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FOREWORD

With eight years to go to 2030, the future of humanity is at a tipping point. We may not see it, but we are there. Our education systems have been in a dire need of a transformation for the last many decades, and today, with the disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and the rapid shifts in the digitalisation of learning, the need for this transformation has become more important than ever.

If education does not deliver on its promise to equip children and young people all over the world with the skills they need to tackle future challenges, we will then be known as the generation who did nothing, when we could do everything. That is why Dubai Cares, in partnership with Expo 2020 Dubai and in close coordination with the UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MoFAIC), hosted the RewirEd Summit at this critical time.

Over the course of three days, the RewirEd Summit focused on three thematic areas: Youth, Skills and the Future of Work; Innovation in Education and Education Financing. The summit addressed the most critical issues in the education sector globally, featuring 500 speakers and bringing together over 4,300 attendees joining the debates, discussions and networking. Participants represented over 140 nationalities, resulting in a truly global conversation, and the summit ensured a mix of high-level and technical conversations, with a strong focus on collaboration and partnership.

There is no doubt that the RewirEd Summit has sparked amongst us all, a renewed sense of hope. However, a lot remains to be done to tackle these global education challenges and it will take more than radical ideas and disruptive dialogues to enable lasting change. The work is not over yet. RewirEd is a global platform with a clear vision: to rewire education for a prosperous and sustainable future. To achieve this vision, we remain dedicated in our efforts to continue collaborating, reflecting, innovating and transforming with existing partners, alongside new and unlikely allies. The RewirEd Summit is an important building block that will feed into the UN’s Transforming Education Summit, due to be convened by the UN Secretary-General, H.E. António Guterres, at the UN General Assembly in September 2022. As part of this mission, we at Dubai Cares are pleased to be working with the Education Commission on the RewirEd Summit Outcomes Report that will pull together the main outcomes and recommendations of the conversations that happened during the RewirEd Summit, and make sure they are taken forward and actioned upon.

Education must become everybody’s business, and must be seen as the priority investment in order for our children to have the future they deserve.

INTRODUCTION

A GLOBAL PLATFORM ON EDUCATION

Keeping in line with our mission to create new and unlikely allies and strengthen existing collaboration to ensure that education is at the center of human development, the RewirEd Summit offered a platform for discussions and interactive sessions to be co-led by representatives from governments, NGOs, the private sector, academia, multilateral organizations, coalitions, and youth networks. RewirEd aims to be a catalyst in redefining education to ensure a future that is prosperous, sustainable, innovative and accessible to all.

REWIRIED LEGACY

DR. TARIQ AL GURG
CEO AND VICE-CHAIRMAN, DUBAI CARES
The RewirEd Summit took place from 12th to 14th December 2021 at Expo 2020 Dubai. It was a first-of-its-kind hybrid format, in the face of the ongoing global pandemic, welcoming Heads of State, Ministers, speakers and delegates, both in-person and virtually from across the world.

3 THEMATICS

Youth, Skills and the Future of Work
Innovation in Education
Education Financing

108 HIGH-LEVEL AND BREAKOUT SESSIONS

ATTENDEES

2,810 IN-PERSON ATTENDANCE
1,492 VIRTUAL ATTENDANCE
144 NATIONALITIES REPRESENTED
1,165 ORGANISATIONS

SPEAKERS

500 SPEAKERS
7 HEADS OF STATE
33 MINISTERS
256+ ORGANISATIONS
SECTORS REPRESENTED

- MULTILATERAL ORGANIZATIONS
- PRIVATE SECTOR
- GOVERNMENTS
- FOUNDATIONS
- COMMUNITY LEADERS
- YOUTH NETWORKS
- THINK TANKS

7 FORMATS AND ROOMS

- PLENARY HALL
- TALENT ARENA
- DEBATE ARENA
- CLASSROOM HALL
- FUTURE HALL
- THINK TANK
- THE LOFT

"Very successful summit that brought together concerned global entities and key global policy makers, business leaders, and young people representatives to come with solutions for rewiring education to be relevant to current learning and skills needs and future of work and for achieving nations developments and the SDGs." - RewirEd Summit Attendee

"The RewirEd Summit must be held on a regular basis to help mutual learning and plan for the challenges we face in education." - RewirEd Summit Attendee

"Great topics. Some super engaging speakers, very knowledgeable with hands-on experience. Amazing how many speakers were there and the various sessions taking place." - RewirEd Summit Attendee

"The event was well organized and inclusive. I liked youth’s participation and topics of this event. Looking at the future system of education, as a youth myself I hope higher education will be better and actions will be taken by all stakeholders, governments, private sectors, and other actors to have children, youths, and anyone seeking education have it accessible in person or with the use of technology, without forgetting refugees and displaced people. This summit was a very meaningful event to organize, many thanks to the organizers, Dubai Cares." - RewirEd Summit Attendee

"Congratulations to the organizing team. This was an especially challenging task given the pandemic. Thanks to Dubai Cares for their very generous and gracious support for the conference and the participants. It was especially nice to have this at the Expo site, allowing much broader learning and connecting education ideas to the world. Excellent job! Thank you very much." - RewirEd Summit Attendee
VENUE
A state-of-the-art facility, the Dubai Exhibition Centre (DEC), hosted the RewirEd Summit at the heart of Expo 2020 Dubai. The venue offered exceptional networking opportunities and access to the greatest gathering of minds in the world, with 192 countries participating.

COVID-19 SAFETY MEASURES
The health and safety of all RewirEd Summit speakers, attendees, volunteers and colleagues were of utmost importance. We put in place strict COVID-19 social distancing and protective plans all in line with the Expo 2020 Dubai guidelines.

ON-SITE MEASURES
- **Face Masks**: Visitors were required to wear face masks all the time.
- **Social distancing**: Social distancing regulations of at least two metres between people.
- **Hygiene**: All venues and common areas were regularly cleaned and sanitised.
- **Hand-sanitising**: Hand-sanitiser stations were positioned at regular intervals throughout the site.
- **Medical services**: Appropriate facilities and specialist staff were available to manage any potential medical issues.

THE REWIRED APP
The RewirEd Summit App brought the summit right to the fingertips of speakers and attendees, making the event in line with Expo 2020 Dubai and Dubai Exhibition Centre paperless policy. It provided up-to-date summit information, the latest agenda, speakers’ line-up, as well as meeting room locations. It allowed users to customize the agenda including selecting sessions and workshops and connecting directly with speakers and attendees to organise meetings.

MEDIA ENGAGEMENT
- **368 ARTICLES**
- **14 GLOBAL BROADCAST INTERVIEWS**
- **546M PR REACH**
- **USD 7.4M PR ADVERTISING VALUE EQUIVALENCE**
SOCIAL MEDIA ENGAGEMENT

DURING THE SUMMIT

Impressions: 31,430
Engagement: 2,297

Impressions: 93,456
Engagement: 1,479

Impressions: 213,453
Engagement: 62,544

Impressions: 29,217
Engagement: 2,459

80+ sessions available now on the RewirEd2021 YouTube channel

“Many donor states are good at countries described as fragile, but that is exactly when support is needed most.”

Mike Dawson, CEO, Ustad Mobile

LIVESTREAM VIEWS PER DAY

Youth, Skills and the Future of Work
7,448

Innovation in Education
5,674

Education Financing
3,716

MEDIA OVERVIEW

Impressions: 29,217
Engagement: 2,459

Impressions: 93,456
Engagement: 1,479

Impressions: 213,453
Engagement: 62,544

Impressions: 31,430
Engagement: 2,297

Impressions: 80+
Engagement: 0

"For many of us it has been the first time to come together and meet with other key policymakers, decision makers, educators since the pandemic started. The value of being able to connect together in the real world it not to be underestimated. The RewirEd Summit did an amazing job of bringing together key participants from around the globe. I have many great connections to follow up on. Under one roof we got to meet each other, exchange ideas and to hear about cutting edge innovation, so I really hope, this won’t be the last RewirEd Summit.” - Mike Dawson, CEO, Ustad Mobile
H.E. REEM AL HASHIMY
MINISTER OF STATE FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION
AND MANAGING DIRECTOR FOR THE EXPO 2020 DUBAI BUREAU, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

In her opening remarks, Her Excellency talked about how Expo 2020 Dubai and the RewirEd Summit is an opportunity to rekindle creativity and exchange fresh and valuable perspectives, to engage critical stakeholders from every level of society and to galvanise action that will reshape the way we harness and challenge our knowledge today, in order to best prepare for tomorrow. She also underlined the importance of “education as a central priority of every government, every community and every family on Earth”.

