2023 Annual Member Landscape Report

mEducation Alliance
Message from the Executive Director, Anthony Bloome

When we held our first Symposium in 2011, we were named the Mobiles for Education for Development (m4Ed4Dev) and had 11 institutional collaborators.

In 2012, we changed our name to the Mobiles for Education Alliance (and which we frequently short-hand as “mEducation Alliance” thinking of the “m” as representing “Marvelous” Education Alliance:-)

Now in 2024, a few months shy of our 4 years of operating as a non-profit organization, the mEducation Alliance has 55 Alliance and another 50+ community of practice members! We are thrilled that over the last 14 years the Alliance has grown so much.

Over this time, the breadth and depth of the work of our Alliance members has similarly evolved.

We are thrilled to share their important work in this second annual mEducation Alliance Member Landscape Report.

Within which, a number of our members share their 2023 highlights which covers an exciting gamut of edtech activities ranging from:

Supporting learners with disabilities (e.g., onebillion, World Vision);

Advancing language instruction (e.g., British Council, World Education); foundational literacy (e.g., Chemonics, onebillion, SPIDER, World Vision) and numeracy (e.g., Imagine Worldwide, mEducation Alliance, ProFuturo);

Reaching parents (e.g., Queen Rania Foundation), youth (e.g, GESCI, World Bank), out-of-school learners (e.g, Education Above All); and refugees (e.g, Digital Schools, Learning Upgrade, UNHCR);

Supporting technology test-beds and evidence-gathering (e.g, GSoLEN, Jacobs Foundation, EdTech Hub); and,

Leveraging teacher training support tools (e.g, Digital School, GIZ, RTI, Save the Children, VVOB).

Not surprisingly, there are several Alliance members with reports and initiatives on the impact of AI in Education (British Council, GSoLEN, ProFuturo, UNESCO, UNICEF, World Bank, and World Education).

The Member updates also includes their 2024 aspirations. We look forward to seeing most of these come to fruition in the coming months.

Please take special note of the points of contact featured in this report. These individuals represent the best spirit of of those whose indefatigable efforts are helping marginalized and/or underserved learners around the world and with whom we are delighted to be an “Alliance” together.

Join us at the 2024 mEducation Alliance Symposium to meet many of these individuals and Alliance member institutions. Interested in becoming an Alliance member? Please let us know at medalliance@meducationalliance.org.
We Strengthen Education Ecosystems to Bring Wondrous Learning!

Catalyzing

Accelerating investments and the scaling of promising interventions and initiatives.
- EdTech and other innovation consultations
- Global Digital Literacy
- Interactive Voice Response for Ed
- Market Mobilization (e.g., Low-Cost Video Projectors)
- Math Power! Prize - and other Ed challenge calls
- Youth Digital Champions
- #InspirationSTEM Girls

Convening

Connecting investors, policymakers, and practitioners.
- Largest global convening platform for EdTech for developing countries (100+ Alliance and Network Members)
- 14 Annual Global Symposia

Community Building

Bringing together leading organizations with common interests.
- Math Power!
- Literacy League
- Educational Volunteerism
- Global STEM Champions Network

Communicating

Sharing good practices within a global community.
- Biweekly eNews
- EdTech Connected eZine
- Pulse Media Channel

Contact Us!

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A new report 'Artificial intelligence and English language teaching: Preparing for the future' includes a multiplicity of voices in the conversation on AI and its future in this field. It is packed with insights from the research literature, a global survey of over 1,300 English teachers, and interviews with key stakeholders – from teachers to government representatives, ELT and EdTech sector experts.

Secondary Teachers English Language Improvement (STELIR): This collaboration between the Mastercard Foundation, British Council, and Rwanda Basic Education Board uses pioneering, cost-effective technology to deliver teacher development initiatives at scale. It reached 4,874 participants in its first year, with 98 per cent reporting increased confidence and effectiveness using classroom English, and greater positivity for CPD. It provides personalized support (financial/logistical) to enable female teachers' participation, emphasizing the importance of female role models and mentors.

Extra Highlight: The British Council, with eCom Learning Solutions, has won the bronze at the esteemed Learning Technologies awards for ‘Best use of mobile learning’. What stood out among 450 global entries was the innovative use of mobile tech in low-resource contexts in Rwanda and Nigeria. The judges praised the projects' structure and real-world impact. This win highlights the British Council’s commitment to inclusive learning opportunities for English teachers in challenging environments.

In 2024, the British Council are developing practical outputs for ELT practitioners using findings from their AI in English Language Teaching report e.g. a typology of AI for ELT, an ELT specific ethics framework for AI use in the ELT classroom, Open learning courses for teachers on gender and climate action aim reach 24,000 participants. and many more initiatives.

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2023 HIGHLIGHTS

- The Childhood Cost Calculator (C3), launched by the Center for Universal Education at Brookings in June 2023, is a free, user-friendly online costing tool that can help stakeholders; including policymakers, funders, implementers, and researchers; answer a multitude of costing questions related to childhood interventions and programs. This includes questions for planning such as if a project is feasible within a given budget; questions for adaptation and changes such as what would be the cost of scaling up a program or intervention; and questions about cost distribution such as how costs are distributed across cost categories or resource types. The tool is applicable to interventions across a wide range of sectors including education from early childhood to tertiary levels, health, nutrition, water and sanitation, social protection, and governance.

