

# Guidelines for Formulating National Strategies on Smart Learning

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# Smart Learning

- Smart learning aims at making learning process adaptive, effective, efficient, engaged, flexible, thoughtful and accessible.
- Smart learning environments differ from typical online learning environments in that they are:
  - highly student centric
  - intelligent and open
  - integrate digital virtual reality learning space

# National Strategies for Smart Learning

- While there is increased awareness about smart learning in Arab countries, significant differences exist in the preparedness at both national policy and implementation level.
- A highly systematic and determined action plan is needed at national level to achieve any significant impact of smart learning.
- Countries therefore need to formulate national strategies for smart learning.

# The Guide for Formulating National Strategies for Smart Learning

- The Guide provides a framework and methodology for the development of national strategy for smart learning, action plan and monitoring framework.
- It is targeted for use by the Ministries of Education and the Ministries of ICT for various countries in Arab region.
- The Guide is developed as part of the ITU Arab Regional Initiative on Smart Learning, in partnership with the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (ALECSO) and Intel.

## Using the Guide

- The Guide provides a holistic view of how various countries can approach towards formulating their national strategies for smart learning.
- Individual countries can tailor various components of the Guide to suit their existing national policies, resources and requirements, and to the expectation of their citizens.
- The countries can choose, refine and develop the components that need more focus within their own context, and create their own unique national strategies for smart learning.

## Outcomes of Using the Guide

- The outcomes of using the Guide are not static and represent a point-in-time understanding of what a country needs to achieve in order to address its particular goals and challenges.
- Changes in country's strategic context, and advancements in ICT infrastructure and use, will require a dynamic approach to updating the national strategies for smart learning and the associated action plan to keep them relevant.

## Context of the Guide

- The Guide covers various aspects of strategy development and strategy planning process.
- The Guide is developed within the context of various international declarations made by the world leaders to improve educational opportunities for world citizens.
- The Guide also aligns with the aims and objectives of the International Telecommunication Union and the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization.
- The Guide is divided into eight modules.

# Module 1: Overview

- This module provides an overview of the strategy development and managing its development.
- It looks at the context of the Qingdao Declaration and the Incheon Declaration for Education.
- It also focuses on the Goal 4 of the proposed Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which is related to education.
- The ITU Broadband Commission Report and the ITU SDGs/Technology Matrix provide background for this module.



## Module 2: Preparation

- This module focuses on how to prepare for smart learning strategy development and strategic planning.
- It provides guidelines for creating an enabling environment among all concerned stakeholders.
- It also covers issues related to internal and external auditing within national context and trends analysis in education and ICT areas, SWOT analysis, and identification of priorities for the strategy.

## Module 3: Vision, Mission and Aims/Goals

- This module looks at formulation of vision, mission and aims/goals.
- The external and internal auditing, and the identified international and national trends and priorities are analyzed.
- Guidelines are provided for developing:



Vision: role of smart learning in developing the country's human resources



Mission: role of education and ICT institutions



Aims  
Goals  
Objectives

## Module 4: Scenarios and Modeling

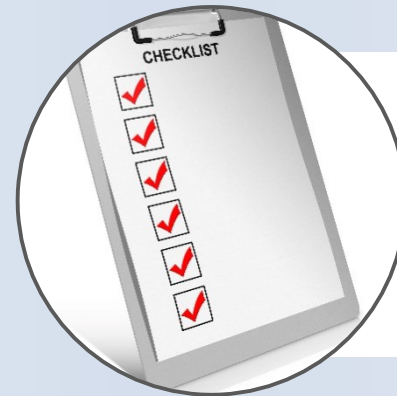
- This module provides guidelines for developing scenarios and modeling.
- It discusses how to identify various scenarios that can enable the countries to achieve various strategy aims.
- This module also outlines the process of selecting the most appropriate and cost-effective scenario.

# Module 5: Strategy selection and formulation

- This module deals with the guidelines for selection and formulation of strategies.
- It looks at:



Professional development of staff



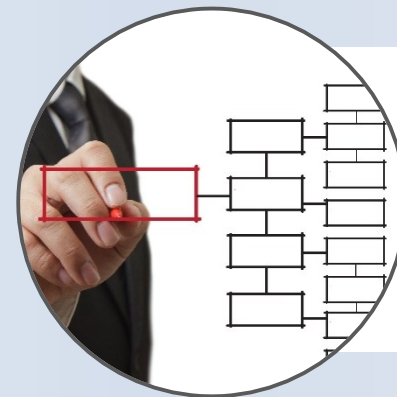
Assessment of smart learning outcomes



Connectedness



Infrastructure for smart learning



Organization of smart learning and leadership



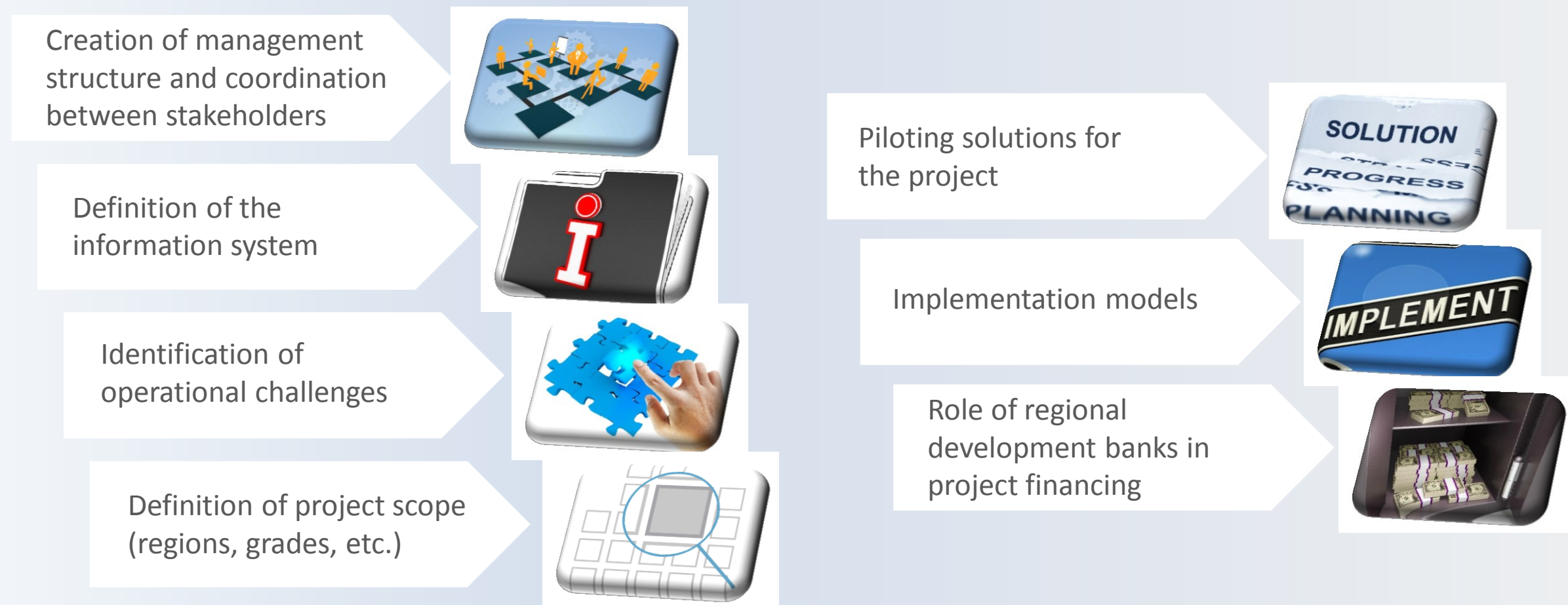
Content and curricula

## Module 6: Documentation

- This module provides guidelines for documenting the smart learning strategy.
- It focuses on the strategy document, which is the product of the strategy development process.
- It outlines the objectives/purpose of the strategies for smart learning, and the goals or deliverables which are necessary to achieve these objectives.

# Module 7: Action plan

- This module looks at developing the action plan.
- It provides guidelines for how to translate the aims and goals into action plan.
- Various goals covered in this module are:



## Module 8: Monitoring implementation and evaluation

- This module provides guidelines for monitoring the implementation of national strategies for smart learning and evaluation.
- It focuses on the basics of assessment of progress and the need for information systems and the monitoring and evaluation framework.
- It also discusses how to support governance of implementation and reporting (internal and external as well as measuring the impact).

## Some recommendations

- Involve key education and ICT stakeholders in creating national strategies for smart learning, the action plan and its subsequent implementation.
- Establish governance mechanisms to provide improved visibility, coordination and control of various smart learning activities.
- Establish the strategic context for smart learning to:
  - provide the foundation for the national strategies for smart learning and action plan
  - enable the government to make informed decisions on which opportunities to pursue



## Some recommendations

- Form an understanding of the current education environment and ICT infrastructure in terms of the programmes, projects and smart learning components that already exist.
- Identify short-, medium- and long-term goals and recognize the importance of demonstrating outcomes and benefits throughout the process of national strategy implementation.

## Advance draft of guidelines

- Advance draft of the guidelines is available on the Smart Learning Forum website for all stakeholders:

<http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Regional-Presence/ArabStates/Pages/Events/2015/SL/>

- All comments and feedback should be sent to Mr. Karim Abdelghani before January 31st 2015 at [karim.abdelghani@itu.int](mailto:karim.abdelghani@itu.int)



Thank You!