The RewirEd Summit opened with a dynamic performance by the GEMS Student Choir, which was followed by formal opening remarks given by H.E. Reem Al Hashimy, Minister of State for International Cooperation and Managing Director for the Expo 2020 Dubai Bureau, United Arab Emirates; H.E. Hussain bin Ibrahim Al Hammadi, Minister of Education, United Arab Emirates and H.E. David Moinina Sengeh, Minister of Basic and Senior Secondary Education and Chief Innovation Officer for the Directorate of Science, Technology and Innovation, Sierra Leone.

The summit kicked off with the high-level panel: What Does the Future of Education Hold? In order to answer this question, it is important to understand the current status of education globally, so that we can advocate for the shifts needed in education for children to be equipped with the skills they need in the future. The speaker panel included: Henrietta Fore, Executive Director, UNICEF and Robert Moritz, Chairman, PwC, who joined virtually, while in-person we had H.E. Jakaya Kikwete, GPE Board Chair and former President of the Republic of Tanzania; Stefania Giannini, Assistant Director General for Education, UNESCO; Andreas Schleicher, Director for Education and Skills, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and Jaime Saavedra, Global Director for Education, World Bank Group.

Stefania Giannini stressed the need for global collaboration and a new form of cooperation within the sector, exactly what the aim of the RewirEd Summit was. She also talked about the need to protect education as a basic human right in order to achieve SDG 4 and the 2030 Agenda. She emphasised how crucial it is to put education high on the political agenda and to have innovation in education. Because “it’s not about building back better, it’s about building forward differently,” as highlighted by Andreas Schleicher.

The GEMS Student Choir performing the song Roar by Katy Perry
DAY 1 - YOUTH, SKILLS AND THE FUTURE OF WORK

The first thematic high-level panel, led by UNICEF’s Generation Unlimited (GenU), titled: The Power of Public, Private, and Youth Partnerships to Drive Impact with and for Young People highlighted the critical role of partnerships, including private/public sector, innovative partnerships for social impact, as well as the contribution of young people themselves in driving skilling opportunities and ultimately rebuilding economies and societies. The Passport to Earning initiative was showcased as part of the session. In her keynote speech, Henrietta Fore, Executive Director, UNICEF talked about youth and their education very passionately. Other keynote speeches were delivered virtually by H.E. Mokgweetsi Masisi, President, Botswana and Robert Moritz, Global Chairman, PwC.

HENRIETTA FORE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, UNICEF

“Young people feel that they are facing a crisis of education and a crisis of employment. Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, their fears only increased. Three years ago, UNICEF and partners created Generation Unlimited to address these issues. GenU exists, because every young person deserves an equal opportunity. With the largest generation of young people in history driving social change and economic growth, the potential is unlimited. We want young people to have every opportunity.”

Tertiary education — both TVET (technical and vocational education and training) and higher education — has proven to be central to economic, societal and personal development. Despite this, tertiary enrolment rates have seen the slowest growth in regions with some of the largest growing youth populations, threatening further inequality across countries. One of the most pressing questions is: How can we develop resilient and accessible tertiary education systems for a more equitable future? During the high-level panel, Re-imagining Tertiary Education: Going Beyond Tweaking, our panelists, including: H.E. Manish Sisodia, Deputy Chief Minister of Government, Minister of Education for Delhi, India; Ibrahim Safadi, Founder & CEO, Luminus Education; Jeff Maggioncalda, CEO, Coursera and Reem Jeibat, Chief, TVET & Youth Division, UNRWA answered this question and many more.

Saadia Zahidi, Managing Director, World Economic Forum (WEF), highlighted in her virtual keynote speech the three areas driving job disruption: the fourth industrial revolution, the pandemic and the green transition. According to the World Economic Forum, automation and the COVID-19 recession are set to displace an estimated 85 million jobs in the next five years. How can education systems incorporate in-demand skills to create future-ready youth? In a thought-provoking, high-level session, titled: The Workforce of the Future: From Play to Pay – Solutions to Accelerate Change, panelists, including H.E. Aymen Tawfeeq Al-Moayed, Minister of Youth and Sports Affairs, Bahrain; Alain Bejjani, CEO, Majid Al Futtaim Holding and Euan Wilmshurst, Head of Advocacy & Communication, LEGO Foundation discussed the possible solutions.

The first day of the RewirEd Summit concluded with the official RewirEd Summit Opening Segment that featured a number of performances, as well as speeches delivered by H.E. Dr. Tariq Al Gurg, CEO and Vice-Chairman, Dubai Cares; Rt. Hon. Gordon Brown, UN Special Envoy for Global Education, and former Prime Minister of the United Kingdom and Andreas Schleicher, Director for Education and Skills, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).
DAY 2 - INNOVATION IN EDUCATION

Innovation plays a crucial role in addressing the complex and unprecedented challenges of the world today, both at an individual and societal level and this was the focus of day 2 of the summit. The high-level opening panel was titled: Why Do We Need to Innovate in Education and What Does It Take? During this session, panellists, including H.E. Liina Kersna, Minister of Education and Research, Estonia; H.E. Patrizio Bianchi, Minister of Education, Italy; H.E. Dr. Dipu Moni, Minister of Education, Bangladesh; H.E. Dr. Mohammad Al-Sudairi, Deputy Minister of Education for Universities, Research and Innovation, Saudi Arabia; H.E. Manish Sisodia, Deputy Chief Minister of Government, Minister of Education for Delhi, India discussed the courage and bold actions it would require from global leaders and decision makers worldwide to address the key structural challenges to innovate in education worldwide.

The high-level panel: Creating a New Education Story: How to Transform Education Systems brought together the wisdom of global contributors who shed light on a recent report, A New Education Story, led by Big Change, which was launched at the RewirEd Summit. The report provides a new framework for transforming education systems with the intention to enable education policy makers, system leaders and funders to focus efforts on transformation, not reform. Speakers included Wendy Kopp, CEO and Co-Founder, Teach for All, Andreas Schleicher, Director for Education and Skills, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and Fred Swankler, Founder, CEO, African Leadership Group, to name a few.

Innovation, Sierra Leone and Audran Le Baron, Director of Digital Education, Ministry of Education of France, and Senior Secondary Education and Chief Innovation Officer for the Directorate of Science, Technology and Innovation, Sierra Leone and Audran Le Baron, Director of Digital Education, Ministry of Education of France, discussed how education in the future needs to demonstrate how technology can be used to students’ advantage everywhere, with equity of access at its core. The session was moderated by Charles North, Deputy Chief Executive Officer at the Global Partnership for Education (GPE).

In light of the changing nature of jobs and skills and the growing mismatch with education systems and the job market in the MENA region more broadly, the high-level panel, MENA Regional Innovations in Education, showcased the latest thinking and case studies from the region.

The next high-level panel featured Reimagining Our Futures Together, UNESCO’s flagship publication on the futures of education. The publication is a catalyst for a global debate on how knowledge, education and learning need to be reimagined in a world of increasing complexity, uncertainty and. Two years in the making, the work was steered by an International Commission of thought-leaders chaired by H.E. Sahle-Work Zewde, President, Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, who was also present at the panel virtually. Stefania Giannini, Assistant Director General for Education, UNESCO, discussed in her keynote speech how education can shape our future and stressed that the rewiring of education needs to start today.

The influence of Artificial Intelligence and machine learning in EdTech is predicted to grow exponentially in the coming years, as is the use of augmented reality and virtual reality. While technology has created endless boundaries of where learning can occur, these new technologies are not accessible for over half of the world’s learners. The Future of Learning for All: EdTech and Learning Equity high-level panel was an opportunity to discuss current trends in the adoption of education technologies in various contexts.

A keynote speech was delivered by H.E. Omar bin Sultan Al Olama, Minister of State for Artificial Intelligence, Digital Economy and Remote Work Applications, United Arab Emirates, highlighting the importance of AI and the digital economy. Some of the panel speakers, including H.E. David Moinina Sengeh, Minister of Basic and Senior Secondary Education and Chief Innovation Officer for the Directorate of Science, Technology and Innovation, discussed how education in the future needs to demonstrate how technology can be used to students’ advantage everywhere, with equity of access at its core. The session was moderated by Charles North, Deputy Chief Executive Officer at the Global Partnership for Education (GPE).

