



Educaid.be International Conference

8 October 2024 in Brussels
and online

Leveraging
Technologies for
Inclusive Quality
Education

Context:

Digitalisation impacts all aspects of society and the economy. Access to online information is vital for realising the universal right to information and provides important pathways for lifelong learning. With digital tools becoming crucial for accessing basic services like education, healthcare, and government services, it is also becoming imperative to ensure that all citizens have basic digital competencies, knowledge of media literacy and critical thinking skills. This is becoming a precondition to provide equal opportunities for active participation in the economy, society and democratic processes. How this impacts education and exploring challenges and solutions in this area aims to foster discussion and drive positive change in our educational practices.

However, the growing use and importance of technology in education have highlighted significant digital and educational inequalities between high and low-income countries. Data from UNICEF shows disparities in connectivity that exacerbate these inequalities. Addressing challenges such as sustainability, locally relevant content and potential risks is essential. Ensuring inclusive quality education for all is crucial for promoting equity and social progress. **How can we leverage technology to ensure inclusive quality education for all, with a special emphasis on the most vulnerable and marginalised groups, leaving no one behind?**

Conference Goals:

The 2024 Educaid.be conference aims to contribute to the understanding of its members and other interested parties on the complex issues regarding technology's role in education and vice versa. It will provide a balanced discussion on the opportunities, risks and challenges of technologies for inclusive quality education and explore the importance of this theme in ensuring educational equality and narrowing digital divides.

The conference will feature:

1) Panel discussions & presentations:

International panels will present and discuss best and inspirational practices and formulate questions and solutions on several key issues, like:

- Financial sustainability of technology in education under increasing financial pressure.
- Balancing equal access with limited resources.
- Connectivity solutions in low resource settings.
- Raising awareness and protecting rights when adopting educational technologies.
- Appropriate use of public funds when partnering with the private sector.
- Digital skills as foundational learning skills – the importance of digital literacy and critical thinking for lifelong learning and active citizenship.
- The impact of Artificial Intelligence on the digital divide. Will AI widen the digital divide, or can it be used to address learning inequalities in lower-income countries?
- The central role of teachers, school leaders and learners in the digital transformation. How to ensure inclusion for all?
- (...)

2) Keynote Speeches:

Renowned experts will provide insights into the integration of technology in education and its implications.

3) Lobbying and Recommendations:

Formulating recommendations for political decision-makers to address these challenges and promote sustainable and inclusive educational practices.

Join us on October 8 2024 in Brussels, or online, for a comprehensive exploration of how technology can be leveraged to provide inclusive quality education for all, leaving no one behind. Together, we can drive positive change and ensure equitable access to education in the digital age.

Access to the conference is free, but registration is required.

An event organised by Educaid.be, with the support of APEFE, VVOB Education for Development, Belgian Development Cooperation and member organisations Close the Gap, EdukoMondo, Enabel, Handicap International - Humanity and Inclusion Belgium and UNICEF Belgium.