## EPIC 2023 Programme

### Opening Session & Keynote

**Welcome**
José Luís Canêlhas (KIX EAP Hub Manager, NORRAG)

Exchanging Knowledge and Innovation for Education – Now and Into the Future
Tricia Wind (Program Leader for GPE KIX, International Development Research Centre)

The Systems Approach in Education
Gita Steiner-Khamsi (Professor, Teachers College, Columbia University; KIX EAP Principal Researcher, NORRAG)

Six Core Values in Education, Malaysia Madani Concept
Fadhlina Sidek (Minister of Education, Malaysia)

### Keynote Room 8:00 – 9:00

**The use of technology in the post-COVID 19 era**

Chair: Robertino Macalde (SEAMEO INNOTECH Manager, Learning Development and Management Office)

Measuring Digital Readiness in Education Systems: Policy Implications of findings from the DECRI Pilot
Sonal Chheda (National Project Officer – Policy, UNESCO Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Education for Peace and Sustainable Development)

Distance education in Tajikistan: opportunities and challenges in schools
Abdulvozhid Safarov (Tajikistan Country Coordinator, Distance Education to improve the Quality of & Access to School Education project)
Jyldyz Bekbolot (Project Lead, Distance Education to improve Quality & Access to School Education, Taalim Forum Public Foundation)

Addressing the Difficulties brought by COVID-19 in Modular Distance Learning using Intranet
Salvador & Cenita (Master Teacher II, Pili National High School, Albay, ROV, Department of Education)

The Impact of COVID-19 on Education: Policy Implications and Innovative Responses
Sonal Chheda (National Project Officer – Policy, UNESCO Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Education for Peace and Sustainable Development)

COVID-19 and Post-pandemic Educational Policies in Cambodia. What is at Stake?
Chankoulika BO (Director of the Policy Department, Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport of Cambodia)

Trouble in Paradise: Growing Educational Technology in School Education in India
Anjela Taneja (Public Services and Inequality Lead, Oxfam International)

### Room 1 10:00 – 11:30

**School principals: Between managers and instructional leaders**

Chair: Margarita Lopez (Senior Program Specialist, KIX, International Development Research Centre)

Enhancing school leaders’ role in promoting equity and inclusion in education
Saraswati Dawadi (Research Associate, The Open University)

Exploring the Role of School Leaders in Improving the Collaborative Culture in Bangladesh: A Case Study
Rabeli Ahmed (Faculty Member, Institute of Education Research, University of Dhaka)

DMS Positive Deviance Research in Lao PDR
Panya Chanthavong (Deputy Director General, Department of Education Quality Assurance, Ministry of Education and Sports, Lao PDR)

Rural Public School functionality framework: An evaluation tool to strengthen public schools in Nepal
Shrea Shrestha (Research Associate, Kathmandu University)

Data-Driven School Improvement (DSI): Opportunities, Challenges and Scalable Solutions
Amina Ansari (Education Specialist)

### Room 2 10:00 – 11:30

**Lessons learnt from scaling innovations**

Chair: Marina Dreux Frotté (KIX EAP Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Lead, NORRAG)

Deepening education impact: Emerging lessons on scaling innovations in low- and middle-income countries
Tracy Olson (Program Coordinator and Research Assistant, The Brookings Institution)

Emerging evidence of a blended learning model for skills training
Kara Chesal (Head of Gender & Education, Catalpa International) & Artita Devi (Team Leader, Catalpa International)

Scaling and creating a systemic change for child-friendly libraries in Vietnam
Nguyễn Dieu Nguyễn (Country Director, Vietnam, Room to Read)

The text leveling tool as a quality assurance instrument for primary school children’s books
Tolgan Omuraliev (ICT Specialist, RTI International)

The teacher as a driver of innovation on the example of the results of a study in Kyrgyzstan
Meezim Basybeytova (Project Assistant for Research and Knowledge Mobilization, Taalim Forum Public Foundation)

Transfer and Promotion of INNOTECH Innovative Education Solutions
Benito Benoza (Manager, Knowledge Management and Networking Office, SEAMEO INNOTECH)
Gender equity: Promising initiatives and recurrent challenges

Chair: Rasha Sharaf (KIX EAP Knowledge Lead, NORRAG)

Girls Completion of Primary Education in Sindh: Challenges and Policy Alternatives
Sajid Ali (Amir Sultan Chinoy Assoc. Prof. & Director of Research & Policy Studies, Institute for Educational Development, Aga Khan University)