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ANDREAS SCHLEICHER
DIRECTOR FOR EDUCATION AND SKILLS, ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT (OECD)

“We should be incredibly proud of what education has accomplished, but we should also be aware that this education has produced some fundamental disconnects in our society. A disconnect between the infinite growth imperative and the finite resources of our planet; a disconnect between the financial economy and the real economy; a disconnect between what is technologically possible and the real social needs of people. This is not about optimising, but about transforming our education system. It is thinking about a different form of education. An education that is opening minds and hearts and building curiosity, compassion and courage and helping people to mobilise their cognitive socio-emotional resources.”

STEFANIA GIANNINI
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR-GENERAL FOR EDUCATION, UNESCO

“We can and must rewire education and this rewiring needs to start today, here and now. We no longer have the luxury of time. We diligently need to build education systems that help us live better with each other, with technology, and to live better sustaining our ecosystems for our complex planet.”
H.E. MARIAM BINT MOHAMMED SAEED HAREB ALMHEIRI
MINISTER OF CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENT, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Her Excellency delivered a keynote speech and emphasised that we need to leverage education to strengthen the response to climate change now and in the future. “Education is one of the most effective tools that help populations to break the cycle of vulnerability and transform their communities to better address the climate crisis and build resilience. Education empowers people, but especially motivates youth to take action… Educating girls is especially important, it gives them the skills and knowledge to respond to climate related disasters and take part and lead developing climate related solutions… We believe in the power of education shaping young minds. Bringing young people on board is crucial because they need to take up the torch and fight against climate change.”

After the keynote speech, the high-level panel, Education and Climate Change: Education and Its Crucial Role in Combating the Climate Crisis, started with a video message from H.S.H. Albert II, Prince of Monaco, who spoke about the digital revolution and why it is essential that education has the capability to adapt constantly in a world facing profound and unprecedented upheavals, including climate change.

The panel discussion then took place with a variety of actors in the education space, including: H.E. Daryll Matthew, Minister of Education, Sports and Creative Industries, Antigua and Barbuda; Helen Grant, Prime Minister’s Special Envoy for Girls’ Education, United Kingdom; Armel Azihar Sly-Vania, GPE Youth Leader; Lance Pierce, CEO, NetHope and Safeena Husain, Founder and Board Member, Educate Girls, moderated by H.E. Dr. Amel Karboul, Founder and CEO, The Education Outcomes Fund. They talked about why education is a powerful society-wide lever for climate action and that it has not been prioritized as a solution to climate change. Panellists discussed the broader context and challenge at hand, explored synergies and opportunities between education and climate change and discussed concrete routes of action by global leaders.

The Promise, poem performed by Emtithal Mahmoud
DAY 3 - EDUCATION FINANCING

The opening segment for day 3, An Investment for a Sustainable and Prosperous Future for All, delved deeply into the importance of political leadership in ensuring education is prioritized, through a keynote by Rt. Hon. Gordon Brown, UN Special Envoy for Global Education, and former Prime Minister of the United Kingdom.

RT. HON. GORDON BROWN
UN SPECIAL ENVOY FOR GLOBAL EDUCATION, AND FORMER PRIME MINISTER OF THE UNITED KINGDOM

Rt. Hon. Gordon Brown highlighted the importance of education financing in light of the unparalleled crisis and emphasised that countries need to ensure education budgets are intact and education aid is increased, because “education is the best investment we can ever make.”

The keynote was followed by a discussion — moderated by Irina Bokova, former Director General of UNESCO — between former heads of state and ministers on the levers that drive progressive, evidence-based policymaking with learning outcomes at the centre. The panel discussed how such commitments can lead to impact, sharing the lessons learnt from different perspectives, and drawing lessons for applying solutions in other contexts.

H.E. Kersti Kaljulaid, Former President of Estonia spoke about the importance of the government’s commitment to equitable and quality education and the need and importance of digitalisation that Estonia has been pioneering. H.E. Dr. Dipu Moni, Minister of Education, Bangladesh, made a case for how parity in education can be achieved and why Bangladesh is a good example when it comes to matching national efforts, political commitment and investment with international cooperation. H.E. Jakaya Kikwete, GPE Board Chair and former President of the Republic of Tanzania talked about equitable, inclusive and resilient education systems that are fit for the 21st century. He highlighted the three things that need to be done to achieve SDG 4, namely: develop strong partnerships with diverse actors that can work together to align funding to deliver at scale; the need for political will and leadership to prioritise education; and the need for adequate financing to be in place.

Amir Mahmood Abdulla, Deputy Executive Director, World Food Programme (WFP) also emphasised the significance of bringing other sectors and unlikely allies to the table, including the WFP, because as he said, while learning is important, we need to focus on the wellbeing and health of the learner as well. During his video intervention, Filippo Grandi, High Commissioner, UNHCR, explained the impact of the pandemic on refugees around the world and stressed the need to provide quality education for refugees.

FILIPPO GRANDI
HIGH COMMISSIONER, UNHCR

“It is critical that we do not forget the millions of forcibly displaced children and youth who aspire to a better future through quality education opportunities. UNHCR and the World Bank estimate that USD 4.85 billion is required to ensure that all refugees have access to quality education. This is a relatively small investment when we consider it will help secure a more educated and equitable world.”

This session was followed by another high-level panel, Building Forward from COVID-19: Financing the Education Recovery and the Future Education for the Most Vulnerable Children, organised by the World Bank Group and moderated by Jaime Saavedra, Global Director for Education, World Bank Group. The COVID-19 pandemic has caused abrupt changes in the learning opportunities for millions of children around the world, particularly the most vulnerable, exacerbating existing global learning inequalities.

The session featured a panel of key thinkers and practitioners, including H.E. Prof. Alpha T. Wurie, Minister of Technical and Higher Education, Sierra Leone; H.E. Mwigulu Nchamba, Minister of Finance, Tanzania; Caitlin Baron, CEO, Luminos Fund; Alicia Herbert, OBE, Director of the Education, Gender and Equality Directorate (EdGE) and Special Envoy for Gender Equality, FCDO and Gwen Hines, CEO, Save the Children UK, who reflected on innovative financing of the recovery - and the future - and how education financing (across national education budgets, households, donors, private sector) can work in conjunction and be most effective in instituting the changes needed for global reform.

Organised by the Global Partnership for Education (GPE), Education Development Trust and the Government of Kenya, the high-level solutions-focused plenary, titled Turning Political Ambition to Financing Action through Evidence, put countries firmly in the driving seat of the conversation. Keynote speeches were delivered by H.E. Uhuru Kenyatta, President, Kenya and H.E. Jakaya Kikwete, GPE Board Chair and former President of the Republic of Tanzania.

Speakers included: H.E. Prof. George Albert Omore Magoha, Cabinet Secretary for Education, Kenya; H.E. David Moinina Sengeh, Minister of Basic and Senior Secondary Education and Chief Innovation Officer for the Directorate of Science, Technology and Innovation, Sierra Leone; H.E. Joyce Ndichako, Minister of Education, Science, Technology and Vocational Training, Tanzania and Maryjacob Okwuosa, GPE Youth Leader, Nigeria. It focused on new political endorsements to the Kenyatta Declaration from country governments to tackle the learning crisis, through a keynote segment with Heads of State to spotlight the political ambition and a discussion at the ministerial level with existing signatories, to the Kenyatta declaration speaking to how they will make progress, including a focus on smart, evidence-based policymaking.
"Our world is in a crisis. Crisis on many fronts. The global pandemic, economic contraction, climate change and the learning crisis. Even before the pandemic struck, more than a quarter billion children were out of school and too many were not completing their education and not learning enough. Yet, our common future lies on the shoulders of our children and young people. If we can get all our children into classrooms and learning, we can improve our health, our economies and build the resilience of our future."

This was followed by one of the highlight sessions of the entire RewirEd Summit, the Launch of RewirEd Declaration on Connectivity for Education: Framework for Action and Investment. The RewirEd Declaration on Connectivity for Education, was developed by UNESCO in partnership with Dubai Cares to ensure that connected technology better supports the right to education, drawing on lessons learned during the COVID-19 pandemic. The three principles of the Declaration: to be centred on the most marginalised and leaving no one behind; to expand sustainable investment in free and high-quality digital education content; transform pedagogical practices to catch up with the ever changing environment of digital learning.

