Ethical Dimension of EdTech: Transforming Risks into Strengths

International webinar

The event is part of the UNESCO IITE flagship webinar series “Harnessing Technology to Transform Education”.

Date and time

Tuesday, 30 January 2024, 16:00 – 17:30 (GMT+3/UTC +3)
14:00 – 15:30 (CET/UTC +1)
Background and rationale

In an era of rapid technological advancement, the integration of digital innovations and artificial intelligence (AI) in education has precipitated a crucial need to address the ethical considerations and responsible implementation of these technologies. This webinar aims to provide insights and expertise into the ethical dimensions of digital and AI-driven education, catering to a wide spectrum of education stakeholders ranging from educators to administrators and policymakers.

Additionally, with the prominence of digital and AI-driven educational tools, the responsible and ethical use of technology becomes paramount in ensuring equitable and meaningful learning experiences for all students. Focusing on the ethical considerations related to digital and online learning, artificial intelligence in education, digital access and divide, inclusion, and responsible use of technology in teacher training, this webinar serves as a proactive step towards fostering a culture of responsibility and ethical consciousness in the integration of technology within educational practices.

Objectives

The primary objectives of this webinar are as follows:

- Discover why digital innovations and AI in education raise concerns about its ethically acceptable use and development.
- Become familiar with the ethical questions and concepts related to contemporary ICT and AI in education.
- Engage international experts to share their insights and expertise on data collection, management, and sharing for digital and online education.
- Equip teachers, school administrators, and teacher training establishment trainers with the knowledge and tools to ensure responsible and ethical use of data in their daily practices.
- Promote discussions about the fair, non-discriminative and responsible use of technology in education and encourage stakeholders to consider the social and ethical implications of tech-enabled education.
- Inform all participants about internationally recognized standards, guidelines, and recommendations on ethical use of technologies in education.
Key webinar themes

- **Ethics of Digital and Online Learning.** The theme involves discussions on ethical considerations related to online assessment, digital accessibility, and equitable access to online learning. Additionally, it explores fostering a culture of digital citizenship and encouraging responsible online behavior among students.

- **Ethics of Artificial-Intelligence-in-Education (AIED).** This theme involves the responsible integration of AI into the learning environment, ensuring that the selection and use of educational technology and AI tools align with ethical principles. The focus is on facilitating meaningful learning experiences while upholding ethical considerations.

- **Understanding Digital Divide and Bridging the Digital Gender Divide.** This theme centers on creating a learning environment and ICT infrastructure that ensures equal access and accessibility for every learner, regardless of socio-economic status, gender, and other pertinent factors. The objective is to bridge the gaps and ensure equitable opportunities for all learners.

- **Ethics and Inclusion.** This theme explores providing access to technologies that align with learners' ICT competencies and skills for various groups of learners, including those in remote areas. The emphasis is on ensuring that all learners have access to technologies that guide their learning paths.

- **Ethical Dimension to Digital Competence in Teacher Training:** Focused on ensuring that the training of teachers in digital competence is conducted ethically, encompassing considerations of responsible use, equitable access, and ethical considerations when integrating technology into classrooms.

- **Ethical Standards, Recommendations and Guidelines.** This theme covers ethical standards in the use of technology such as digital citizenship, privacy, accessibility, digital literacy, and the ethical selection and use of educational technology tools to support meaningful learning experiences.
### Agenda – GMT+3 – UTC+3 – Moscow Time

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Speaker/Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16:00 – 16:10</td>
<td>Opening remarks</td>
<td>Natalia Amelina, PhD, Senior National Project Officer in Education, UNESCO IITE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16:10 – 16:20</td>
<td>KEYNOTE SPEECHES</td>
<td><strong>AI Ed: Whence, for Whom, How? Toward a Socially Responsible Use of AI in Learning Environments</strong>, Dr Cecilia Baranauskas, Prof. State University of Campinas, UNICAMP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16:20 – 16:30</td>
<td>Ethics of Artificial-Intelligence-in-Education (AIED)</td>
<td>Shitanshu Mishra, PhD, Chief of Digital Learning, AI and IT, UNESCO MGIEP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16:30 – 16:40</td>
<td>Responsible Data and Technology Use in Education</td>
<td>Elizabeth Laird, Director, Equity in Civic Technology, Center for Democracy &amp; Technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16:40 – 16:50</td>
<td>Ethical Dimension to Digital Competence in Teacher Training</td>
<td>Patrick O’Hare, Director of Studies, Europass Teacher Academy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 16:50 – 17:30 | PANEL DISCUSSION                                                     | **“Ethical Landscape of EdTech: Navigating the Ethical Complexities in Digitalized Education”**  
**Moderator:** Galina Udayadas, Programme Assistant, Teachers’ Professional Development and Networking Unit, UNESCO IITE  
**Expert Panel:**  
Dr Wayne Holmes, PhD, Associate Professor, University College London  
Yulia Plakhutina National Associate Project Officer for Health and Education, UNESCO IITE  
Dr. Randa Shaheen, Head of the Education Sector at the Ministry of Education, Egypt, Fellow of the National Defense College at Nasser Higher Military Academy  
Professor Wu Di, National Engineering Research Center for E-Learning Central China Normal University  
Dr Boulus Shehata, Ph.D, Fellow, Smart Learning Institute of Beijing Normal University |
| 17:30 – 17:40 | Q&A                                                                  | Closing word                                                                     |
Participants’ profiles

- Officials responsible for the development of ICT in education, including safety and data privacy policies.
- International researchers and consultants on the collection, management, and sharing of education-related data.
- Education practitioners, including teachers, school administration, and trainers of teacher training establishments.

Date and Venue

Date and time: **30 January 2024, 16:00 – 17:30 (GMT+3/UTC +3)**

The online session will be hosted in Zoom and available in English.

Contacts

UNESCO Institute of Information Technology in Education (UNESCO IITE)

Ms Galina Udayadas: g.udayadas@unesco.org, UNESCO IITE Programme Assistant
Ms Lisa Kondrashova: e.kondrashova@unesco.org, UNESCO IITE Programme Assistant