UNESCO’s Responses to the COVID-19 Crisis
Youth and adult literacy
UNESCO’s response
Global Education Coalition (GEC)

- More than **1.6 billion students and youth** have been affected by school and university closures at the peak of the COVID-19 crisis.
- **Nearly 24 million children and youth** from pre-primary to tertiary level are at risk of drop out in 2020.
- The **funding gap** to achieve SDG4 in poorer countries risks increasing to **US$ 200 billion annually** due to COVID-19.

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**UNESCO’s response**

**Global Education Coalition**

A platform for collaboration and exchange to protect the right to education during the COVID-19 crisis and beyond
GEC: Objectives

1. Respond to educational disruption caused by school closures

2. Scale up distance learning and connect every learner and education institution to the Internet

3. Manage effective recovery and the return to school and learning

4. Advocate, collect data, and build and share knowledge, to strengthen the resilience of education and learning systems and reimagine the future
# GEC: Partners

## Multilateral partners

- UNESCO
- UN General Assembly
- United Nations
- UNAIDS
- UNDP
- UNHCR
- UNICEF
- WHO

## Private sector

- Tencent
- Coursera
- Uber
- Microsoft
- Huawei
- KPMG
- Quibi
- Huawei
- Google
- Lark
- HUAWEI
- IBM
- Zoom
- Facebook
- McKinsey & Company
- First Bank
- Telkom
- Moodle
- Tactelo
- Verizon
- Blackboard
- M
du
- Festo
- Cambridge Education

## Media partners

- EBU
- IF "THE CURIOUS LEARNING"
- Global Learning Project
- Dubai Cares
- LEARNING EQUALITY
- JA Worldwide
- CHIEFS for CHANGE
- THE WORLD
- The Ed Commission
- micro:bit
- World Vision
- Teach For All
- A Global Network
- Siemens
- NORCAP
- Save the Children
- Teach For All
- EdTech
- Khan Academy
- Center for Learning in Practice
- Wikimedia Foundation
- EdX
- Commonwealth of Learning
- Imagine
- ONE
- Technovation
- TED Ed
- Lab Xchange
- Right to Play
- Global Business Coalition for Education
- Creative Commons
- Common Sense Education
- Right to Play
- Rights of Children
- Illuminas
- ProFuture
- Girls Not Brides
- UNESCO
- Oxford
- IFU
- Oxford
-教え

## Civil society and non-profit organizations

- CARE
- UNESCO
- Save the Children
- silica
- EdTech
- Rights of Children
- Illuminas
- ProFuture
- Girls Not Brides
- UNESCO
- Oxford
- IFU
- Oxford
-教え

## Network and associations

- GEANT
- ENIC
- Euro-Med Monitor
- UNESCO
- Education Above All
- AASU
- IEFG
- IFU
- Oxford
- UNESCO
How does the GEC operate?

Pillar 1: In-country interventions

Pillar 2: The Global Flagships (3)

Pillar 3: Data, knowledge and advocacy

Connectivity
Teachers
Gender
GEC: Global Initiatives

- **Global Teacher Campus**
  Aims to equip 1 million teachers with ICT in education skills

- **Global Skills Academy**
  Aims to equip 1 Million Youth with employability and digital skills

- **Global Learning House**
  Aims to provide quality, free online and offline tutoring to 1 million learners
Other UNESCO COVID-19 responses:
Youth and adult literacy

Global level
International Literacy Day 2020
• Global meeting
• Surveys: impact on literacy programmes & Arab region
• Regional snapshot: Latin America
• Regional webinars: Africa

World Teachers’ Day 2020 - Webinar

Country level
Support to Member States

Issues and areas highlighted in the context of COVID-19 crisis
• Integrating ‘youth and adult literacy’ in response plans
• Adult literacy educators
• Distance learning
• Integrated approaches (e.g. health, skills development)
• Intergenerational learning
Youth and adult literacy in the COVID-19 crisis and beyond

UNESCO Youth and Adult Literacy Strategy 2020-2025

Areas in need of enhanced support in the COVID-19 crisis and beyond

GEC-GAL initiative on Adult literacy educators
GEC-GAL initiative on ‘Adult literacy educators’

• To support GAL member countries in building capacities of youth and adult literacy educators and promoting their professionalization

• To enhance a global knowledge base on adult literacy educators

*By catalyzing collaboration between GAL member countries and partners (e.g. Commonwealth of Learning, Microsoft, PIX)*
GEC-GAL initiative on adult literacy educators: how it will operate

Mobilize actors and resources to develop effective and unified response.

Coordinate action to maximize impact and avoid overlap and reach the disadvantaged.

Match on-the-ground needs with local and global solutions.

Provide distance education, leveraging hi-tech, low tech and no tech approaches.
UNESCO’s responses to the COVID-19 Crisis: Youth and adult literacy

Thank you!

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