The RewirEd Declaration puts forward principles and commitments to establish normative directions and priorities for the digital transformation of education. It also provides important orientation for educational financing. The launch included a high-level panel discussion about the ways the Declaration can help steer financing efforts and initiatives, with the following panelists: H.E. Dr. Tariq Al Gurg, CEO and Vice-Chairman, Dubai Cares; Stefania Giannini, Assistant Director-General, UNESCO; Alex Wong, Chief of Special Initiatives, Telecommunication Development Bureau, ITU; Zohra Yermeche, Program Director, Sustainability & Corporate Responsibility, Ericsson; H.E. Joseph Mucheru, Cabinet Secretary in the Ministry of Information and Communications, Kenya; Chris Fabian, Director GIGA, UNICEF; Dr. Liesbet Steer, Director, Education Commission and Robert Jenkins, Global Director of Education, UNICEF.

Philippe Lazzarini, Commissioner-General, United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) also delivered a virtual keynote speech highlighting the ongoing financial crisis the agency is encountering due to major donors’ fund cuts, while the Palestinian refugees’ needs are growing because of the pandemic. The session was closed by a special guest, Wyclef Jean, Haitian rapper, producer and philanthropist who talked about the importance of education in emergency settings.
CLOSING SEGMENT

Day 3 closed with the official RewirEd Summit Closing Segment that featured a phenomenal performance by Chief Moomen, Ghanaian Poet and Spoken Word Artist and speeches delivered by Amina Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General, United Nations and H.E. Dr. Tariq Al Gurg, CEO and Vice-Chairman, Dubai Cares.

AMINA MOHAMMED
DEPUTY SECRETARY-GENERAL, UNITED NATIONS

"The COVID-19 pandemic risks turning a global learning crisis into a generational catastrophe that undermines decades of progress and threatens our collective efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. But this crisis also presents us with an opportunity. An opportunity to close the equity gap by implementing learning recovery measures, reaching the most vulnerable, investing in girls’ education and ending learning poverty. An opportunity to rethink curricula and teaching methods by ensuring the students acquire the knowledge and the outlook needed to thrive in today’s world and contribute to a prosperous tomorrow. An opportunity to reimagine the role of technology by boosting the tools available to teachers and expanding digital learning and skills. And finally an opportunity to adequately finance education by recognising its role as one of the greatest investments a country can make in its people and its future.”

H.E. DR. TARIQ AL GURG
CEO AND VICE-CHAIRMAN, DUBAI CARES

"The RewirEd Summit has been marked by our shared commitment to reclaim the powerful and transformational role of education, empowering young lives, enabling sustainable progress and elevating the whole of humanity. I call upon each one of you to leave this summit, as strong advocates for global education transformation. As dedicated ambassadors of more and better collaboration for quality education, and finally, as active agents of positive change for our children and youth. Because it is their history that we are writing.”

H.H. Sheikh Mansoor Bin Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum attended the closing segment of the RewirEd Summit
The RewirEd Summit Closing: Rewiring Priorities to Realities session, moderated by Becky Anderson, Managing Editor and Anchor, CNN Middle East, highlighted how the outcomes of the RewirEd Summit can be linked to the UN Secretary-General’s Transformation Education Summit in 2022 and talked about and discussed the key points and takeaways of the State of the Global Education Crisis: A Path to Recovery – a joint UNESCO, UNICEF and World Bank report. Jaime Saavedra, Global Head of Education, World Bank Group highlighted the key takeaways of the report: the crisis exacerbated inequality in education and heightened learning poverty. The global learning crisis has grown by even more than previously feared: this generation of students now risks losing $17 trillion in lifetime earnings in present value as a result of school closures, or the equivalent of 14 percent of today’s global GDP, far more than the $10 trillion estimated in 2020. Stefania Giannini, Assistant Director-General for Education, UNESCO, talked about the importance of revamping curricula and education systems. Robert Jenkins Director of Education, UNICEF concluded with key recommendations, namely nurture the partnerships and work collectively to solve the learning crisis; use the established innovative tools to transform education at scale and with speed; measure change and hold ourselves accountable.

There was also a keynote speech by Mamta Murthi, Vice President for Human Development, World Bank Group, who reiterated the key points from the join report and highlighted that by joining forces the international community can tackle the learning crises.

Closing remarks by H.E. Reem Al Hashimy, Minister of State for International Cooperation and Managing Director for the Expo 2020 Dubai Bureau, United Arab Emirates concluded that these three days allowed the global community to rekindle connections, reboot dormant conversations and rewire the way we think about education and learning and transfer knowledge between cultures and generations.

"UNRWA is innately proud of its students and education staff who took part in the RewirEd 2021 Summit thanks to Dubai Cares. This kind of partnership enables young Palestinian refugees to contribute to global conversations about advances that can positively impact their future. We look forward to more opportunities where UNRWA feeds into discussions around education, a field that the Agency is renowned for." - UNRWA Team

"The RewirEd Summit is demonstrating the ingenuity and creativity that exists within the education sector. They are helping us shape the future of education, allowing it to be more positive, accessible and inclusive for all. I congratulate the United Arab Emirates and Dubai Cares on their continued leadership in this area." - Filippo Grandi, High Commissioner, UNHCR

"The RewirEd team deserves a TON of credit! It was a fantastic event! It was a valuable and rich experience to attend in-person, and the interesting sessions on the various topics have given us a lot of food for thought." - The World Bank Team

"We are living through the worst education crisis of the last 100 years. The percentage of children who are at age 10 cannot read and understand a text was 53% before the crisis... Our simulation shows that this number can rise to 70%. This will happen unless we do something bold and aggressive... We are not talking about the loss of the economies. We are talking about the loss of this generation... We need to move really fast, not only as international institutions, but as an education communities and countries have to internalise the need for a very strong learning recovery packages that try to reduce that potential permanent scar on this generation." - Jaime Saavedra, Global Head of Education, World Bank Group
During the high-level opening segment, His Excellency delivered a keynote speech. “The youth in the UAE is the future of the country and we launched different initiatives that focus on them and their preparation and training. The Ministry of Education created new, specialized academies focusing on early childhood development as well as on technical and vocational education and training to facilitate lifelong learning.”

The Youth Skills and the Future of Work day started with a keynote speech by Her Excellency. “Our primary goal for education must be to instil in youth curiosity and courage and for us as decision and policy makers to lead with courage and curiosity at the RewirEd Summit and lead with curiosity and courage as a baseline in education.”

On day 2 of the summit, in his closing remarks H.E. Khalfan Belhoul, CEO, Dubai Future Foundation talked about why agility is extremely important, and even though technology is a key component of the future, we should not forget that the most important component is the human being and their soft skills. Educate, Empower, Inspire-Sharjah’s Child Rights-based Approach to Education session was the official launch of Sharjah Child Friendly Schools and Nurseries Standards. Speakers included: Dr. Hessa Khalfan Al Ghazal, Executive Director, Sharjah Child Friendly Office; H.E. Dr. Khawla Al Mulla, General Secretary, Supreme Council for Family Affairs; H.E. Dr. Muhadditha Al Hashimi, Chairperson, Sharjah Private Education Authority; H.E. Dr. SaeedMusabed Al Kaabi, Chairperson, Sharjah Education Council and El Tayeb Adam, Area Representative, UNICEF Gulf Area Office.

We were very grateful for the high-level engagement from within the UAE and the region more broadly across the three days. 

“The skill children need the most is to fly… when a bird lands on a branch, it doesn’t matter if it breaks; it trusts its wings. We learned in the last 18 months that the strongest of branches can break – exams cancelled, schools shut, jobs lost, and many kids were left behind; but forget we have wings – resilience, wellbeing, health, and peace of mind.”
The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) presented its concept of quality education and the responsibility of the global community to help facilitate quality education for Palestinian refugee children in the session: *Harnessing Educational Innovation to Provide Quality Education to Palestinian Refugee Children in the Face of Adversity*. UNRWA is in charge of ensuring SDG 4 for the Palestinian refugee population and will also tackle the significant adversity it faces in the region and its plan to overcome this adversity through education innovation. Speakers included: Moritz Bilagher, Acting Director of Education, UNRWA; Reem Jeibat; Chief of Technical and Vocational Education Training and Youth, UNRWA; Dr. Iyad Zaquut, Head of Mental Health and Psycho-social Support Unit (Gaza), UNRWA and Leen Shaker Al Falah, Refugee Student from Syria.

