



Summary of the C7 E Learning Interactive Facilitation Meeting (IFM)

ICTs and Education

Organised by UNESCO
Tuesday 11 May 2010, 16:00 – 17:30
Room H

Description

The purpose of the C7 E-Learning Meeting was to demonstrate that integrating ICT into education systems increases the quality of education and improves the effectiveness and efficiency of education delivery with specific benefits for marginalized groups and communities.

The meeting attracted over 50 participants and was very interactive with many questions taken directly from the floor. A notable question was put to UNESCO as to why the organization “...wasn’t in charge of Wikipedia!?”

The meeting also explored new methods of learning with online social networks, web 2.0 technologies such as Facebook, YouTube Edu, iTunes University, learning via mobile phone, and Open Educational Resources (OERs).

In his opening remarks, Mr. [Indrajit Banerjee](#), UNESCO reminded delegates that millions of children and adults had little or zero access to quality education and that for many years ICT had been held up as the “solution”. PCs may have been replaced by notebooks and then mobile phones and the internet had significantly changed the equation. Innovative thinking, new-generation policies, and partnerships were required for ‘success’.



The keynote address was delivered by H.E. José Fernando González Sánchez, Deputy Minister of Basic Education from the [Ministry of Public Education](#), Mexico, on the topic of: *Digital Abilities for all / Habilidades Digitales para Todos (HDT) Educative and technological program for basic schools in Mexico*



Professor [Peter Bruck](#), Chairman, [World Summit Award](#) delivered a presentation on how the Award has over 7 years highlighted hundreds of successful, sustainable and replicable ICT in Education projects worldwide.



[Tullio Basaglia](#), Head of Library Services [CERN](#), President of the Association of International Librarians and Information Specialists (AILIS) on behalf of the [International Federation of Libraries](#) (IFLA), spoke on *E-learning and libraries : integration patterns*.



[Ms. Susan Schorr](#), ITU, spoke on the ITU project [Connect a School, Connect a Community](#). The project is designed to encourage the connecting schools to the internet and implementing outreach programmes to also involve parents and wider community for wider dissemination of ICT skills and also project sustainability.



[Abel Caine](#), OER Programme Specialist at UNESCO spoke on the UNESCO [Open Educational Resources \(OER\) Platform](#), a new, innovative online portal which will offer selected UNESCO publications as OERs and allow global communities of practice including teachers, learners, and education professionals to freely copy, adapt, and share their resources.



The meeting was organized by the UNESCO Communication and Information (CI) Sector. Contact for follow-up questions can be directed to:

Mr. [Indrajit Banerjee](#)
Director
Information Society Division
[Communication and Information \(CI\) Sector](#)
UNESCO

Speaker Profiles

José Fernando González Sánchez has worked for the federal government as the Undersecretary of Basic Education since December 2006, working to provide education to all K-9 students in Mexico.

González Sánchez has had a part in the change of education in Mexico, participating in its transformation from every possible angle. His strong background in the field of education ranges from being a student, a rural teacher, a school principal, a university professor, and general director of the federal government.

Tullio Basaglia worked as reference and electronic resources librarian at the Turin Polytechnic Library (1988-2000) and at CERN Scientific Information Service (2000-2008). Since 2008, he is head of Library services at the Scientific Information Service of CERN, the European Organization for Nuclear Research, Geneva. He holds a B.Sc. in Information and Library Studies from the University of Aberystwyth. Since 2010, he is president of AILIS, the Association of International Librarians and Information Specialists (Geneva). Library web site: <http://cern.ch/library>.

Susan Carroll Schorr joined the ITU Telecommunications Development Bureau (BDT) Special Initiatives Division (SIS) in January 2009, bringing with her a wealth of experience in the telecommunications and information and communication technology (ICT) regulatory domain in order to promote access to and use of ICT by the Special Initiatives populations: women and girls, youth and children, indigenous people, persons with disabilities and people living in underserved and rural areas. Since joining SIS, Ms. Schorr has launched the latest BDT flagship initiative, Connect a School, Connect a Community, focused on connecting schools to ICT to serve as community ICT centres for the Special Initiatives populations. Ms. Schorr has also contributed to the development of the joint ITU-G3ict e-Accessibility Toolkit, promoting the ICT accessibility agenda of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

Abel Caine is responsible for the Open Educational Resources (OER) programme area for the UNESCO Communication and Information (CI) Sector based at the UNESCO HQ in Paris, France. He is responsible for the development of a new, innovative UNESCO OER Platform which will offer selected UNESCO publications as OERs allowing stakeholders to freely copy, adapt, and share their adaptations. The Platform is expected to be launched in late 2011.