- Along with an accompanying research report, Brookings launched an online interactive database of digital tools for real-time data collection in education. Users can search for tools that fit their needs through a variety of selections including (but not limited to): purpose, type of data collected, tool user, and connectivity needs. The database was updated in 2023 and will continue to be updated quarterly. For the database to continue to grow, we need help from the global education community. If you have or know of a digital tool for real-time data collection in education that is not included, please contact us at digitaltools@brookings.edu

2024 ASPIRATIONS

In 2024, Brookings Institution plans to kick-off a new research and knowledge-sharing initiative related to the use of EdTech around the world, with a specific focus related to artificial intelligence.

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2023 HIGHLIGHTS

- Chemonics is leveraging technology to scale behavior change for teachers, and support education officers, learners, and overall program implementation.
- In Tajikistan, we developed reading mobile application "Kitobdust" for grades 1-4, inclusive of 68-USAID-developed stories, educational games, supports multilingual students, and makes reading accessible through the inclusion of audio books and voice recordings.
- We’ve also developed a digital learning platform for teachers in Tajikistan, with readily-available resources and enables collaboration between teachers and mentors.
- In Bangladesh, we are creating a Comprehensive Learning Management System (CLMS), inclusive of a social learning platform to support teachers' professional learning community.
- Further, our work in Malawi has led to a series of videos to support continuous professional development for Malawi’s National Reading Programme and a web application that will allow for the capture of data directly from schools.

2024 ASPIRATIONS

- In 2024, Chemonics plans to distribute 13,000+ tablets with solar charging stations to schools, zones and districts in Malawi,
- Launch hybrid continuous professional development in Malawi, that allows teachers, head teachers, infant section heads to continuously improve the quality of reading instruction for grades 1 and 2, and
- Continue to build engagement on Tajikistan's Teacher In-Service Professional Development Information System.

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THE DIGITAL SCHOOL

2023 HIGHLIGHTS

- In 2023 the Digital School impacted over 87,000 beneficiaries of Digital School education programmes, in 8 countries, across 3 continents.
- Signed a historic agreement with WFP at the United Nations General Assembly to unite digital education with school feeding programmes to allow children in the southern Africa region to learn, and perform better.
- Convened a High Level Meeting in Cape Town with The Southern African Development Community and WFP which was attended by ministers of state and ministries of education from six key countries.
- Launched the ‘Donate Your Own Device’ initiative which gathers, refurbishes and redistributes second hand technology to those in need with more than 15,000 devices collected so far.
- Announced the Digital Educators Global Academy which will provide educators worldwide with opportunities to engage with structured learning towards readiness in digital teaching and leading.

2024 ASPIRATIONS

- Using sustainable approaches to address infrastructure challenges. We will develop programmes that apply the principles of sustainability, reuse and recycling, including the Digital School ‘Donate Your Own Device’ initiative.
- Developing strategic partnerships to expand Digital School reach and impact. We will build strategic partnerships in regions such as southern Africa, where we have pledged to provide 100,000 devices and provide training for 1000 educators through the Digital Educators Global Academy.
- Building sector capacity through the Digital Educator Global Academy. The Academy will develop and expand to offer opportunities for educators worldwide to engage with structured learning towards readiness in digital teaching and leading.
- Developing a base of high-quality, low cost digital learning content. The Digital school is exploring new and innovative ways of curating digital content, including community, educator and partner sourced lessons and resources.

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EDUCATION ABOVE ALL

2023 HIGHLIGHTS

- In partnership with Taleemabad, EAA launched the Digital School Programme in Pakistan, which was officially launched at WISE 2023.
- The Digital School Programme in Pakistan proposes the development of a digitally enabled hybrid learning model to support 269,125 out-of-school adolescent learners towards certification and practical education that allows them to either reintegrate into schools or vocational training programs.
- EAA finalised a partnership agreement with VVOB, the Digital School Programme in Zambia will formally launch in January 2024. The project will be implemented in close collaboration with the Department of Distance Education, within the Ministry of Education.
- At the core of this initiative is the Digital Open Learning (DOL) program, a technology-enabled model designed to accelerate the preparation of 3,500 out-of-school adolescents aged 13-18 for the national Grade 7 examinations.

2024 ASPIRATIONS

In 2024, we plan to see the successful implementation of the Digital School Programme in Pakistan and Zambia and to start exploring opportunities for sustainability and scaling of DSP in Pakistan and Zambia.

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EDTECH HUB

2023 HIGHLIGHTS

- **Country Engagement**: We have grown our portfolio of countries by adding Malawi to our countries of focus. This expands our focus as we go deeper into the potential of EdTech for foundational learning and teacher professional development. EdTech Hub continues to deepen its partnerships with ministries of education across its focus countries and beyond through country engagement teams and the Helpdesk respectively. The Hub country teams are embedded in specialised ministry teams, providing critical support to ministry officials by incorporating evidence early in the design and implementation process of EdTech initiatives. We have also solidified country partnerships through our implementing partners helping with evidence generation and dissemination as we grow our research portfolio. We have also recently started work in Southeast Asia, with focus countries to be determined in the coming months.

- **Connecting EdTech developers with evidence**: EdTech Hub has worked in partnership with Injini, Dignitas, and EdTech East Africa to provide enhanced support and resources to EdTech entrepreneurs in Sub-Saharan Africa. The aim is to foster innovation and shape the future of education in Africa and ensure that innovators and entrepreneurs who want to ensure their EdTech products use the best available evidence for how to improve teaching and learning outcomes. We have delivered four cohorts of an online course with live, one-to-one coaching, mini-grants for entrepreneurs’ evidence building activities, and are now working to build partnerships with organisations who support and convene entrepreneurs and plan to embed the course in their programming.