The *Unlocking Impact through Islamic Philanthropy* session organised by the Abdullah Al Ghurair Foundation for Education, explored best practices around Islamic Philanthropy, as well as new avenues for collaboration and partnerships to help scale impact and leverage resources effectively. It also examined prominent Islamic Philanthropy tools including Zakat, Sadaqah and Waqf, and how they can have a significant and sustainable impact on beneficiaries, especially in crisis or emergency environments. Amongst the speakers there were: Dr. Ahmed Al Haddad, Grand Mufti of Dubai; Khaled Khalifa, UNHCR Senior Advisor and Representative to GCC countries; Dr. Sonia Ben Jaafar, CEO, Abdulla Al Ghurair Foundation for Education and Iqbal Khan, CEO, Far Capital.

**DR. SONIA BEN JAAFAR**

CEO, ABDULLA AL GHURAIR FOUNDATION FOR EDUCATION

On behalf of H.E. Abdul Aziz Al Ghurair, Chairman, Abdulla Al Ghurair Foundation for Education and Founder, Abdul Aziz Al Ghurair Refugee Education Fund, the CEO delivered a keynote speech. “Education is an opportunity everyone deserves, no matter what their circumstances are in life. The Al Ghurair family has been committed to this ideal for generations. With half of the world’s student population today still affected by full or partial school closures, we know that any solution for a resilient education system requires better funding approaches that can withstand crises.”

To ensure open learning across the Arab world grows, is inclusive and from the region, Community Jameel, the Abdullah Al Ghurair Foundation for Education, J-WEL and MIT and American University of Beirut brought together leading voices from the higher education ecosystem to discuss challenges, learn from experiences and create an actionable framework in the Rewiring Open Learning in the Arab World session. Panelists included: Amna Fatani, Associate Director of Strategy, Community Jameel; H.E. Dr. Hamad Mohamed Al Yahyaei, Assistant Undersecretary for Curriculum and Assessment Sector, Ministry of Education, UAE; Dr. Sonia Ben Jaafar, CEO, Abdulla Al Ghurair Foundation for Education; Dr. Vijay Kumar, Executive Director, Abdul Latif Jameel World Education Lab and Alan Shihadeh, Dean of the Maroun Semaan Faculty of Engineering and Architecture, American University of Beirut.
The Launch of the new Global Education Monitoring Report this year provides a critical moment for us all to reflect on common parameters and principles to ensure that all education actors support progress towards SDG 4 and the fulfillment of the right to education, which is the real priority for all of us.

WE HAVE SEEN FIRST-HAND HOW TECHNOLOGY CAN BE USED IN TRANSFORMATIVE WAYS TO REACH AND CONNECT LEARNERS EVEN IN THE MOST CHALLENGING SCENARIOS. PASSPORT TO EARNING IS A POWERFUL TOOL THAT ALLOWS US TO REACH YOUNG PEOPLE AND PROVIDE THEM WITH DIGITAL SKILLING OPPORTUNITIES AT SCALE. WE ARE THRILLED TO WORK WITH UNICEF, GenU, Accenture and Dubai Cares to bring this program to life.
DECLARATIONS

YASMINE SHERIF
DIRECTOR, EDUCATION CANNOT WAIT (ECW)

“We have seen a growing humanitarian need, conflicts are not ending, refugee flows has never been as high since World War II, as they are today and then we have COVID-19 and a growing number of climate induced disasters. Despite the growing needs, the needs are not being catered to and the funding is not keeping pace with the growing needs of the humanitarian context… This is the chance to turn the tide and invest the financial resources required and come forward with the billions required to change the world.”

SONIA JORGE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ALLIANCE FOR AFFORDABLE INTERNET

“It is simply unacceptable that millions of young people have no access to education due to lack of internet connectivity. The Global Declaration on Connectivity on Education provides a critical path forward to secure meaningful connectivity for all.”

Pledges

The government of Ireland announced EUR 5 million to support the education of children living under crisis through Education Cannot Wait (ECW).

The Lego Foundation pledged an additional EUR 7 million to Education Cannot Wait (ECW).

Sharjah Child Friendly Schools and Nurseries Standards

The Sharjah Child Friendly Office launched the Sharjah Child Friendly School and Nurseries Toolkit at the RewirEd Summit. The standard was guided by the Convention on the Rights of the Child and experience of UNICEF worldwide, in implementing rights-based approaches to education and evidence pertaining to child development.

ACG-Smarter Financing for Education

It is a joint innovative finance approach between Global Partnership for Education (GPE) and the Arab Coordination Group. The approach demonstrated deepening collaboration between the Arab Coordination Group of development finance institutions, coordinated and co-lead by the Islamic Development Bank and aimed to avail US$ 500 million in funding for education, highlighting the “investment case” in the education sector as the engine of future economic growth.

Refugee Connected Education Challenge

The Refugee Connected Education Challenge works with governments and education actors to make strong commitments to help narrow the growing digital divide faced by displaced learners. We need to ensure that schools that host refugees and forcibly displaced students are prioritized and meaningfully included in global and national digital education and connectivity efforts.

Faved Platform

As part of Schools2030’s commitment to strengthening the global education ecosystem, they developed a new set of global public goods. One of this initiative is the Faved Platform, a teacher-to-teacher portal that allows educators to share best practices and effective innovations, nurturing a global community of practice for and by teachers.

DECLARATIONS

Declaration on Connectivity

Drawing on lessons learned during the COVID-19 pandemic, the RewirEd Summit saw the Launch of the RewirEd Global Declaration on Connectivity for Education that has been developed by UNESCO in partnership with Dubai Cares to provide a framework aimed at ensuring that connected technology better supports the right to education. Fully aligned with both the ‘UN Secretary-General Roadmap for Digital Cooperation’ and the recently announced ‘Our Common Agenda’ report by the UN Secretary-General, the Declaration was endorsed by a number of multi-stakeholder groups and will now be further adopted by more champions and supporters including the private and public sectors, as well as the civil society.

Dubai Declaration on Early Childhood Development

The Dubai Declaration on Early Childhood Development identifies the elements and approaches for a holistic package of services for young children and their caregivers, ranging from stimulation and play to nutrition to parental livelihoods. The declaration also calls for these approaches to be backed by national policy, with regulations and incentives that can guide private sector investment alongside state prioritization of early childhood development.

PLEDGES

The LEGO Foundation

€7M

The Lego Foundation pledged an additional EUR 7 million to Education Cannot Wait (ECW).

The government of Ireland announced EUR 5 million to support the education of children living under crisis through Education Cannot Wait (ECW).
AN ECOSYSTEM APPROACH TO EDUCATION TRANSFORMATION

Globally, the education system is one whose core tenets have remained largely unchanged for over a century. The global education sector has often referred to the system as broken and increasingly incapable of evolving to the fast-paced changes affecting lives and livelihoods and therefore unequipped to serve the current needs and future aspirations of countries. If education is to play a central role in propelling humanity forward, then the time to rewire education is now.

At the RewirEd Summit, Dubai Cares presented an innovative approach to rethink education in the form of a Framework for Global Education Transformation that was born from the intersection of global education challenges, years of calls-to-action, and decades of evidence on what works on the ground. The Framework serves as a catalysing foundation to transform education from an ecosystem perspective and allows nations to shape their own development journeys while leveraging education as the key to unlocking a prosperous and sustainable future for children and youth.

REWİRED PROVOCATIONS

Co-designed by Radicle through engagement & consultations with cross-sectoral stakeholders, the Provocations are north-star statements or radical ideas that address systemic, complex, and structural challenges in education, targeting a desired future different from what’s currently seen to be possible. Below are the 6 provocations that have emerged from the explorative process. The 6 provocations contain a set of proposed ideas or experiments to begin the dialogue for collaboration and collective action. These experiments are a mix of (1) ideas that have never been attempted before, (2) ideas from around the globe that worked and could be scaled/adapted to other regions, and (3) ideas that have emerged from the system map research and hold potential to create systemic shifts in the education sector.

1. LEARNING WITH NATURE
   What if we applied nature principles to encourage learning and help us reconnect with our inherent natural systems to promote a sustainable future for all?

2. WELL-BEING IN EDUCATION
   What if we positioned well-being at the centre of our education system - investing in the tools and infrastructures for individual and collective care through schools and the wider community?

3. LEARNING BY BEYOND SCHOOLS
   What if we stop thinking of education as something that is bound to age and institution, but rather that learning is something that continues throughout our lives?

4. COLLABORATION FOR IMPACT
   What if our capacities to collaborate are put towards co-creating shared education futures to align to purpose and compound a force?

