

## Celebrations of International Literacy Day

### Online International Conference on ‘Literacy for a human-centred recovery: Narrowing the digital divide’

8-9 September 2021

#### Main objectives:

- To share knowledge and experiences regarding inclusive and quality digital literacy programmes for youth and adults with no or low literacy skills.
- To explore the interplay between literacy and digital skills and the ways in which digital skills can be meaningfully integrated into literacy programmes.
- To identify the main issues to be addressed concerning the role of technology-enabled learning in reimagining literacy teaching and learning in times of COVID-19 and beyond.
- To present six outstanding literacy programmes which are awarded the UNESCO International Literacy Prizes 2021.

#### Agenda

Wednesday, 8 September 2021	
<b>13:30 – 13:31</b>	<b>Projection of a video of International Literacy Day 2021</b>
<b>13:31 – 13:55</b>	<b>Opening session</b> <b>Chairperson:</b> Mr Borhene Chakroun, Director, Division of Policies and Lifelong Learning Systems, Education Sector, UNESCO <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Opening remarks</b>, Ms Stefania Giannini, Assistant Director-General for Education, UNESCO</li><li>• <b>Remarks, Digital skills and literacy from the rights perspective</b>, Ms Koumbou Boly Barry, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Right to Education</li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Testimony of a learner:</b> Gogo, a 94 year-old woman from Kenya (video message)</li> <li>• <b>Testimony,</b> Ms Hassina Sherjan, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Aid Afghanistan for Education, Afghanistan</li> </ul>
13:55 – 14:40	<p><b>Ministerial Panel: Literacy at the heart of a human-centred recovery: Enhancing national policies and systems for narrowing the digital divide</b></p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Mr David Atchoarena, Director, UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning</p> <p><b>Panelists</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• H.E. Ms Mariatou Kone, Minister of National Education and Literacy, Côte d'Ivoire</li> <li>• H.E. Mr Tarek Shawki, Minister of Education, Egypt</li> <li>• H.E. Mr Nadiem Makarim, Minister of Education, Culture, Research and Technology, Indonesia</li> <li>• H.E. Ms Maria Victoria Angulo, Minister of National Education of Colombia</li> <li>• H.E. Mr Tiago Brandao Rodrigues, Minister of Education, Portugal</li> </ul>
14:40 – 15:20	<p><b>Session 1: Inclusive and meaningful technology-enabled literacy programmes: creating synergies between literacy and digital skills</b></p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Ms Katarina Popovic, Secretary General, International Council for Adult Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Harnessing the potential of digital technology for youth and adult literacy,</b> Mr Abdessamih Mahmoud, Director, National Agency for the Fight Against Illiteracy, Morocco</li> <li>• <b>Main trends in technology-enabled literacy learning programmes: UNESCO International Literacy Prizes 2021,</b> Ms Mari Yasunaga, Programme Specialist, Section of Youth, Literacy and Skills Development, Education Sector, UNESCO</li> <li>• <b>Online second language courses for refugees and migrants in Germany,</b> Ms Inga Opitz, Deutsche Volkshochschul-Verband (DVV)</li> </ul>
15:20 – 16:00	<p><b>Session 2: Partnerships and financing for technology-enabled literacy programmes</b></p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Ms Josje van der Linden, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Behavioural and Social Sciences / Faculty of Arts, University of Groningen, The Netherlands (UNESCO Chair in Lifelong learning, youth, and work)</p>

- **Multistakeholder partnership for supporting the marginalized and out-of-school children and young people**, Ms Thantida Wongprasong, Director, Office of Partnership, Innovation and Scholarships, Equitable Education Fund, Thailand
- **Leveraging digital technologies for youth and adult literacy: Global Alliance for Literacy within the Framework of Lifelong Learning**, Ms Rakhat Zholdoshalieva, Team Leader, UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning
- **Partnerships to promote adult basic skills in times of COVID-19 and beyond**, Ms Graciela Sbertoli, Secretary General, European Basic Skills Network

Thursday, 9 September 2021

13:30 - 14:45

**Special Session on the UNESCO International Literacy Prizes 2021**

**Moderator:** Mr Borhene Chakroun, Director, Division of Policies and Lifelong Learning Systems, Education Sector, UNESCO

**Video of the UNESCO Director-General Audrey Azoulay**

**Remarks**

- **Opening remarks**, Ms Stefania Giannini, Assistant Director-General, UNESCO
- **Remarks**, Mr John Benseman, Chair of the International Jury

**Presentation of the UNESCO King Sejong Literacy Prize**

- H.E. Mr Kim Dong Gi, Ambassador and Permanent Delegate of the Republic of Korea to UNESCO
- Ms Filipa Lopes, Operations & Project Development Specialist, Limitless Horizons Ixil, Guatemala
- Ms Saroj Sharma, Chairperson, National Institute of Open Schooling, India
- Ms Elinor Sisulu, Executive Director, Puku Children's Literature Foundation, South Africa

**Presentation of the UNESCO Confucius Prize for Literacy**

- H.E. Mr Yang Jin, Ambassador and Permanent Delegate of the People's Republic of China to UNESCO
- Mr Emmanuel Krou, President, ONG GA-TIC Côte d'Ivoire
- Mr Mahmoud El-Meteini, President, Ain Shams University, Egypt
- Ms Roxana Fabris López Piña, Executive President, Construyendo y Creciendo, Mexico

<b>14:45– 15:25</b>	<p><b>Session 3: Reimagining future literacy teaching and learning: how technology will impact literacy programmes</b></p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Mr Peter Mayo, Dept. Arts, Open Communities, Adult Education, Faculty of Education, University of Malta</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>How I see future literacy teaching and learning and the potential of technology</b>, Ms Amna Habiba, Representative of the UNESCO Youth Community, Pakistan</li><li>• <b>Demystifying the digital reading brain for reimagining literacy and its teaching and learning</b>, Ms Maryanne Wolf, Director of the Center for Dyslexia, Diverse Learners, and Social Justice, Graduate School of Education and Information Studies, UCLA, USA</li><li>• <b>Rethinking teaching and learning for 21<sup>st</sup> century literacy skills</b>, Mr Andreas Schleicher, Director for Education and Skills, and Special Advisor on Education Policy to the Secretary-General, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development</li><li>• <b>Digital technology and futures of literacy teaching and learning</b>, Mr Sobhi Tawil, Director of UNESCO’s Future of Learning and Innovation Team, UNESCO</li></ul>
<b>15:25 – 15:30</b>	<p><b>Closing session</b></p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Mr Hervé Huot-Marchand, Chief, Section of Youth, Literacy and Skills Development, Education Sector, UNESCO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Closing remarks</b>, Mr Borhene Chakroun, Director, Division of Policies and Lifelong Learning Systems, Education Sector, UNESCO</li></ul>