2024 ASPIRATIONS

- Applying our integrated approach by drawing on our range of methods to conduct research where we see evidence gaps, offer support to decision makers to define new education strategies, and facilitate iterative implementation of new interventions. Explore new areas of focus around special education needs and disabilities, education in emergencies, and continuity during climate shocks.

- Address remaining evidence gaps in core areas such as decision-making with data, cost-effective use of digital personalised learning tools, improving learning outcomes for girls, ending simplistic approaches to messaging, and school-based ‘community of learning’ approaches to teacher professional development.

- Offer hands-on support to implement evidence in focus countries and expand and deepen our Helpdesk offering to other development agencies and global decision-makers.

- Expand our outreach by working with EdTech developers to ensure that they have enough capacity and knowledge to bring more research to teaching and learning into the design of their EdTech products.

- Tailoring our integrated approach to address gaps in special educational needs and disabilities, ensures the resilience of education systems to climate change and emergencies and ensures that artificial intelligence doesn’t deepen educational inequalities.

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Developed by UNESCO and GIZ in 2021, the Future Teacher Kit (FTK) is a teacher training solution that taps the potential of scaled low-tech solutions such as mobile phones and messenger systems (e.g. WhatsApp) to equip teachers with 21st century skills.

2023 was dedicated to preparing and launching the FTK in Jamaica together with UNESCO. Over a period of several weeks teachers received training snippets and hands-on activities on their phones via messenger, completed by weekly lessons. The training focusses on foundational teaching skills, digital teaching skills as well as 21st century skills.

The FTK was implemented by UNESCO in close cooperation with GIZ.

2024 ASPIRATIONS

In 2024 the FTK will evolve, and new learning modules on gender transformative education, climate education, artificial intelligence as well as support for teachers in settings of conflicts and crises will be developed.

One priority will be inclusive digital education, focusing on women and girls, kids and youth in the context of emergencies and protracted crises and learners with disabilities.

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Global e-Schools and Communities Initiative

2023 HIGHLIGHTS

- GPE KIX project - entitled "Adapting assessment into policy and learning (ADAPT): Adolescent 21st Century skills". The incorporation of 21st Century skills in curricula and in Edtech-based teacher professional development are urgently - required reforms to address youth unemployment. The project’s objective was to strengthen the utilization of data from learning assessments in curriculum development in Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda. GESCI continues its partnership with the African Union Commission (AUC). in the ongoing implementation of its Continental Education Strategy for Africa (CESA) 2016 – 2025.
- GESCI chairs the African Union’s CESA’s ICT in Education Cluster and is an active member of both the STEM and the Teacher Education Clusters for CESA implementation.
- Worked with the AUC on the AU theme of the year for 2024 “Educate an Africa fit for the 21st Century”5. reformed its African Digital schools programme to transform schools to digital schools of distinction.

2024 ASPIRATIONS

- Securing resources to mainstream our proven African Digital Schools Initiative throughout the continent
- Securing partnerships to support the development and deployment of curricular resources and methodologies for communications and digital literacy as well as for safe internet usage by learners.
- We wishes to work with partners on the deployment of curricular modules on climate change in Africa. GESCI envisions a cross-curricular and interdisciplinary approach at school level but directly linked to local communities and livelihoods.
- The design and implementation of projects to incentivize and enable greater participation by girls in STEM courses at school.
- Further development of modalities for the effective use of digital technologies and teacher training to support learners with special needs.

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2023 HIGHLIGHTS

- In 2023, our highlights have been hiring of a new director with edtech, AI, and science of learning background.
- Developing a community square for sharing science of learning information, connecting expertise across disciplines,
- Developing and disseminating resources on science of learning in application around the world, and elevating the importance of using science to inform policy and practice;
- GSoLEN’s advisory role in forming UNESCO global alliance of organizations implementing science of learning in education;
- Convening two day expert meeting in Washington DC on how connecting science of learning to AI and edtech can improve workforce skill development;
- Creating an AI Action Collaborative to infuse science of learning in AI development and implementation for education.
- GSoLEN has an increasing list of partners across over 40 countries and lead science of learning experts that work alongside implementers of Edtech and AI in practice. We participate in various convenings to bring attention to the relevance of science of learning and learning science to edtech in education.

2024 ASPIRATIONS

- Create the human and technology infrastructure to support a broader ecosystem of shared expertise to center science of learning in EdTech in education.
- Connect EdTech policy and practice leaders within the US and globally to a robust science of learning through knowledge mobilization and implementation suite of services such as tools, experts, models, etc.
- Support EdTech developers and leaders in continuous improvement though multidirectional feedback loop and data sharing anchored in the expertise of GSoLEN’s scientists and researchers from neuroscience, cognitive science, culture, and other major disciplines that contribute to the ongoing development of science of learning.

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2023 HIGHLIGHTS

- Annual HundrED Global Collection gathers the most impactful and scalable 100 education innovations in one collection. This year there was a significant increase in the number of submitted innovations that utilized EdTech and Artificial Intelligence as their methodology to facilitate the objectives of innovations and the final Global Collection 2024 selection showcased 26 EdTech and AI innovations.
- After a robust selection process, HundrED in partnership with EdTech Hub have selected 15 innovations that highlight EdTech as an avenue to reach the needs of various stakeholders in education, and, most importantly, that of the learners.
- In this collection there is a strong representation of EdTech tools for learning support, emergency education, and skill building, as well as blended learning practices and online learning platforms that showcase potential for scaling across different contexts.
- HundrED Media’s aim is to highlight the stories of innovators and the HundrED community. These articles showcased the amazing work of innovators and community members by sharing inspirational stories and expanding on topics in education, including EdTech. Sample article: https://hundred.org/en/articles/the-future-is-edtech-how-innovations-bring-it-to-all