5. HUMANE EDUCATION
   What if education valued and cultivated our ‘human’ capacities so that the new generation could become active, global and open-minded citizens of the future?

6. NOVEL FINANCIAL INFRASTRUCTURES
   What if we co-designed new financial mechanisms for global education with partners within and beyond the education system?

“Congratulations the RewirEd team on delivering a well-curated set of thought-provoking sessions through the RewirEd Summit! Thank you for collaborating with us in an accommodating and flexible manner. We really enjoyed working with you all. We are excited to learn how the RewirEd journey will continue and will follow this process eagerly as the Radicle team.” - Radicle Team

PITCHES AND AWARDS

RewirEd Provocations Award Ceremony
The Innovation in Education day ended with the RewirEd Provocations Awards Ceremony during which the winning experiments representatives were awarded seed funding to further develop and roll-out the experiments. Awards were given to representatives from NetHope; Aga Khan Foundation; Big Change; #LearningPlanet; BRAC and ReimagineEd Collective.

Innovating Education in Africa Pitch
Five of Africa’s most promising education innovators pitched their ideas to a highly experienced panel of judges. Three of the innovators, Rudolph Ampefo (USD 100,000) from Ghana, Eljah Lubala (USD 70,000) from the Democratic Republic of The Congo and Samson Wambuzi, (USD 40,000) from Uganda were awarded grants to implement their innovations as pilot projects in collaboration with African Union member countries.

Funding For Impact: Good Practices and Investment Needs
During this interactive dialogue, the world’s education leaders provided passionate pitches on where future education investments should be directed for education in emergency and crisis contexts. The following organizations presented their pitches: Education, World Vision International; Asia Pacific Network of Refugees; New York University; African Union International Center for Girls & Women’s Education in Africa; WarChild Holland and Learning Equality.
YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

“Youth today - more than any other generation before - cannot wait for incremental change. We need transformational change, which must be systemic, long-term, and ultimately led to disrupting the status quo... Education isn’t something nice that we can do for young people; it is a fundamental human right, a global public good, and a public responsibility... I urge everyone to remember that we owe it to youth to ensure every young person is empowered to reach their fullest potential and that no young person is left behind.” - Jayathma Wickreresanayake, United Nations Secretary-General’s Envoy on Youth, during the RewirEd Summit Opening Plenary

To ensure that the content of the RewirEd Summit was reflective of young people’s perspectives, RewirEd partnered with Restless Development, who consulted young people across the world about their experiences, challenges, and aspirations related to education, livelihoods, and active citizenship. Restless Development launched a global survey, where 1,744 young people shared their education and employment experiences, after which 12 young researchers consulted with 3,294 young people across 70 countries to investigate the themes found in the survey. The researchers reflected their findings and recommendations in the By Us, For Us: Rewiring Education for a New Generation report - the biggest youth-led study on global education since the start of the pandemic. The report underscored the need for a curriculum that prepares young people for the world of work as well as meaningful inclusion of young people in decision-making spaces.

In the lead-up to the summit, Restless Development launched the Make Education Work campaign, to raise awareness of their research findings, and share the asks of young people for education restart grants, a new curriculum focused on practical skills, and a seat at the table in shaping education policy. The campaign reached 12,944,628 people online.

To frame the Youth, Skills and the Future of Work focus of day 1, an overview of the key findings of the global youth-led research conducted by Restless Development, was presented. This was followed by an outstanding session: three Restless Development representatives (Alice Mukashyaka, Advocacy Manager for Livelihoods and Education; Inés Yabar, Senior Global Campaign Coordinator; Mahendra Phagwah, Education and Disability Rights Activist and Youth Researcher) shared their recommendations with decision-makers (H.E. Dr. Dipu Moni, Minister of Education, Bangladesh; Tijmen Rooseboom, Ambassador for Youth, Education & Work, Netherlands’ Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Berry Lumpkins, VP Leadership & Talent Development, DP World).

The report found that, of the young people consulted:

- 74% of young people’s education has been impacted by COVID-19
- 50% feel only somewhat prepared by their education for available work opportunities
- 34% need greater access to leadership and personal development for future employment opportunities
- 53% feel only somewhat represented in governance
- 46% see lack of opportunities or lack of resources as the main barriers to raising their voices

REWIRING EDUCATION FOR A NEW GENERATION

BY US, FOR US:

MAHENDRA PHAGWAH

EDUCATION AND DISABILITY RIGHTS ACTIVIST AND YOUTH RESEARCHER

“What was supposed to be a 5-minute conversation in the speaker’s room to get to know each other before stepping onto the stage turned into an hour-long private conversation with HE. Dr. Dipu Moni, Bangladesh Minister of Education. We exchanged contacts and mentorship as we discussed ways on propelling the education system. She requested a picture and handed me a book signed by her as a token of our new friendship.”
The day before the RewirEd Summit, Restless Development and RewirEd co-hosted a pre-summit youth delegate training day to support young people in effectively participating and developing connections at the RewirEd Summit, and to support them in leading positive change beyond the summit. The training day, which was attended by youth delegates from Dubai Cares partner organizations as well as youth delegates from Expo International Participants, began with youth advocates opening the gate to the Expo 2020 Dubai site.

The topics for the training sessions were guided by Restless Development’s research and by a short survey shared with youth delegates. Over the course of the day, participants engaged with the following subjects:

- **Communication Through Storytelling** (Led by Restless Development) - This session focused on the power of a story to create change, and practical interviewing, sharing, and photography tips to make a media-worthy story.
- **Fundraising** (Led by Global Fund for Children) - This session took participants through types of donors, donor cycles, scoring frameworks, and case studies for successful and unsuccessful donor relationships.
- **Advocacy for Social Change** (Led by Restless Development) - This session discussed issue matrices, advocacy cycles, and advice for developing your message and lobbying.
- **Entrepreneurship** (led by Educate!) - The final session of the day investigated the popularization of entrepreneurship as a career path, and the skills needed to pursue it.
CROSS-CUTTING THEMES

**GIRLS’ EDUCATION**


Organised by the Education Development Trust, a candid discussion was delivered where senior education civil servants and trusted advisers from the UK and Kenya unpacked how they see the unprecedented global financial commitments to girls’ education delivering value for money and impact for marginalised girls.

*How to Move Beyond Patriarchal Social and Political Structures*

During the high-level dialogue on girls education, speakers, including H.E. Jakaya Kikwete, GPE Board Chair and former President of the Republic of Tanzania and Dr. Mohammed Farsi, Senior Cultural Consultant, Islamic Affairs and Charitable Activities Department (IACAD) explored practical ways in which the education of girls and the empowerment of women can be furthered within societies dominated by deep patriarchal social and political structures, including cultural and religious ones, and what this means for furthering girls’ education in contexts like Afghanistan, Northern Nigeria or many parts of the Sahel where religion is sometimes used as the excuse for keeping girls out of school.

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**EDUCATION IN EMERGENCIES**

*Reaching Those Left Behind: Is Non-Formal and Alternative Learning the Missing Piece?*

For the 258 million children who were not enrolled in school before the pandemic – including those affected by emergencies – ensuring they can learn is even more important. This panel highlighted innovative practices of non-formal education and mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) being used to meet the rights of out of school children.

*INEE-Innovations in Strengthening the EiE Evidence Base: Towards Equitable and Localized Knowledge Generation*

We have increasingly seen investment in and prioritization of research in EiE, however knowledge production remains driven by predominantly Global North institutions. While National and Regional evidence exists, it is necessary to elevate and amplify this work globally. This session showcased innovations in localized knowledge production as well as provided an opportunity for open discussion and creative brainstorming of best practice.

**INCLUSIVITY**

*Inclusive Hiring and Skilling: Moving From Theory to Reality*

Myths and misconceptions about hiring and skilling people of determination have prevented a bold approach to defining the actions needed to leverage the diverse perspectives and skills in the workforce. During this hands-on session, panellists generated discussion around the long-standing blocks and how to turn them into proposed steps.

*Indigenous Education: How Can We Learn From Indigenous People’s Knowledge, Culture and Learning Systems in Creating a More Radically Inclusive Future?*

Innovation goes way beyond new and future technologies. This panel, organised by Dubai Cares and The Australian Pavilion at Expo 2020 Dubai, focused on how to rethink mainstream education by integrating indigenous people’s knowledge, models and learning systems into mainstream education.
THE INTERCONNECTEDNESS OF THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are the blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all. They address the global challenges we face, including poverty, inequality, climate change, environmental degradation, peace and justice.