A Study on the Issues of Gender-Sensitive Approach in English Course Materials of Secondary Schools in Mongolia
Odonchimeg Tumee (English and Russian Lecturer, Head of the Department of Foreign Languages and Culture Studies, Khovd Branch School of National University of Mongolia)
Shurentsetseg Delgersuren (English Lecturer, Department of Foreign Languages and Culture Studies, Khovd Branch School of National University of Mongolia)

Teachers’ professional development on ‘education about, through and for human rights’ towards practicing gender equity and inclusion in the classrooms and schools
Md Khairul Islam (Professor, Institute of Education and Research, University of Dhaka)

Changes in secondary school teachers’ attitude, efficacy, and practice through teachers’ professional development regarding gender and inclusive pedagogies: A cross-cultural study
Mohammad Ali Zinnah (Professor, Institute of Education and Research, University of Dhaka)

The Impact of COVID-19 on Gender and Education in Kyrgyzstan Based on Analysis by Qualitative Research Methods
Chinara Omurkulova (MEL Consultant, Taalim-Forum Kyrgyzstan)

Gender inclusion and equality in the tech industry: Cambodian perspective
Sokuntepy Chivr (Project Coordinator, Sisters of Code)

Closing gaps and eliminating inconsistencies between the curriculum framework, standards, and student assessment

Chair: Amy Crompton (KIX EAP Knowledge Lead, NORRAG)

Considerations for the integration of 21st century skills in education systems globally
Claire Scouler (Senior Research Fellow, Australian Council for Educational Research)

Integration of 21st Century Skills in the School Curriculum
Kinley Seden (Lecturer, Department of Social Science, Samtse College of Education)

A Proposal to Incorporate Teaching and Assessment of 21st Century Skills in the National Curriculum of Pakistan
Raabia Hirani (Manager, Curriculum Development, Aga Khan University Examination Board)

Exploring the impacts of the National Curriculum-2021 on science education in Bangladesh
Tahmina Hoq (Assistant Professor, Institute of Education and Research, University of Dhaka)

The Challenge in Implementation of Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics Education Policy in Secondary Resource School in Cambodia
Huyteang Meng (Deputy Head of Office, Department of Planning, Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport, Cambodia)

Inclusive education: Progress and bottlenecks for ensuring quality education for students with disabilities

Chair: Kyungah Bang (Inclusive Education Specialist & Programme Officer, UNESCO Bangkok)

In Pursuit of Education For All: Analysis of education for children with disabilities in selected countries in Asia and the Pacific
Sakshi Mishra (Statistics and Monitoring Consultant, UNICEF Headquarters, New York)

Making Inclusive Education a Reality: Breaking Down Barriers to Education for All
Benjamin Clare (Inclusive Lead Adviser, Exemplar International)

“Too disabled to include?”: Uncovering special and regular teachers attitudes toward the inclusion of students with disabilities in Georgia
Rusudan Chanturia (Deputy Chief of Party of the USAID ‘Unity Through Diversity Program’, UN Association of Georgia)

Disability Inclusive Learning Assessment
Ittag Khalil Khan (Senior Programme Manager, Sightsavers)

Breaking the barriers: Ensuring Quality Education for Children with Disabilities
Purabi Pattanayaki (Principal Chief Consultant & Educational Practitioner, Dep. of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Education, India)

Highlighted Session: Gender Equality in the EAP Region

Panel Chair
Arushi Terway (KIX EAP Senior Technical Advisor, NORRAG)

Panelists
Anna Dabrowski (Senior Research Fellow, ACER)
Elaine Unterhalter (Professor of Education & International Development and Co Director, Centre for Education and International Development, UCL)
Justine Sass (Chief of the Section for Education for Inclusion and Gender Equality, UNESCO Headquarters, Paris)
Sally Gehr (Senior Lead on Gender and Education, GPE)
Shreyasi Jha (Regional Gender and Adolescent Advisor, UNICEF East Asia and Pacific region)

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Day 2: 7 June, 8:00 – 14:00 CEST (UTC +2)
### Tools and techniques for policy and planning

**Room 1 12:30 – 14:00**

**Chair:** Gita Steiner-Khamsi (Professor, Teachers College, Columbia University; KIX EAP Principal Researcher, NORRAG)

**SEAMEO Presentation on Policy and Planning**
Habibah Abdul Rahim (Director, SEAMEO)

**New tools to facilitate target setting, peer learning and policy dialogue on SDG 4**
Anna D’Addio (Senior Policy Analyst (Thematic Lead), GEM Report Team, UNESCO)

