

Harnessing science dynamics to transform learning



Expert Meeting on the Learning Sciences, UNESCO Paris, 25-26 October 2023

Programme

Wednesday 25 October 2023 Morning, Room VIII		
09:00 - 09:30	Registration & Coffee/Tea	
Master of Ceremony: Huong Le Thu, Section of Education Policy, UNESCO		
09:30 - 09:45	 Welcome & Opening Speeches Opening remarks: Stefania Giannini, Assistant-Director General for Education, UNESCO Overview of the agenda and housekeeping: Sonia Guerriero, Section of Education Policy, UNESCO 	
09:45 - 10:45	Introductions Moderator: Borhene Chakroun, Director, Division of Policies and Lifelong Learning Systems, UNESCO Interactive session. Participants take turns to introduce themselves, their affiliations, and their areas of work. To facilitate networking, each participant will give one or two sentences about a key issue of relevance to the Learning Sciences and what they hope to achieve or learn by attending this event.	
	Coffee/tea break and networking	
11:00 – 12:30	Session 1: Missing links between Learning Sciences research and education policies and practices Moderator: Borhene Chakroun, Director, Division of Policies and Lifelong Learning Systems,	
	UNESCO This first session is devoted to discussing historical and persistent challenges in education policies and practices that could be addressed by the Learning Sciences.	
	Presentations	
	Gwang-Chol Chang (UNESCO's work on the Learning Sciences)	
	 Anantha Duraiappah (International Science and Evidence-based Education (ISEE) Assessment Report) 	
	Bob Wise (Global Science of Education Learning Network)	
	Open Discussion (45-60 minutes)	
	 How much have findings from Learning Sciences and brain research been used in education policy and practice to date? 	
	 How much do we understand about Learning Sciences and the implications they provide to unfold and inform new practices or reinforce existing ones for continuous improvement in teaching and learning? 	



12:30 - 14:00

Lunch

Wednesday 25 October 2023 Afternoon, Room VIII

14:00 - 15:30

Session 2: Insights from the Learning Sciences

Moderator: Grégoire Borst, Professor of Developmental Psychology and Cognitive Neuroscience of Education, La Sorbonne (FRANCE)

How the science of learning can mitigate the impacts of poverty and inequality on learning outcomes. Poverty and inequality are distal causes of poor learning, mediated by proximal causes such as hunger, violence, lack of schools and unprepared teachers, among others. These latter factors impact directly on cognitive abilities and brain development, which have consequences on the learning outcomes of children. This session will showcase educational interventions informed by the 'science of learning' for improving learning outcomes, especially for vulnerable and disadvantaged children.

Presentations

- Kathy HIRSH-PASEK, Temple University (USA). Active Playful Learning: A pedagogical approach aligned with the science of learning.
- Andrea CHIBA, University of California at San Diego and Global Science of Learning Education Network (USA). The importance of time and timing in social interactions for improving learning.
- Shelley Xiuli TONG, The University of Hong Kong (CHINA). Reimagining the Future of Special Education: An Intelligent Dyslexic Interface Design (I-DID).
- Bosiljka MILOSAVLJEVIC, Queen Mary University of London (UK). Infant predictors of preschool age outcomes: Evidence from the Brain Imaging for Global Health (BRIGHT) project.
- Kaja JASIŃSKA, University of Toronto (CANADA). Neurocognitive development and learning in environments with high poverty-related risk of illiteracy.

Example questions:

 Did your research influence education policy and practice? If yes how? If no, what should be the next steps to influence education policy and teacher practice?

15:30 - 16:00

Coffee/tea break and networking

16:00 - 17:30

Session 3: Insights from the Learning Sciences (continued)

Moderator: Roberto Lent, UNESCO Chair on Science for Education, Professor of Neuroscience, Institute of Biomedical Sciences, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro and D'Or Institute of Research and Education (BRAZIL)

Pedagogical innovations for improving early and foundational learning. Pedagogical innovations must be based on scientific approaches rooted in different types of research, from small experimental controlled studies to large-scale, well assessed, interventions in real classroom contexts. This session will explore the 'science of teaching' to address some of the needs for the scientific validation of teaching practices and provide suggestions that may be offered for pedagogical innovation and improvement of teaching practices globally.