SDG 4, which aims to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all by 2030, was at the heart of the RewirEd Summit, which occurred at a time of profound and devastating crisis for the world.

Even though the RewirEd Summit predominantly focused on SDG 4, we believe that education is a fundamental pillar for addressing all other Global Goals effectively. Education is a foundation for peace and tolerance, and enables upward socioeconomic mobility. Some of the sessions that closely linked with other Sustainable Development Goals were:

NEW LESSONS IN THE TIME OF COVID: PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE OF NON-STATE ACTORS FUNDING HEALTH INTERVENTIONS DELIVERED BY EDUCATION SYSTEMS

The COVID-19 pandemic has forced the realisation that health interventions are a key contribution to educational attainment. In this session, three major non-governmental organisations – The Fred Hollows Foundation, The END Fund, and Sightsavers – shared their real-world experience of helping governments deliver health interventions through the education system. Other speakers were present from the World Food Programme and Merck Group, while Professor Donald Bundy from the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine moderated the session.

THE RIGHT TO WELLBEING

In response to growing psychosocial support needs stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic, the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) introduced its flagship Better Learning Programme (BLP) in 10 new countries. Representatives from NRC, Porticus, Education Cannot Wait, as well as a Palestinian teacher and student demonstrated the positive impact of BLP.

GIRLS AND YOUNG WOMEN RENEWING ENERGY

The panel addressed the role of education and training of girls and young women in the energy sector to achieve gender equality. Two flagship projects, led by Plan International Spain in partnership with the Islamic Development Bank, the European Union and the OPEC Fund for International Development served as a basis for discussion.

HOW TO SKILL THE WORKFORCE FOR SUSTAINABLE, GENDER EQUAL TOURISM

Tourism has a strong track record in youth employment and entrepreneurship. Hard-hit by COVID-19, a structural transformation is now needed for a responsible, sustainable, and resilient tourism economy, where youth find fulfilling and dignifying work. Speakers discussed solutions for skilling for sustainable, gender equal tourism.

DIGITAL SKILLS FOR FUTURE JOBS

The world of work is changing. So too are the needs of the workforce. Are we matching skills training to the future demands of work? The session, led by Mercy Corps, explored to answers to this pressing question.

PASSION AND PROFIT – HOW CAN AGRIPRENEURSHIP BE REWARDING FOR YOUTH AND SUSTAINABLE FOR THE PLANET?

This session, led by UNICEF, explored how agripreneurship can be rewarding for youth as well as sustainable for the planet. Young green entrepreneurs together with policy makers and funders tapped into the potential of green agripreneur innovations to build sustainable rural livelihoods.
DELIVERING TVET AT SCALE
Young people are now three times more likely than adults to be unable to find a job. TVET (technical and vocational education and training) is central to tackling youth unemployment. The session explored prerequisites for a successful, scalable TVET program and embedding it within the mainstream education system.

UNLOCKING INNOVATION TO FINANCE SECONDARY EDUCATION FOR ALL
Speakers from the Education Commission, UNICEF, I Learn Jordan Initiative, and Mastercard Foundation discussed how to utilize innovative financing to ensure secondary education systems reach all young people. The World Skills Clock was also featured, highlighting new data of the extent of the global learning and skills crisis.

HOW CAN WE PREPARE YOUNG PEOPLE FOR GREEN JOBS? EMERGING SKILLS NEEDS AND INNOVATIVE EDUCATIONAL APPROACHES
In response to the global challenges caused by climate change, environmental degradation and lack of access to clean energy, many countries are transitioning to a more sustainable pathway. The shift to a green economy has resulted in the creation of new jobs and the greening of many existing occupations, as well as a growing need for green entrepreneurs. This session explored formal and non-formal educational approaches for meeting the emerging skills demands with speakers from International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), Masdar Youth 4 Sustainability Platform and the IKEA Foundation.

PLAY, PLURALISM AND THE PLANET
How might we prepare the next generation of more climate-literate, climate-resilient, and climate-compassionate learners and educators? In this interactive roundtable, partners explored brave new approaches to address the climate challenge through education.

TRANSFORMING EDUCATION: A ROUTE TO HELPING YOUNG PEOPLE ADAPT TO CLIMATE CHANGE
This session, organised by Restless Development, drew upon research findings from Uganda, highlighting the impact of climate disruptions on young people’s livelihoods, and explored the need for radical changes in education as a route to greater climate resilience and effective adaptation to the climate crisis.

BETTER TOGETHER? WHY GOVERNMENTS ARE PARTNERING WITH NON-PROFITS
Leaders from non-profit organisations in South Asia and Africa shared how they are working with governments to sustainably transform systems at scale, and discussed how we might expand our understanding of Public Private Partnerships to broader Partnerships for Public Purpose.

GETTING THE COSTS AND THE EFFECTIVENESS RIGHT IN COST-EFFECTIVENESS ANALYSIS IN EDUCATION
With limited time and funding to meet the scale of our global learning crisis, investments must be not only effective, but cost-effective. Yet, cost and cost-effectiveness studies are rare, and even more rarely made public. This panel explored tools and research to improve the efficiency of global education investments.
OTHER EVENTS

HIGH-LEVEL ROUNDTABLES

Rethinking Investment in EdTech and Digital Learning: Innovation in Financing Connected Technologies for Education

This high-level roundtable showcased two high potential and scalable investment instruments that focus on different aspects of the EdTech ecosystem. GIGA’s (a partnership between UNICEF and ITU) connectivity bond focuses on delivering connectivity in last mile markets. Meanwhile, the International Finance Facility for Education (IFFEd) in partnership with the Education Commission offers governments a new approach to concessional financing with stronger incentives to borrow for education sector transformation projects. Some of the key takeaways and recommendations were:

1. There is a need for coordination and alignment in the sector.
2. Connectivity is being a new concept for the right to education.
3. EdTech is important in building resilience for education in learning and ensuring equity and increased access and deliver more personalized learning.
4. Take an innovative and fresh approach on mobilizing resources for digital learning.
5. Importance to assess and tackle the regulatory and security risks.
6. IFFEd and GIGA has the potential in bridging financiering gaps and incentivizing countries especially lower income countries to invest in education.
7. Ways IFFED and GIGA can answer the digital divide and socioeconomic divide.
8. Connectivity hybrid must be part of the broader polices of governments and for that we need to have new innovate financial support to governments.
9. Coverage does not translate to internet use, we need governments to invest in digital skills for learners and teachers.
10. Share and implement best practices and syndicate resources.

Rethinking Investment in Human Capital: Innovation in Financing National School Meals Programmes

Presented by the World Food Programme and the Education Commission, the session brought together national planners and international partners to begin a three-year journey to rethink current financing models, introduce innovative approaches, and support countries in building sustainable, inclusive national school health and nutrition programmes.

Participants agreed on the urgent need to develop innovative ways to finance school meals and offered broad support for the work of the School Meals Coalition and two new initiatives, the Research Consortium for School Health and Nutrition and the Sustainable Financing Task Force.

Specific points made include:

1. Transitioning from external financing to sustainable domestic financing could be the key to school feeding programmes.
2. School feeding programmes must be approached more synergistically and cross-sectorally.
3. The nutrition and education sectors must reconsider who is in the room for these discussions and consider engaging the private sector and Ministers of Finance.
4. Innovative financing must be developed to help close the gaps.
5. School meals must be seen as an investment in the community, particularly through Home-Grown School Feeding Programmes.
6. Research and evidence are critical to determine the impact of school meal programmes.
7. Governments must offer political will to the School Meals Coalition and its goals of restoring effective school meals programmes that were lost because of the pandemic; reaching those children that we missed prior to the pandemic in low and lower middle-income countries; and improving the quality and efficiency of existing school meals programmes in all countries.
8. School feeding must be a critical component in building education programmes in crisis countries.

“I am safely home in the UK, and reflecting on a very successful event that exceeded my expectations on both scale and content. It is particularly impressive that such a small team could put together such a huge programme, including ceremonial and entertaining events. In my view, RewirEd will in the future be looked back upon as a milestone in the recovery of the world from COVID, and as a new benchmark for international hybrid conferences.” - Professor Donald Bundy, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine
MINISTERIAL DINNER

AT THE UAE PAVILION @ EXPO 2020 DUBAI

On December 14th, after the closing ceremony of the RewirEd Summit, a Ministerial Dinner was hosted by the UAE Ministry of Education, Expo 2020 Dubai and Dubai Cares at the UAE Pavilion to celebrate the Knowledge and Learning Week at Expo 2020 Dubai and the mark the end of the RewirEd Summit. The dinner was attended by former Presidents, Heads of State, Ministers and a number of global education leaders.