2024 ASPIRATIONS

- Continue our work to identify and amplify innovations through various thematically or regionally focused collections, in addition to our annual Global Collection and maintain our focus on innovations that are being implemented with high impact and demonstrate great potential for scaling to other contexts with consideration to various aspects of education equity and accessibility.
- We also plan on continuing our research on the expansion of AI innovations in education, emergence of a trend of incorporating students’ well-being and psycho-social support into EdTech, and scaling of innovations, including EdTech.
During 2023, IDRC undertook an effort to initiate a line of programming in applied research in EdTech. A global and regional (Asia, Africa, MENA and LAC) scoping study was conducted to identify knowledge gaps and policy priorities. As a result of the study, IDRC is preparing a series of initiatives to be announced in April 2024.

IDRC is also working on synthesizing learnings from previous and current projects in education that contain strong edtech components, both in teacher professional development, data management and pedagogical support to learning, mainly in rural and remote contexts.

2024 ASPIRATIONS

In 2024, we plan to initiate a global and 2 regional initiatives on EdTech.

EdTech Solutions being used in Chad for Sudanese refugees

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2023 HIGHLIGHTS

- Capture the confidence of schools and districts with the newest ISTE Seal!
- This recognition signifies your commitment to future-ready learning and verifies that your solution:
  - Is tested, proven, and aligns to the ISTE Standards
  - Has a strong user interface and user experience based on best practices for digital-age learning
  - Is grounded in digital pedagogy and the learning sciences
  - Incorporates inclusivity and accessibility considerations for students and teachers
  - Supports teaching with technology and promotes critical technology skills

2024 ASPIRATIONS

- We hope to recognize EdTech solutions that are high-quality and evidence-based by the ISTE Seal of Alignment program. ISTE Seal is the indicator for education-ready quality and usability. It verifies that solutions are evidence-based and research-backed. By earning the ISTE Seal, products and solutions are recognized for their alignment to best practices in:
  - ISTE Standards
  - Digital Pedagogy and Learning Sciences
  - Usability, User Experience, and User Interface

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We significantly expanded our tablet-based literacy/numeracy program with our partners across seven African countries in 2023. We’re proud that our value drivers — access, affordability, efficacy, and sustainability — are moving in the right direction.

Highlights:
- Welcoming Rapelang Rabana as Co-CEO
- Launching Year 1 of the nationwide expansion of the tablet program in Malawi (called BEFIT), serving approximately 300,000 students, training nearly 3,500 educators, providing solar power to 500 schools — all on time and on budget
- Partnering with GPE/World Bank to build sustainable scale in Malawi
- Expanding across Liberia, Ghana, Senegal, Sierra Leone, and Burkina Faso, reaching 27,196 students and training nearly 1,000 teachers
- Conducting implementation research to better understand barriers to and enablers of successful implementation at scale
- Developing open-source digital EGRA/EGMA e-assessments, with RTI International, to measure learning gains more easily/less expensively.

In 2024, we plan to:
- Continue scaling the tablet program across countries in our current portfolio, serving an estimated 2,000 schools and over 600,000 students
- Develop e-assessments in additional languages as needed to support scale, starting with French, and expand our targeted research to understand how Social Emotional Learning and other relevant skills contribute to children’s learning through the tablet program
- Expand our program in refugee settings — along with our software partner onebillion, we’ve pledged to reach 5,000 new refugee learners by the end of 2024
2023 HIGHLIGHTS

A key pillar of the Jacobs Foundation 2030 strategy is unlocking the impact of EdTech and evidence in EdTech for improving learning and development outcomes. To achieve its aims, the Foundation advanced the following initiatives:

- The Global EdTech Testbed Network (GETN): A collaborative effort launched to promote best practices through ‘testbeds’ – authentic school environments in which to trial emerging education technologies.
- The Impact-Linked Fund for Education (ILFF): Supported in partnership with the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, the fund deploys outcomes-based financing to back evidence-based EdTech organizations in the Global South.
- Partnerships 4 Tech by Innovation for Poverty Action: Provides selected organizations implementing education programs with digital components or EdTech products with co-funding for research and learning.

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Due to the Republic of Korea's Ministry of Education announcing its EdTech Promotion Strategy in September 2023, KERIS formed a task force composed of stakeholders, identified implementation tasks, and supported strategy formulation.

The strategy proposed ways to promote the use of EdTech in public education field and support the growth of the EdTech industry as well. In line with the strategy, various tasks will be carried out to support the growth of the EdTech industry from 2024 onwards.

2024 ASPIRATIONS

In 2024, KERIS plans to strengthen to verification of EdTech by expanding the operation of Edtech Softlab (Edtech Hub space between education fields and industry fields, that promote the usage of Edtech in the classroom by operating verification process of Edtech product) to promote the use of EdTech in public education, the providing of teaching and learning cases using EdTech, and the strengthening of the capabilities of EdTech companies in order to implement the Ministry of Education’s strategy.

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2023 HIGHLIGHTS

- Learning Upgrade partnered with 100+ organizations in 20 countries to help refugees, vulnerable women and girls, and low-resource communities to learn reading, math, digital literacy, and job skills, including AKDN FOCUS Humanitarian Assistance, which has 5,000+ refugees in 7 countries enrolled in Refugee Learning Circle Model with WhatsApp groups and volunteer mentors; high-achieving students became mentors and African Education Program Zambia, which deployed Learning Upgrade in after-school computer labs to help children and high school students transition to secondary school, higher ed, and work.
- They also launched other programs such as Sheer Love Rwanda, a program that enrolled street youth into Learning Upgrade at a computer lab to boost reading, math skills, and prepare them for success in secondary schools.
- The children performed Learning Upgrade songs live for international audiences.