**Use of data for education planning**
Sivutha Onn (Director of Planning Department, Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport, Cambodia)

**Capacity Gap Analysis and Recommendations for Annual and Mid-term Educational Planning in Sindh**
Sarwat Mahmood Alam (Education Specialist, UNICEF)

**Factors and mechanisms influencing the management of the organizational culture of the education system**
Sofiko Baramidze (Doctoral Student of Social Sciences / Head of the Professional Development Center, Georgian Technical University)

**Investigating the ‘Private’ in the Educational Technology Field: Imaginaries and Precarity in Educational Provisioning in India**
Anurag Shukla (Director of Education, Brhat Education Trust)

### Approaches for addressing inequity and low quality in education

**Room 2 12:30 – 14:00**

**Chair:** José Luis Canêlhas (KIX EAP Hub Manager, NORRAG)

**The Capability Approach to Shaping Local Educational Policy**
Regina Rajbanshi (Research Fellow, Learning Innovation and Knowledge Exchange Lab (IKE Lab))

**Potential of Geospatial Data: Providing Equitable Access to Higher Secondary Education in the Maldives**
Ahmed Mohamed (Assistant Professor of Educational Leadership, Policy and Professional Learning, The Maldives National University)

**Issues in School Completion for Students with Complex Learning Profiles: A Policy Analysis of Maldives Education System**
Aminath Shaznie (Educational Consultant, The Islamic University of Maldives)

**Diagnostic tools for improving education policy in Georgia**
Meri Kadagidze (Researcher & Education Specialist, Education for All)

**Ensuring access and equality of education in Mongolia**
Tungalagtuya Khushkhenduu (Program Director, Nomadic Nature Conservation-NGO, KIX National Committee Member, Mongolia)

**Regional and Socioeconomic Inequalities in Access to Pre-Primary Education in India: Evidence from a Recent Household Survey**
Pradeep Kumar Choudhury (Assistant Professor of Economics, Zakir Husain Centre for Educational Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University)

### Keynote Room 8:00 – 9:30

**Keynote**
Chanwoong Baek (Academic Director, NORRAG)

**Emancipated Learning: Lessons Learned from Transforming an Education System**
Iwan Syahril (Director General of Early Childhood Education, Basic Education and Secondary Education, Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Technology, Republic of Indonesia)

**When Difference Becomes Deficit: Language Policy, Languages in Education and Implications for Multidimensional Inequalities in Postcolonial Pakistan**
Tayyaba Tamim (Associate Professor and Director Academics, School of Education, Lahore University of Management Sciences, Pakistan)

### Education in emergencies: Using research evidence to improve practice

**Room 1 10:00 – 11:30**

**Chair:** Ryan Allen (Assistant Professor of Comparative and International Education and Leadership, Educational Leadership and Societal Change Program, Soka University of America)

**Education in Emergencies: Evidence from Large-Scale Randomized Trials in Five Countries**
Colin Crossley (Program Manager, ConnectEd)

**Generating Actionable Evidence in EiE: Co-Constructing ERICC’s Research Agendas**
Ashraf Haque (Adjunct Faculty, North South University of Bangladesh & Consultant Assistant, IRC ERICC)

**Scaling Education Technology Innovations: A Policy Network Analysis Case Study in Sudan**
Selin Turan (Research Assistant, Research and Development Department, War Child Holland)

**Afghan School Leaders’ Role in Promoting Inclusion in UNHCR Schools in Pakistan**
Muhammed Munir Ibrahimi (Co-Lead Researcher, GPE KIX – Networked Improvement Communities for School Leaders Towards Equity & Inclusion)

**Stepping Stones: The impact of twin crises on the future of Myanmar migrant education in Thailand**
Naing Win (Migrant Education Director, The Inclusive Education Foundation)

**Transformation of Information and analytical tools of educational management under martial law conditions in Ukraine**
Sergiy Londar (Director, State Scientific Institution Institute of Educational Analytics; Ministry of Education and Science, Ukraine)
Teacher professional development: Models, methodologies and merits

**Room 2  10:00 – 11:30**

**Chair:** Natalie Hong (Senior Project Officer, UNESCO Multisectoral Regional Office in Bangkok)

**Multi-modal Approach to Teacher Professional Development in South Asia**
Ruchi Kumar (Assistant Professor (CETE) and Co-Principal Investigator (Multimodal Approach to Teacher Professional Development Project), Centre of Excellence in Teacher Education, Tata Institute of Social Sciences)

