



**Telecommunication
Development Bureau (BDT)**

Ref.: BDT/IEE/DM/009

Geneva, 18 January 2018

To:

ICT Ministers

Subject: UNESCO-ITU Policy Forum, Paris, France, 29 March 2018

Sir/Madam,

It is my pleasure to invite you to participate in a ministerial panel at the Policy Forum that will be held on 29 March 2018 as part of Mobile Learning Week, UNESCO's leading conference on technology in education, organized in partnership with the International Telecommunication Union (ITU). The theme of this year's Mobile Learning Week and Policy Forum is 'Skills for a Connected World'.

We would be honoured to learn more about your country's pioneering work on supporting the development of the digital skills required in the digital economy. The Policy Forum will enable you to share your country's experience as well as learn from Ministers of education and other ICT Ministers on how coordinated actions can help countries address digital skills gaps and expand learning opportunities using ICTs, and address an audience of high-level participants, including chiefs of international organizations, senior government officials and representatives from academia and leading private sector companies.

I hope sincerely that I will have the opportunity to welcome you to Mobile Learning Week 2018, and that participants will be able to benefit from your active participation in the Policy Forum. In the event that you are in a position to consider this invitation favourably, we invite your office to kindly inform us of your availability and to indicate the session in which you would like to intervene, preferably before 1 February 2018, by contacting Mrs Nancy Sundberg, Telecommunication Development Bureau (itu-mlw@itu.int). She stands ready to provide you with any further information you may require.

Accept, Sir/Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration,

[Original signed]

Brahima Sanou
Director

Annex 1: Practical information

Accommodation, logistical details and registration

Information on accommodation, including logistical details, is available at:

<http://www.unesco.org/new/en/mlw>

Registration is carried out exclusively online at: <https://en.unesco.org/mlw/2018>

For any further information, please contact: mlw@unesco.org

Visa information

Please note that participants are responsible for requesting an entry visa to France at a relevant Embassy or Consulate. This letter should serve as the official invitation.

Contacts

Ms Nancy Sundberg, Telecommunication Development Bureau, ITU (Email: itu-mlw@itu.int and Tel: +41 22 730 6100).

Annex: Provisional Programme



in partnership with



SKILLS FOR A CONNECTED WORLD



mobile learning week 2018

Education
2030 

UNESCO MOBILE LEARNING WEEK 2018

Joint UNESCO-ITU Policy Forum on Mobile Learning

Thursday, 29 March 2018

UNESCO (125, Avenue de Suffren. Paris, France)

The Policy Forum will discuss the different pathways that governments are taking to support the development of the digital skills required in the digital economy, and to realize the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030.

Digital transformation is sweeping across sectors impacting many aspects of modern societies. New jobs are emerging requiring new skill sets; other jobs are disappearing, calling for a rethinking of educational and lifelong learning approaches. These trends also demand improved and deeper cross-sectoral collaboration, especially between education and technology stakeholders. Digital technologies further hold the promise of enabling greater access to e-education and innovative e-learning platforms, provided the training skills and ICT infrastructure are in place. Particular attention will be given to the critical components of national strategies, and the role that different sectors and actors, and notably the private sector, are playing in the formulation and implementation of training and capacity development programmes. This will include a discussion around digital skills for decent jobs for youth, and related discussions about the importance of cooperation, innovation and partnerships in acquiring digital skills to ensure social and economic inclusion. In addition, the need for an international framework of digital skills will be debated in relation to its potential benefits to inform national policies, facilitate international comparisons, and strengthen cross-border recognition.

As in the previous years, the Forum will bring together ministers of education, ministers of technology, telecom regulators, and leaders from private sector companies to engage, share experiences and discuss how coordinated action and affordable mobile devices can help countries address digital skills gaps and expand learning opportunities using ICTs.

The Policy Forum is jointly organized by UNESCO and ITU within the framework of the Mobile Learning Week 2018.

Provisional Agenda

TIME	PROGRAMME
09:30 – 10:00	Welcome and Introduction
10:00 – 11:15	SESSION 1. Mapping out the development of digital skills internationally and monitoring progress at country level <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What can we learn from international comparisons of digital skills development? What policy strategies have been used by the best performing countries in this domain? • How do countries monitor and assess the development of digital skills? • Monitoring digital skills development at school level <p>Presentations followed by interactive discussion.</p>
11:15 – 11:30	Break
11:30 – 13:00	SESSION 2. Addressing digital skills gaps and expanding learning opportunities: How does computer programming, computational thinking and coding skills contribute to universal digital skills development? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharing lessons learned from best performing countries in this domain • CODE@SG Movement - Developing Computational Thinking As A National Capability • Introducing coding skills <p>Presentations followed by interactive discussion.</p>
13:00-14:30	Lunch
14:30-16:00	SESSION 3: Promoting digital skills for decent jobs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Digital Learning Programme • The experience of coding bootcamps for women and youth • Digital Skills for Decent Jobs for Youth (ITU-ILO Campaign) <p>Presentations followed by interactive discussion.</p>
16:00-16:15	Break
16:15-17:45	SESSION 4: Disruptive innovations for digital skills development in a connected world: a collaborative approach <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How governments are partnering with the private sector for digital skills development • Creating the conditions for successful dialogue • Success stories and lessons learned <p>Presentations followed by interactive discussion.</p>
17:45-18:00	Concluding remarks

