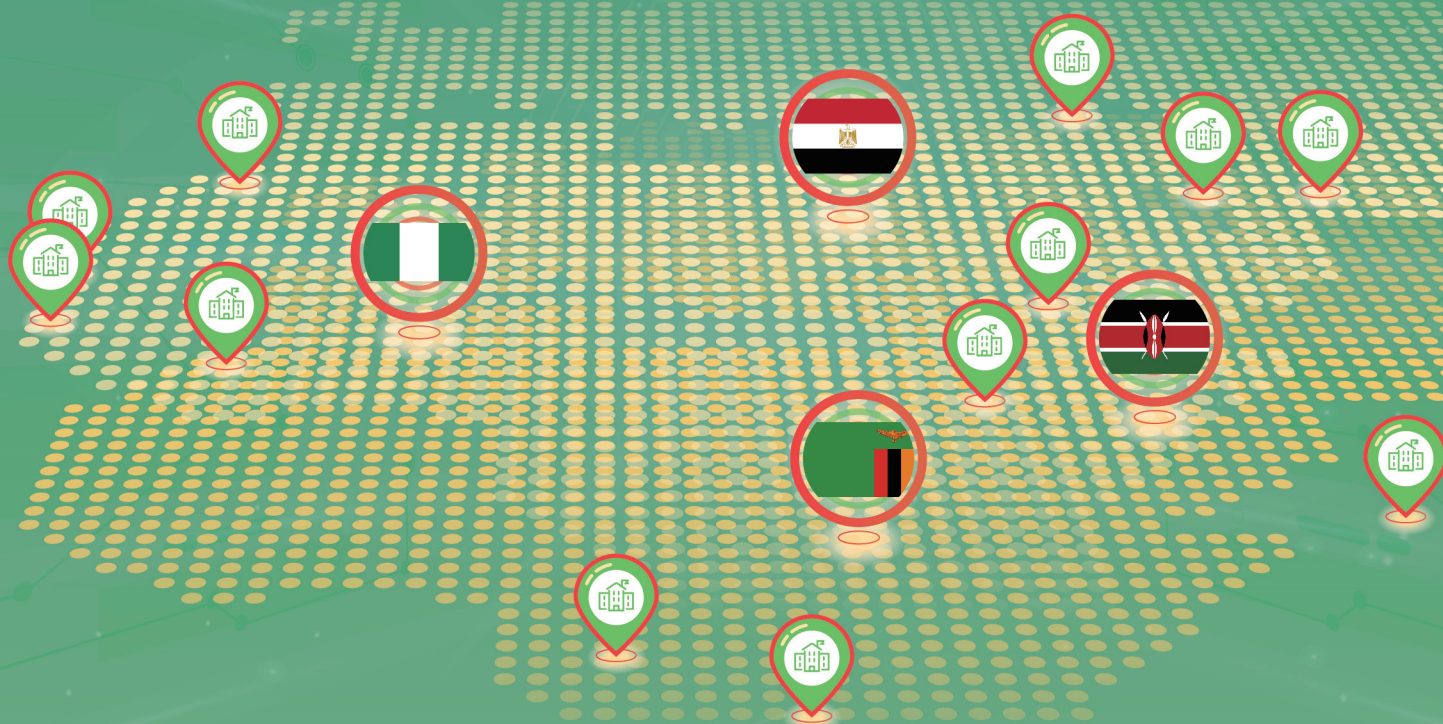




IIOE Annual Partnership Meeting 2021 (Africa and West Asia)

Digital Transformation Empowering
Futures of Higher Education in
Africa and West Asia

11 January 2022



Background

The global higher education landscape is undergoing a dramatic change under the backdrop of technological innovation, labour market evolution and the Covid-19 pandemic. Even though the advance of technology has increased the diversity of the higher education process, access and quality, inequality and digital divide remain, especially for the Global South. Higher education systems in the Global South are experiencing more challenges in terms of educational access, effectiveness, and relevance, which are also most affected during the pandemic due to factors such as availability of technological infrastructure, connectivity, digital skills, and institutional capacity.

UNESCO's newly launched report entitled [*Reimagining our futures together: A new social contract for education*](#) calls for international higher education stakeholders to open up a conversation on how to strengthen education as a public endeavor and a common good to improve the existence of all living beings.