2024 ASPIRATIONS

- In 2024, Learning Upgrade has pledged to scale their Refugee Learning Circle model to reach 300,000 refugees in over 20 countries by 2027.
- They plan to expand this mode through key partnerships in and around refugee host communities to make use of smartphones for “Binge Learning” in crisis settings.

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2023 HIGHLIGHTS

- The mEducation Alliance and its Math Power! Explorer (MPE) project partners received a second year of pilot funding from Cisco's Global Cash Grants to expand the use of Interactive Voice Response (IVR) to deliver audio-driven adventure-styled math games for parents to use with primary-aged learners in households in Rwanda.
- We hosted our 13th Annual Symposium, the first global STEM education conference, that featured over 100 presentations, representing 90 institutions from over 40 countries.
- We supported out communities of practice (CoP) around various themes. On average, we organized 4 quarterly meetings for each CoP: Literacy League, Math Power! and Education Volunteerism.
- We highlighted 5 outstanding youth in our 3rd round Youth Digital Champions’ call.
- We developed and circulated 20 eNews.

2024 ASPIRATIONS

- To attract enthusiastic sponsors and presenters for our 14th Annual mEducation Alliance, STEMtastic Adventures!
- To identify supporters for a 2024 Math Power! prize.
- To identify country collaborators for a microprojectors at scale for education initiative
- Launch a STEM Education Champions’ Network
- To develop and field test a repository of EscapeIF, puzzle based cooperative games, based on the Global Proficiency Framework for Mathematics

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SPONSOR
THE 2024
MATH POWER! PRIZE

The Math Power! Prize is designed to draw attention to the importance of mathematics and numeracy skills, and to recognize the amazing work of exceptional non-profit organizations working to promote the joy of math.

Prior to our 2022 award, there did not exist a dedicated prize for this type of global recognition.

WE ARE LOOKING FOR SPONSORS TO MAKE THIS AN ANNUAL AWARD.

Interested? Please let us know.

Learn more about the Math Power! Prize here:

https://meducationalliance.org/
NEIL BUTCHER & ASSOCIATES

2023 HIGHLIGHTS

- NBA has continued its support of the World Bank's Read@Home initiative to establish an online library for high-quality print-ready PDF files for commercial printing.
- The Early Literacy Resource Network shares openly licensed storybooks and learning resources in all languages to facilitate bulk printing and online reading. For more info: www.earlylearningresourcenetwork.org
- We onboarded thousands of new books from Room to Read, Book Dash, and The Zenex Foundation's Ulwazi Lwethu project.
- The ELRN team developed and facilitated online courses on open licensing and storybook design in French and English.

2024 ASPIRATIONS

- In 2024, we plan on engaging more education projects and governments to download materials for printing at scale, adapt existing ELRN content, and upload files to share with the global education community.
- NBA will be working with governments to develop capacity building interventions to ensure that open educational resources are correctly licensed, stored, shared, and are accessible to all who need to use them.
- Sustainability of repositories and the effective use of resources will guide the development of the strategies to strengthen the skills within governments to continue this work.

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Children participating in World Literacy Day
2023 HIGHLIGHTS

- onebillion is delighted to be supporting the Government of Malawi’s BEFIT programme - a nationwide rollout of the onetab device which delivers the award-winning onecourse software for foundational numeracy and literacy - to every lower primary school learner. This groundbreaking scale-out began in 2023 and is supported by Imagine Worldwide and a consortium of implementation partners and donors, and will reach 3.5 million children annually by 2029.
- With support from The LEGO Foundation, onebillion has been improving its software to better support children with SEND. Over 2023, we have made significant improvements for neurodivergent children - including changes to our software functionality, and bringing voices of neurodivergent children and adults into our digital story library.
- We are now working with partners in 17 countries, primarily in Sub-Saharan Africa, to deliver onecourse in effective and equitable implementations that bring real learning benefits to marginalized children.
- Extra Highlight: Together with our partner Imagine Worldwide, we are supporting the piloting of low-infrastructure onetab implementations in refugee contexts, with a view to developing sustainable and replicable community-based models that enable out-of-school children to succeed in their learning, using onetab.

2024 ASPIRATIONS

- Over the coming year, onebillion will be developing more lower-level materials to support children who arrive at school with underdeveloped skills in areas such as language and executive function, in order to ensure these children are able to successfully progress through onecourse literacy and numeracy content, and the wider school curriculum, as well as continuing to review and iterate our software to improve it for children with SEND

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2023 HIGHLIGHTS

- ProFuturo has migrated to a new LMS, with a completely new educational proposal and a renewed catalogue of resources for teachers and students.
- ProFuturo Mathematics, a new educational application powered with AI, has also been deployed.
- ProFuturo has developed a new School Assessment Tool to classify schools according to their level of appropriation of the program and their potential to produce greater impact in educational centres.

Some other key activities were:
- The dissemination of the first Map of Best Practices in Digital Education in the Americas (with OAS)
- The launch of the report ‘The Future of Artificial Intelligence in Education in Latin America’ (with OEI)
- Participation at the consultation process for the GEM Report 2023 on Education and Technology.
- Celebration of the first “Regional meeting in Africa and Asia”: 31 partner representatives from 20 countries.
- New agreement with IRC to implement a project with refugee population in Kigoma (Tanzania).