Presentations

Ronghuai HUANG, UNESCO Chair on Artificial Intelligence in Education, Director of the



UNESCO International Research and Training Centre for Rural Education, Beijing Normal University (CHINA). New Modes of Teaching and Learning during Digital Transformations.

- Paul HOWARD-JONES, University of Bristol (UK). How do Science of Learning research findings influence practitioners' teaching effectiveness?
- Sherlyne A. ALMONTE-ACOSTA, SEAMEO INNOTECH (PHILIPPINES). Exploring Teachers'
 Whys: Understanding Motivation Among Teachers in the Philippines.
- Pamela WADENDE, Kisii University (KENYA). Indigenous care and motivation practices as transition strategy into formal school tasks.
- Ximena GONZALEZ GRANDÓN, Universidad Iberoamericana (MÉXICO). A Latin American and inter-bodily contribution to global socio-emotional education.

Example questions:

• Did your research influence education policy and practice? If yes how? If no, what should be the next steps to influence education policy and teacher practice?

17:30 - 18:00

Session 4: Closing by the Advisory Group

Moderator: Bob Wise, Director of the Global Science of Learning Education Network (GSoLEN)

The Advisory Group sum up the learning from the day's presentations and debates and present their views about the future of the Learning Sciences.

18:00 -

Working dinner (7th floor, UNESCO)

All participants are invited to a buffet dinner graciously sponsored by the Enfranchisement Foundation on behalf of the Global Science of Learning Education Network (GSoLEN) to continue to discuss and debate in a social setting.

Thursday 26 October 2023 Morning, Room VIII

09:00 - 09:30

Coffee/tea and networking

Master of Ceremony: Sonia Guerriero, Section of Education Policy, UNESCO

• Synthesis of Day 1 and quick presentation of the survey responses.

09:30 - 11:00

Session 5: Experience-sharing from national, regional and global networks in bridging science, policies and practices in education.

Moderator: Bob Wise, Director of the Global Science of Learning Education Network (GSoLEN)

The goal of this session is to unveil the dynamics of innovations in the production and use of Learning Sciences research for education policies and practices globally. Each invited speaker will have 2-3 minutes to present a network, initiative, or experience in brokering between science and policy or practice. In advance of the meeting, participants will respond to a short survey about the challenges and success factors behind their networks and initiatives.

- Roberto Lent (Brazilian Network of Science for Education)
- Gisele Alves (Ayrton Senna Institute, eduLab21)
- Donika Dimovska (Jacobs Foundation & High-Level Steering Committee FA1)
- Juliette Normen-Smith (Happy Schools)
- Dirk Hastedt (International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement)
- Samuel Asare (Education Sub Saharan Africa)



	 Raul Esteban Chacon Zuloaga (SUMMA) Jonathan Kay (Education Endowment Foundation) Kwame Akyeampong (Ghana Education Evidence and Data Lab) Andrew Tolmie (Centre for Educational Neuroscience) Randa Grob-Zakhary (Education.org) Soo-Siang Lim (US National Science Foundation) Meg Gardinier (RESULTS) Lisa-Maria Müller (Chartered College of Teaching) Jasmine Ma (International Society of the Learning Sciences) Beth Havinga (European Edtech Alliance) Philip Abrami (The Learning Toolkit Plus) Laurie Catteeuw (Babilou Family) Vikram Guria (Pratham Education Foundation) Others 	
11:00 - 11:30	Coffee/tea break and networking	
11:30 - 12:30	Session 5 (continued): Open Discussion Moderator: Bob Wise, Director of the Global Science of Learning Education Network (GSoLEN) Example question: • What have we learned about challenges and enablers in bridging science, policy and practice?	
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch	
Thursday 26 October 2023 Afternoon, Room VIII		
14:00 - 15:30	Session 6: Partnerships and sustainability.	
	Moderator: Donika Dimovska, Chief Knowledge Officer, Jacobs Foundation	
	 How can we further leverage and operationalize networks on the Learning Sciences for implementation of education policies and practices? 	
	 What important knowledge and research gaps remain that can be facilitated by collaboration and joint research? 	
15:30 – 15:45	Coffee/tea break and networking	
15:45 - 16:45	Session 7: Way forward	
	Moderator: Gwang-Chol Chang, Chief, Section of Education Policies, UNESCO	
	Oral report summing up the previous two days and next steps	
16:45	Closing	