Aligning to UNESCO's higher education initiatives and in response to the strategies and priorities of higher education in UNESCO-ICHEI's project countries, the International Institute of Online Education (IIOE) has been creating an ecosystem with its global partners for a more inclusive, better quality and more relevant higher education system for its partner higher education institutions (HEIs) in light of the pandemic and post-pandemic era. Together with its partners, IIOE has made significant progress in the year of 2021, from supporting partner HEIs' teaching and learning with IIOE online courses, to co-constructing professional development programmes and online curricula; from building multilingual online education platforms, to joint research on quality assurance and higher education workforce competency framework for online and blended teaching and learning.

Within this context, UNESCO-ICHEI and UNESCO will jointly organise the IIOE Annual Partnership Meeting 2021 (Africa and West Asia) under the theme of Digital Transformation Empowering the Futures of Higher Education in Africa and West Asia.

The meeting aims to bring together the IIOE global partners, including HEIs, research institutions, international organizations, enterprises and governments to re-think the futures of higher education and the renewed role of higher education stakeholders, with a focus on discussing how IIOE could work with its global partners to serve and support its partner HEIs to chart the way forward for future higher education transformations. Issues of common interests to IIOE partners will be discussed, covering leadership in the higher education digital transformation, teacher's personalised and collective professional development, transformative curriculum and pedagogy, higher education technological research and localised application, quality assurance and monitoring and evaluation for online and blended teaching and learning. and evaluation for online and blended teaching and learning.

Objectives

- Review IIOE developments in 2021, including achievements and challenges.
- Share promising practices of online and blended teaching and learning, and higher education innovation.
- Discuss how to leverage IIOE to serve the higher education digital transformation agenda of IIOE partner HEIs.
- Contribute to the development of strategies or action plans in IIOE partner HEIs that will strengthen the resilience of higher education systems facing future disruptions and their capacity for future development.
- Conduct 2022 IIOE Presidency Unit Rotation.

Organiser

International Centre for Higher Education Innovation under the auspices of UNESCO (UNESCO-ICHEI)

UNESCO Priority Africa and External Relations Sector

University of Engineering and Technology, Lahore (Pakistan)

Time and location

11th January 2022 (Tuesday) , 16:00-18:00 (UTC+8)

Country	Time Zone	Local Time
Côte d'Ivoire, Senegal, the Gambia, Togo	UTC+0	08:00 - 10:00
Algeria, France, Morocco, Nigeria, Tunisia	UTC+1	09:00 - 11:00
Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Namibia, South Africa, Zambia	UTC+2	10:00 - 12:00
Comoros, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Iraq, Kenya, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Uganda	UTC+3	11:00 - 13:00
UAE	UTC+4	12:00 - 14:00
China	UTC+8	16:00 - 18:00

Onsite meeting venue: Convention Centre, Southern University of Science and Technology, Shenzhen, China

Online meeting: Zoom

Zoom Registration Link: https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_44XH2e0YQPqX5f42vOYW3Q

Youtube Streaming: <https://youtu.be/ekXqD2hpcKI>

Language:

The meeting will be conducted in Arabic, Chinese, English, and French. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided.

Contact:

Should you have any queries, please contact Africa and West Asia Programme Office, UNESCO-ICHEI by email to Mr. Yanwen Jiao: jiaoyw@ichei.org or Mr. Dean Chen: chendean@ichei.org.