2024 ASPIRATIONS

In 2024, ProFuturo plans on massive deployment of the new LMS, launching new learning communities, and finding new co-creation and co-funding partners to bring digital education worldwide.

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**2023 HIGHLIGHTS**

- The Parental Education Program (PEP) continues to scale through multiple models including a blended model in partnership with the Ministry of Islamic Affairs and through a self-paced Chatbot. In 2023, we registered 5,800 parents on the training. A total of 17,000 parents have registered on PEP since inception and 1.1 million users were engaged through expert live sessions hosted on Facebook.
- The multi-year behaviour change program to promote shared reading in the early years is moving into its pilot phase with a campaigns strategy in place, national consortium established, and over 25 campaign videos produced for testing.
- In 2023, Edraak, our proprietary online learning platform, passed 8 million learners and had over 850,000 average weekly users. The platform continues to deliver unparalleled impactful learning and development, delivered at scale across borders, democratizing educational access and skills.

**2024 ASPIRATIONS**

- PEP will continue to scale through multiple models in 2024 with the support of a Theirworld Innovation Award
- The behavior change program will have major interventions begin piloting (i.e. book gifting and goal setting) along with the Social Behavior Change Communication messaging begin testing as well.
- The behavior change program will also create an MVP for a parenting resources platform to support the messaging campaign and interventions.
- Edraak will continue its growth and focus on delivering key skills to young people in collaboration with private, public and nonprofit partners across the MENA region.

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2023 HIGHLIGHTS

- In 2023, RTI International successfully pilot tested RTI’s newest open-source teacher support tool, Loquat. With Loquat, teachers capture and upload audio from their lessons. Using machine learning, Loquat detects and classifies verbal interactions between teachers and students. Loquat measures the time spent talking by children and adults. Automated analyses translate these data into simple visualizations and provide guided reflection and tailored feedback for teachers to help increase active learning, student participation, and inclusion in their classrooms.
- We have also developed an early warning system to assist teachers in monitoring student drop out. The tool helps track attendance, monitor student behavior and wellbeing, academic progress, and provides practical intervention suggestions.
- Field tested the tool in 2 countries, as well as contributed to panels, presentations, and expert consultations on AI and assessment.
- Continued to explore integration of NLP and ORC functionality with Tangerine.
- Find out more about RTI’s initiative on their platform here.

2024 ASPIRATIONS

- In 2024, we are finalizing development of open-source vision screening functionality in Tangerine.
- We also hope to develop the tool, Tangerine:Acuity, and field test it in up to three countries still in 2024!
- Large-scale deployment of the new early warning system for student drop out in at least two countries and further piloting and learning on AI and assessment, including with NLP and ORC models are all some things we are looking forward to.

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SAVE THE CHILDREN

2023 HIGHLIGHTS

- In 2023, Save the Children launched the EdTech 101 course - introducing learners to ed-techy and how it can be integrated into education programming. Specifically, the course will cover the different types of EdTech, guiding principles for EdTech integration, how EdTech has been used across the movement, and the agency’s future EdTech plans.
- Launched the EdTech Programme Offer - a guide to our collective EdTech work across early childhood care & development, basic education, and education in emergencies. It is a concise overview of what we know, what we do, what we need to learn more about, the partnerships we need to form, and where we need to prioritize and invest in EdTech to reach the SB2S&L Global Goal. Also includes recommendations for strategic priorities for 2023-24.
- We have also began conducting an EdTech Landscape Review as well as worked with VIAMO in Uganda on an IVR training resource, training 195,000 headteachers across Uganda on how to incorporate these materials into their teacher professional development cycles.

2024 ASPIRATIONS

- In 2024, we plan to increase the volume of evidence SC produces on EdTech interventions
- Increase SC’s visibility as a key player in the field of EdTech by attending events, publishing articles, and contributing to high-level conversations
- Develop simple guidance tools (e.g., cheat sheets) on selecting, integrating, and costing EdTech interventions in proposals.

CONTACT PERSON

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Launching education videos for Cambodian primary school children in five indigenous languages to support learners from indigenous groups. Children can learn arithmetic, how to read Khmer or see stories in their native language.

Creating a coding curriculum in Khmer and training teachers to use it with the Khmer translated version of code.org. It is now possible for secondary school children in rural to learn coding skills in school.

Digital learning tools for grade 6 giving pupils in rural Zambia access to creative learning tools tailored to their learning needs.

In 2024, we plan to continue to work for inclusive EdTech by combining research and practice and grow the community working for an inclusive digitalization that benefits us all.

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CONTACT PERSONS
We are looking for exceptional presenters and enthusiastic attendees interested in propelling learners on STEMtastic Adventures!

Event Features:
As with our prior 13 Symposia, you'll be joined at this event by:
- 250 - 300 invite-only attendees
- Alliance member institutions
- Ministries of Education and other policymakers
- Practitioners and researchers
- Public and private sector organizations
- USG agencies

Event Timeline/Location:
March 29th - Deadline for Presentation Proposals
- September 30th - Pre-Symposium Workshops (Arlington, VA)
- October 1st - 3rd – General Symposium (Arlington, VA)
- October 4th – Alliance Member Day (DC/World Bank)

Be An Event Sponsor!
- Sponsor Recognition
- Co-host a track
- Organize a workshop
- Attend Alliance Member Day reception and sessions
- Exhibit booth

Event Formats include:
- Thought-provoking and engaging presentations and workshops
- Facilitated dialogues with government and donor representatives
- STEM Education Village with lots of hands-on booths — and food!

