, teachers, and families within countries and also across them. This Initiative aims to maximize these collaborative actions.

Components

The Gateways to Public Digital Learning Initiative will advance progress across three components: #1 A Global Gateway; #2 Evidence Generation and Best Practices; #3 Norms and Standards.

Partners

The Initiative will mobilize partners to establish international expert groups that will inform and guide the work under each of the three components.



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Global Gateway to Public Digital Learning Platforms

UNESCO and UNICEF led

Create and maintain a global gateway to existing public digital learning platforms sanctioned by ministries of education or other public authorities. Most of this work will be centred on national platforms but will also include relevant regional platforms. The Global Gateway will provide detailed information about the quality of each platform and monitor indicators established through the analysis of evidence and best practices (Component #2) and building on the norms and standards work (Component #3).

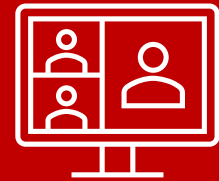
Partners

Reference Group composed of international experts to guide work to create, expand, and maintain the global gateway.



Monitoring

The Gateways Initiative will monitor the development and quality of public digital learning platforms and content. It will also track progress towards relevant national and international targets. The Initiative will map and analyse publicly sanctioned learning platforms (component #1). In addition, it will identify good practices (component #2) and develop norms and standards (component #3) which will inform the monitoring and analysis.



Evidence Generation and Best Practices

UNICEF led

Create and showcase best practices, research, and evidence about digital education resources and platforms, across different contexts, focusing on equity, scalability, safety, and impact.

Partners

Evidence Group composed of organisations with expertise in education research and evidence-building.



Norms and Standards

UNESCO led

Establish international norms and standards to help countries ensure the quality of public digital learning platforms and inform national targets and benchmarks.

Partners

Advisory Group composed of a large and diverse group of national and international experts contributing in their individual capacity.