Estimated Duration: 105 Minutes

Duration	Session
Opening	
5 mins	Opening Speech Mr. Firmin Edouard Matoko, Assistant Director-General for Priority Africa and External Relations Sector, UNESCO
Session 1: Keynote Presentations - Building Future-ready Higher Education through Digital Transformation	
30 mins	Moderator: Mr. LIM Cher-Ping, Chief Expert of IIOE, UNESCO-ICHEI, Chair Professor of Learning Technologies and Innovation, Education University of Hong Kong - Systematic Promotion of Higher Education Digital Transformation and Blended Education Reform - Mr. Jiangang Cheng, Director of Institute for Research on Higher Education Digital Transformation, UNESCO-ICHEI - Policies and initiatives driving and supporting higher education digital transformation in Africa - Mr. Bakary Diallo, Former Rector of African Virtual University - Policies and initiatives driving and supporting higher education digital transformation in Arab States - Ms. Costanza Farina, Director of UNESCO Regional Bureau for Education in the Arab States - Beirut
Session 2: Partnerships for Higher Education Digital Transformation - Promising Practices from Africa and the Arab States	
5 mins	Video presentation: IIOE Achievements in 2021
15 mins	Co-Constructing Online and Blended Higher Education Ecosystems - Promising Practices from Sub-Saharan Africa Moderator: Mr. Saidou Sireh Jallow, Senior Program Specialist, UNESCO Regional Office for Eastern Africa - Piloting Online and Distance Higher Education in Africa - Mr. Moeketsi Letseka, UNESCO Chair on Open Distance Learning, College of Education, University of South Africa (South Africa) - IIOE Supporting Teachers' Digital Capacity Building - Ms. Emebet Mulugeta, Academic Vice President, Addis Ababa University (Ethiopia) - Multilingual Online Education Resources Promoting Blended Learning Development - Ms. QUASHIE Akossiwaa Marie Luce, Secretary General, University of Lomé (Togo)

15 mins	Co-Constructing Online and Blended Higher Education Ecosystems - Promising Practices from the Arab States Moderator: Mr. Anasse Bouhlal, Programme Specialist, Section for Higher Education, UNESCO ● AI in Education ○ Mr. Abdel-Fattah Saoud, Vice President, Ain Shams University (Egypt) ● International Collaboration for Transformative Pedagogies and Teacher Professional Development ○ Ms. Fatima-Zohra Iflahen, Vice President in charge of International Cooperation, Cadi Ayyad University (Morocco) ● Smart Classroom Supporting Online and Blended Learning ○ Mr. Alaa AbdulHassan Alzwghaibi, Counselor, Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, Former Vice President for Scientific Affairs of University of Technology (Iraq) ● Quality Assurance, Monitoring and Evaluation to Support HEIs in Digital Transformation ○ Ms. Mona Abdel-Aal Elzahry, Professor of Public Health, Executive Director of Education Strategy Administration, Director of eLearning Center of Faculty of Medicine, Ain Shams University (Egypt)
5 mins	Video Presentation: IIOE Online Courses Competition
Session 3: Moving to the next level - IIOE National Centre Launching Ceremony	
15 mins	Moderator: Mr. LIM Cher-Ping, Chief Expert of IIOE, UNESCO-ICHEI, Chair Professor of Learning Technologies and Innovation, Education University of Hong Kong ● Introduction of IIOE National Centre ○ Ms. Xiaohan Bi, Assistant Director and Chief of Africa and West Asia Programme Office, UNESCO-ICHEI ● Remarks of Representatives from IIOE National Centres ○ Mr. Mahmoud El-Meteini, President, Ain Shams University (Egypt) ○ Mr. Stephen Gitahi Kiama, Vice Chancellor, University of Nairobi (Kenya) ○ Mr. Kabiru Bala, Vice Chancellor, Ahmadu Bello University (Nigeria) ○ Mr. Chera E Deressa, Acting Deputy Vice Chancellor, Mulungushi University (Zambia)
Session 4: IIOE Presidency Unit Rotation for 2022	
10 mins	Moderator: Mr. Yue Du, Director of the Division for Cooperation, Intersectoral Follow-up and Partnerships for Africa, UNESCO ● Remarks by representative of the 2021 IIOE Rotating Presidency Unit ○ Mr. Syed Mansoor Sarwar, Professor, Vice Chancellor, University of Engineering and Technology, Lahore (UET Lahore), Pakistan ● Remarks by representative of the 2022 IIOE Rotating Presidency Unit
Closing	
5 mins	Closing Remarks ● Mr. Ming Li, Director of UNESCO-ICHEI

Opening

Opening Speech



Mr. Firmin Edouard Matoko,
Assistant Director-General for Priority Africa and External Relations Sector, UNESCO

Session 1: Keynote Presentations - Building Future-ready Higher Education through Digital Transformation

Moderator:



Mr. LIM Cher-Ping,
Chief Expert of IIOE, UNESCO-ICHEI, Chair Professor of Learning Technologies and Innovation,
Education University of Hong Kong

**Educational Technology Research
Supporting Higher Education
Innovations**



Mr. Jiangang Cheng,
Director of Institute for
Research on Higher Education
Digital Transformation,
UNESCO-ICHEI

**Policies and initiatives driving and
supporting higher education digital
transformation in Africa**



Mr. Bakary Diallo,
Former Rector of African
Virtual University

**Policies and initiatives driving and
supporting higher education digital
transformation in Arab States**



Ms. Costanza Farina,
Director of UNESCO Regional
Bureau for Education in the
Arab States - Beirut

Session 2: Partnerships for Higher Education Digital Transformation - Promising Practices from Africa and the Arab States

Video presentation: IIOE Achievements in 2021

Co-Constructing Online and Blended Higher Education Ecosystems - Promising Practices from Sub-Saharan Africa

Moderator:



Mr. Saidou Sireh Jallow,
Senior Program Specialist, UNESCO Regional Office for Eastern Africa

Piloting Online and Distance Higher Education in Africa



Mr. Moeketsi Letseka,
UNESCO Chair on Open Distance Learning, College of Education, University of South Africa (South Africa)

IIOE Supporting Teachers' Digital Capacity Building



Ms. Emebet Mulugeta, Academic Vice
President, Addis Ababa University (Ethiopia)

Multilingual Online Education Resources Promoting Blended Learning Development



Ms. QUASHIE Akossiwoa Marie Luce,
Secretary General, University of Lomé (Togo)

Co-Constructing Online and Blended Higher Education Ecosystems - Promising Practices from the Arab States

Moderator:



Mr. Anasse Bouhlal,
Programme Specialist, Section for Higher Education, UNESCO

AI in Education



Mr. Abdel-Fattah Saoud,
Vice President, Ain Shams University (Egypt)

International Collaboration for Transformative Pedagogies and Teacher Professional Development



Ms. Fatima-Zohra Iflahen, Vice President
in charge of Cooperation and International
Relations, Cadi Ayyad University (Morocco)

Smart Classroom Supporting Online and Blended Learning



Mr. Alaa AbdulHassan Alzwghaibi ,
Counselor, Ministry of Higher Education and
Scientific Research, Former Vice President for
Scientific Affairs of University of Technology
(Iraq)

Quality Assurance, Monitoring and Evaluation to Support HEIs in Digital Transformation



Ms. Mona Abdel-Aal Elzahry,
Professor of Public Health, Executive
Director of Education Strategy
Administration, Director of eLearning Center
of Faculty of Medicine, Ain Shams University
(Egypt)

Video Presentation: IIOE Online Courses Competition

Session 3: Moving to the next level - IIOE National Centre Launching Ceremony

Moderator:



Mr. LIM Cher-Ping,
Chief Expert of IIOE, UNESCO-ICHEI, Chair Professor of Learning Technologies and Innovation, Education University of Hong Kong

Introduction of IIOE National Centre



Ms. Xiaohan Bi,
Assistant Director and Chief of Africa and West Asia Programme Office, UNESCO-ICHEI

Remarks of Representatives from IIOE National Centres



Mr. Mahmoud El-Meteini,
President, Ain Shams University (Egypt)



Mr. Stephen Gitahi Kiama,
Vice Chancellor, University of Nairobi (Kenya)



Mr. Kabiru Bala,
Vice Chancellor, Ahmadu Bello University
(Nigeria)



Mr. Chera E Deressa,
Acting Deputy Vice Chancellor, Mulungushi
University (Zambia)

Session 4: IIOE Presidency Unit Rotation for 2022

Moderator:



Mr. Yue Du,
Director of the Division for Cooperation, Intersectoral Follow-up and Partnerships for Africa, UNESCO

Remarks by representative of the 2021 IIOE Rotating Presidency Unit



Mr. Syed Mansoor Sarwar,
Professor, Vice Chancellor, University of Engineering and Technology, Lahore (UET Lahore), Pakistan

Remarks by representative of the 2022 IIOE Rotating Presidency Unit

Closing

Closing Remarks



Mr. Ming Li,
Director of UNESCO-ICHEI



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