Event Tracks Include:
- Foundational Literacy and STEM Climate Education
- #InspirationSTEM is Girl Powered!
- Making STEM Accessible
- STEM in Challenging Educational Environments
- STEM Games & Play, and More!

See event info here:
- Symposium Webpage
- Proposal Submission

https://meducationalliance.org/
Become a Sponsor of the 2024 Symposium!

STEMtastic Adventures!

14th Annual mEducation Alliance Symposium
September 30 - October 4, 2024
www.meducationalliance.org

Symposia Highlights:
- Over 3,000 attendees since 2010
- Participants typically include Ministry of Education representatives, donors, development agencies, private sector, and researchers.
- Innovative Networking Formats (e.g., gallery walks, game-playing, networking)
- Showcase opportunities for sponsors

2023 Symposium Theme: Inspiring the Next Generation of STEM Leaders-Everywhere!
- Event page and program
- STEM Education Village Showcase
- Pulse Channel Video Interviews

Sponsorship Opportunities
- Co-host a track
- Organize a workshop
- Attend Alliance Member Day reception and sessions
- Exhibit booth

Sponsorship Package

https://meducationalliance.org/
2023 HIGHLIGHTS

- We launched a brand new tool called **Best School to Work** for schools and school chains to objectively analyze, improve and certify their culture and working environment.
- When schools sign up, their entire staff complete a comprehensive, anonymous survey and the school is scored across 4 Best School to Work Pillars - Leadership, Collaboration, School Environment and Professional Wellness - and 15 Foundations based upon our bespoke survey and scoring system.
- Our interactive dashboard provides detailed feedback and actionable insights and powerful benchmarking data to compare results nationally and internationally. This helps schools target areas of improvement and measure successful implementation to attract and retain the best educators.
- Schools that score high enough are awarded Silver, Gold or Platinum certification and given a marketing support package.
- With this, certified schools can market themselves as a Best School to Work, gaining media coverage and putting them on the map.
- Extra Highlight: We’re launching our four new World Education Medals this year in partnership with HP. Focusing on the regions with the biggest learning gaps – Africa, Latin America and Asia – the World Education Medals celebrate the stories of leaders who have lit the spark of change so others will be inspired to take up the torch.

2024 ASPIRATIONS

- In 2024, we are hosting a year-round series of events on our new T4 Communities app with great speakers coming to share their experiences with innovative technologies as well as pedagogies.
- We’re also holding the first ever World Schools Summit in Dubai on October 5-6 where EdTech companies will be able to meet with school leaders and leading figures in education to discuss the most vital issues facing the sector today and how to unlock the hidden curriculum.
- For the third year, we are running the World’s Best School Prize for Innovation and we look forward to telling the stories of trailblazing schools around the world that are harnessing EdTech to transform teaching and learning.

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UNESCO has long-running programs that help countries and the wider international community steer the digital transformation of education towards greater inclusion, equity and quality.

- We have developed norms, guidelines, research and projects to make technology a stronger and more reliable enabler of the humanistic aims of education.
- In 2023, UNESCO has restarted its flagship annual conference on education and technology, under the name of Digital Learning Week and released its Global Education Monitoring Report with a thematic focus on technology in education.
- UNESCO has also published ‘Guidance for Generative AI in Education and Research’, ‘An Ed Tech Tragedy?’ and ‘Generative AI and the future of education’ and progressed numerous initiatives that are helping countries leverage technology to improve and enrich education, including: ICT Transforming Education in Africa, Gateways to Public Digital Learning, and Technology Enabled Open Schools.
- Extra Highlight: Countries and partners are encouraged to join UNESCO-UNICEF’s Gateways to Public Digital Learning Initiative. Details are here.

2024 ASPIRATIONS

- In 2024, UNESCO aims to advance work to finalize a framework of AI competencies for teachers and students, progress global mapping and description of public digital learning platforms as part of the UNESCO-UNICEF Gateways Initiative, and further the development of a new publication about AI and the future of learning.

CONTACT PERSON

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2023 HIGHLIGHTS

- Broker partnerships and unlock financial resources to accelerate the digital transformation of education, focused on equity, including the inclusion of children in emergencies.
- Strengthen transparency, accountability, and support to Member States towards equity and quality in public digital learning through the Gateways to Public Digital Learning Initiative, the UN flagship initiative on digital learning with UNESCO.
- Work with industry leaders on Textbooks of the Future, an initiative to apply artificial intelligence to the production, transformation, and translation of digital content to improve accessibility for all learners, including learners with special needs.
- Continue our support to Member States on national EdTech strategies, based on evidence and best practice.
- Blog on WEF on Artificial Intelligence
- Brief on Top 10 Reasons Why Digital Learning Succeeds or Fails

2024 ASPIRATIONS

- Ensure that the AI revolution is ethical, responsible, and effective, leveraging it to solve education equity gaps. Some examples of how this can be done is the improvement of accessibility of digital content, the improvement of AI products that can be used offline and that work in the type of devices that are most popular in developing settings.
- Ensure that the digital transformation of education is advanced in a strategic and systemic way, to ensure sustainability, quality, and equity.

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2023 HIGHLIGHTS

- **Instant Network Schools programme (Vodafone Foundation partnership):** Expansion to a total of 7 countries reaching out to 80,606 students and 3,886 teachers across 118 digital learning centers in secondary refugee hosting schools.
- **ProFuturo:** ongoing programme providing equipment and digital content to over 25,000 primary students in refugee hosting schools, with digital skills training for 800 teachers.
- Presentations at the mEducation Alliance Symposium, UNESCO’s Digital Learning Week, and the Migration Summit.
- CLCC/CHE: In 2023 UNCHR and partners developed a roadmap for enrolling 15% of refugees in higher education by 2030, including through the use of digital technology.
- The Refugee Connected Education Challenge gathered partners across the sector, in preparation for the Global Refugee Forum multistakeholder pledge on connected education.
- Innovation Fund: Supported the challenge set by partner Learning Equality using AI to facilitate curriculum alignment for resource contextualization in emergency contexts.