H.E. Hussain bin Ibrahim Al Hammadi, Minister of Education, United Arab Emirates and H.E. Dr. Tariq Al Gurg, CEO and Vice-Chairman, Dubai Cares delivered keynote speeches thanking the assembled leaders for attending the RewirEd Summit and stressing on the importance of the collective efforts of governments and civil society to move the needle in the right direction to transform education.

"I would like to thank and congratulate the Dubai Cares team for the very successful and impressive RewirEd Summit." – Irina Bokova
HEADS OF STATE AND MINISTERIAL ENGAGEMENT

HEADS OF STATE

• H.S.H. Albert II, Prince of Monaco
• H.E. Sahle-Work Zewde, President of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
• H.E. Mokgweetsi Masisi, President of Botswana
• H.E. Uhuru Kenyatta, President of Kenya
• H.E. Kersti Kaljulaid, former President of Estonia
• Rt. Hon. Gordon Brown, former Prime Minister of the United Kingdom and UN Special Envoy for Global Education

MINISTERS

• H.E. Daryll Matthew, Minister of Education, Sports and Creative Industries, Antigua and Barbuda
• H.E. Dr. Majed bin Ali Al-Nuaimi, Minister of Education, Bahrain
• H.E. Aymen Tawfeeq Al-Moayed, Minister of Youth and Sports Affairs, Bahrain
• H.E. Dr. Dipu Moni, Minister of Education, Bangladesh
• H.E. Dr. Hang Chuon Naron, Minister of Education, Cambodia
• H.E. Harjit S. Sajjan, Minister of International Development, Canada
• H.E. Tarek Shawki, Minister of Education and Technical Education, Egypt
• H.E. Liina Kersna, Minister of Education, Estonia
• H.E. Antti Kurvinen, Minister of Science and Culture, Finland
• H.E. Mambury Njie, Minister of Finance and Economic Affairs, The Gambia
• H.E. Patrizio Bianchi, Minister of Education, Italy
• H.E. Prof. George Albert Omoro Magoha, Cabinet Secretary for Education, Kenya
• H.E. Joseph Mucheru, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of ICT, Innovation and Youth Affairs, Kenya
• H.E. Prof. Alpha T. Wurie, Minister of Technical and Higher Education, Sierra Leone
• H.E. David Molinia Senghe, Minister of Basic and Senior Secondary Education and Chief Innovation Officer for the Directorate of Science, Technology and Innovation, Sierra Leone
• H.E. Abdullahi Abukar Haji, Federal Minister of Education, Culture and Higher Education, Somalia
• H.E. Faiziddin Qahhorzoda, Minister of Finance, Tajikistan
• H.E. H. E. Imomzoda Muhammdyusuf Saydali, Minister of Education, Tajikistan
• H.E. Mwigulu Nchewa, Minister of Finance, Tanzania
• H.E. Joyce Ndali, Minister of Education, Science, Technology and Vocational Training, Tanzania
• H.E. Hussain bin Ibrahim Al Hammadi, Minister of Education, United Arab Emirates
• H.E. Mariam Almheiri, Minister of Climate Change and Environment, United Arab Emirates
• H.E. Monish Sisodia, Deputy Chief Minister of Government, Minister of Education for Delhi, India
• H.E. Colm Brophy, Minister of State for Overseas Development Aid and Diaspora, Ireland
• H.E. Dr. Mohammed Al-Sudairi, Deputy Minister of Education for Universities, Research and Innovation, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
• H.E. Dr. Maitha Shamsi, Minister of State, United Arab Emirates
• H.E. Omar bin Sultan Al Olama, Minister of State for Artificial Intelligence, Digital Economy and Remote Work Applications, United Arab Emirates
• H.E. Reem Al Hashemy, Minister of State for International Cooperation and Managing Director for the Expo 2020 Dubai Bureau, United Arab Emirates
• H.E. Shamma Al Mazrui, Minister of State for Youth, United Arab Emirates
• H.E. Dr. Kuyok Abol Kuyok, Undersecretary, Ministry of General Education, South Sudan
• H.E. George Werner, former Minister of Education, Liberia
• H.E. Dr. Amel Karbal, former Minister of Tourism, Tunisia
• H.E. Dr. Dzingai Mutumbuka, former Minister of Education and Culture, Zimbabwe
PARTNER-LED SIDE MEETINGS

Business Taking Action for Education
Co-hosted by the Global Business Coalition for Education and DP World, this event focused on bringing together the voices of more than 60 high level representatives from the business community, philanthropy, international institutions, and others, and provided a platform for companies engaged in education to make announcements on a global stage about their ongoing and new efforts to address the education crisis in their communities and around the world.

Generation Unlimited Global Leadership Council Meeting
Dubai Cares and the Federal Youth Authority jointly hosted the Generation Unlimited (GenU) Global Leadership Council meeting on 13th of December 2021. GenU is a global multi-sector partnership for young people aged 10 to 24. This meeting included leaders from the public, private, and civil society sectors, where the members of the Global Leadership Council provided expertise, strategic direction, resources and leadership to oversee the partnership.

Education in Crisis and Displacement: Education Cannot Wait Case for Investment
An event co-hosted by Dubai Cares, Global Affairs Canada and the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office of the UK Government, represented an opportunity for guests to learn more about Education Cannot Wait (ECW), the global fund for education in emergencies and protracted crises. Representatives attended the reception at the Canadian Pavilion, from Arab funds and UAE based private sector and had the opportunity to have a direct conversation with Yasmine Sherif, Director of ECW and H.E Dr. Tariq Al Gurg the CEO and Vice-Chairman of Dubai Cares.

132 Million Girls: Tackling Gender Disparities in Access to Education at the Women’s World Majlis Knowledge and Learning Week Session
The event, co-curated by Dubai Cares, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Pavilion, and United States of America Pavilion, highlighted challenges around the girls’ education crisis and Dubai Cares’ efforts to tackle the issue. Because, investing in girls’ education is investing in economic growth, a healthy workforce, lasting peace and a sustainable future for our planet.
REWIRE Legacy: 2022 and Beyond

Rewired Summit Outcomes Report

The outcomes of the RewirEd Summit will be captured in an outcomes report, led by the Education Commission, which will feed into the Transforming Education Summit, due to be convened by the UN Secretary-General, António Guterres in September 2022. The report will highlight the case for investment and a clear call to action in the countdown to 2030.

Un Transforming Education Summit 2022

As the world emerges from the COVID-19 crisis, the Transforming Education Summit provides an opportunity to mobilize greater political ambition, commitment, and action to reverse the slide on SDG 4, reimagine education, and accelerate progress on education and the 2030 Agenda more broadly for the remainder of the Decade of Action.

Amina Mohammed
Deputy Secretary-General, United Nations

“I thank Dubai Cares and partners for bringing us together at this crucial time. The COVID-19 pandemic risks turning a global learning crisis into a generational catastrophe that undermines decades of progress and threatens our collective efforts to achieve the SDGs by 2030. But this crisis also presents us with an opportunity to close the equity gap, reach the most venerable, invest in girls’ education and end the learning poverty. I commend Dubai Cares and its partners for bringing us together to seize this opportunity. The RewirEd Summit deliberations provide an important building block for the Transforming Education Summit that we [the UN] will convene next September. Together, we can help boost public support and political commitment for education and ensure that promises translate into ambitious actions for learners everywhere.”

SDG 4 Global Council

Launched at the World Government Summit in 2018, the Global Councils on SDGs is an interdisciplinary network of decision makers from governments, international organisations, academia, and the private sector coming together to share innovative practices and discuss the creative implementation of the 17 SDGs at a national and global level. The Global Council on SDG 4, chaired by H.E. Dr. Tariq Al Gurg CEO and Vice-Chairman of Dubai Cares, will align its 2022-2023 priorities with the RewirEd Legacy process.

Rewired Legacy: Broader Global Outreach and Engagement

The RewirEd Outcomes Report and broader legacy plans will aim to align with key moments in the global education calendar, including:

- World Government Summit
- World Economic Forum
- UN Transforming Education Summit
- Annual UNESCO Meetings
- UN Climate Change Conference (COP)
- Annual Meetings of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank Group (WBG)