**Impact of CL4STEM Teacher Professional Development Model (TPD) on Secondary School Teachers’ Knowledge, Attitude and Practice**
Emaya Kannamma (Research Fellow, Tata Institute of Social Sciences)

**A methodology to enable bottom-up reform in education**
David Frost (Co-Director, HertsCam Network)

**How is the quality of economic learning program in Indonesia?**
Leni Permana (Lecturer, Economic Education Study Programme, Universitas Pendidikan Indonesia)

**Challenges to scaling teacher professional development in the Maldives: A policy review**
Aminath Shafiya Adam (Assistant Professor, Maldives National University)

**School-based Continuous Professional Development Model: A Policy Brief of Nepal**
Parbati Dhungana (Coordinator & Lecturer, Continuing & Professional Education Centre (CPEC), Kathmandu University, School of Education)

**Improving coverage and quality in early childhood education**

**Room 1  12:30 – 14:00**

**Chair:** Ana Maria Rodriguez (Early Childhood Development Specialist, UNICEF EAPRO)

**Lessons Learned from a Promising Accelerated Early Childhood Model: Proven Across Geographies**
Fe Norag-Abogi (Director, English Without Borders Network Project, PO Durakhshi Marifat)

**Early Childhood Care and Education workforce quality in EAP**
Valérie Djioze-Gallet (Cluster Lead for Global Work on Teacher Policy, UNESCO)

**Investing in preschool education through public–private partnerships: Examples from the Kyrgyz Republic and Tajikistan**
Shodibeg Kodirov (Executive Director, CSO ‘Economics and Education’)

**Development and Validation of Contextualized Kindergarten Module for Children with Hearing Impairment**
Sammy Boy Guzman (Special Education Teacher III & Special Education Department Chairman, Kasiglahan Village Elementary School, DEPED, Philippines)

**Digital Transformation in Early Childhood Education in Vietnam: Snapshots**
Ton Quang Cuong (Member of the Executive Committee, Vietnam Association for Nonpublic Preschool Education)

**Observe to understand and act to improve: process-oriented child monitoring**
Le Van Phuc (Education Advisor, VVOB Vietnam)

**Teacher professional development: A focus on experiences in Eastern Europe and Central Asia**

**Room 2  12:30 – 14:00**

**Chair:** Julia Levin (KIX EAP Knowledge Lead, NORRAG)

**Towards supporting continuous professional learning of teachers**
Alexander Sokol (Academic Director, TA Group)

**TPD@Scale: a challenge or opportunity for Tajikistan?**
Nasiba Mirpochoeva (Director, English Without Borders Network Project, PO Durakhshi Marifat)

**Moving towards ICT-mediated teacher professional development in Uzbekistan**
Ravshanjon Ahmmedov (Head of International Relations Department, Avloniy Research Institute)

**Teacher Professional Development in Kyrgyzstan: Analysis and Recommendations for Reform**
Almagul Osmonova (Director, Taalim-Forum Public Foundation)

**Competency based model of a modern teacher in line with the professional standard in Kyrgyz Republic as a base for CPD**
Saule Khamzina (Director, USAID ‘Okuu Keremet’ / RTI International, Kyrgyzstan)

**Reform initiatives in the MENA region: insights from past experiences and plans for the future**

**Room 3  12:30 – 14:00**

**Chair:** Malak Zaalouk (Head of Middle East Higher Education Institute, American University in Cairo)

**Results of the National Evaluation for Arabic, Math and Science programs**
Muhammad Hassan Al-Masuri (Chairman of the Scientific Council, Educational Research and Development Center)

**Exploring Teacher Educators’ Perspectives of Play-Based Learning in Palestine**
Ahmad Aljanaizah (VP Academic Assistant, Birzeit University)

**Data Assisted Educational Planning of Digital Technology: Reframing MALL Applications in Yemen General Education**
Radwan Alsharif (Assistant Professor of English Language, Faculty of Education, Hajja University–Yemen)

**21st-Century Skills in Tunisia: Unlocking the Nation’s Potential**
Mayada Ben Slama

**The Butterfly Effect: Teacher Training, Difference Making and Making Difference**
Ibrahem Alawadi (Specialist Trainer, Queen Rania Teacher Academy Local and Regional Experience)

**Closing Session**

**Room 1  14:10 – 14:30**