2024 ASPIRATIONS

- Continue work on the Refugee Connected Education Challenge Action Group and the Education Alliance connected education task team, bringing together pledges from sector partners.
- Pursue collaborative work with key partners Vodafone Foundation and ProFuturo Foundation, Learning Equality, the CLCC, and institutional partners, with a focus on producing an evidence base for connected education interventions.
- In 2024 UNHCR, the Connected Learning in Crisis Consortium and partners will be collaborating on connected higher education collaboration in specific locations, alongside engaging with universities in specific locations of delivery.

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VVOB - EDUCATION FOR DEVELOPMENT

2023 HIGHLIGHTS

- VVOB has launched their Blend ON! guide, an easy-to-follow, step-by-step guide for all organizations that provide Continuous Professional Development for teachers, school leaders and other educators. The guide helps CPD providers to find the perfect “blend” of in-person and remote learning modalities for effective CPD that is cost-effective, scalable and sustainable.
- The guide is open-access and was co-created with like-minded organizations with whom we exchanged good practices, expertise and experiences.
- Experts from fellow mEd Alliance members EdTech Hub, Brookings CUE, The World Bank and UNESCO have also contributed.
- In Vietnam, VVOB and the Ministry of Education and Training supported primary teachers to integrate play-based activities into their classrooms through the iPlay project.
- A CPD training e-course on learning through play, was adopted nationwide in 2023 and 150,000+ teachers have successfully completed.

2024 ASPIRATIONS

- In 2024, VVOB plans toward sharing their Blend ON! guide as widely as they can reaching professional development providers around the globe as well as continuing their ongoing EGRI project in South Africa.
- In Early 2024, we’ll present a comparative cost analysis of “blended” interventions for continuous teacher professional development in South Africa and Vietnam, based on research that we carried out in collaboration with Dr. Clive Belfield (CUNY).

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2023 HIGHLIGHTS

- Shared the results of the cluster Randomised Control Trial (cRCT) in the Isingiro district in Uganda, involving 30 public schools and over 1,500 children in primary grade 3. The results reveal that Children in the intervention group made significant gains in reading and maths than those in standard education, proof that children residing in low resource situations can experience significant, accelerated academic progress through participating in Can't Wait to Learn (CWTL). More information about the trial is available the registration number 11460734 on the ISRCTN registry. CWTL handed over the implementation to the district education in Isingiro, a huge step towards CWTL’s scaling ambition.

- Resumed CWTL implementation in Chad in partnership with World Vision, focusing on enhancing grade 3 children's mathematical competencies. The project is piloted in four community sites, preceded by a Partner Induction Training with World Vision staff, Ministry of Education, and Education Cluster representatives. Subsequently, Face-to-Face CWTL Teachers' Training took place in N'Djamena in August 2023, spanning five days and equipping participants with practical experience, insights into game functionality, educational content, curriculum links, and diverse teaching strategies.

- In partnership with the MoE Ukraine and local NGO Osvitoria, the Ukrainian Reading game for school grades 1-4 was released. The latest update release in September 2023 introduced two new features: desktop version which allows use of the game in classrooms during lessons and a Teacher Tool to enable monitoring of students’ activity and progress. Reached over 86 000 Ukrainian primary school children, almost 52 000 of them are active users as of December 1, 2023.

2024 ASPIRATIONS

- Extending the cRCT in Uganda to include further analysis of learning gains and dissemination on scaling best practice.
- Continued roll-out of CWTL by War Child and partners in Uganda, South Sudan, Lebanon, Jordan, Chad and Ukraine
- Publication and dissemination of the CWTL Math Content Curriculum Planning Framework. With support from ECW, War Child has translated the learning content of the CWTL Math Game into a tangible classroom teaching support resource. Combining all it’s instruction videos, examples of exercises and mini-games, partners will be able to access and use the CWTL learning content in their own programming.
- WCH, Concern, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) and People in Need (PIN) have partnered to look at integrating CWTL into non-formal education programs in Northeast Syria, addressing learning deficits due to prolonged disruptions.
- Implementing CWTL with UNICEF to reach out-of-school children aged 8 to 11. Two schools have been chosen for the initial phase, with plans to extend to community centers and informal settlements next year. The CWTL Training of Trainers has been conducted for the Education team in Lebanon, laying the foundation for its dissemination to teachers and facilitators.
- Institutionalization of CWTL Ukraine through handover to the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine in May 2024. The content of the app for all four grades will be 100% complete, and in accordance with the state school curriculum and approved by the Ukrainian Institute of Education Development (UIED).

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THE WORLD BANK GROUP

2023 HIGHLIGHTS

- The EdTech Policy Academy (PA) is an umbrella learning & training program to provide WBG Education staff, partners & client countries to design, implement & monitor edtech policies linked mainly to WBG-financed projects. Concrete outputs are developed using an online platform & synchronous team sessions. In 2023, a PA was held explicitly for African countries.
- Remote Learning toolkit with 23 Knowledge Packs to support staff and LMIC policymakers.
- Country pilot of EdTech Readiness Index (ETRI).
- Countrywide expansion for Colombia of Evoke program, using PBL, game mechanics, graphic novel content, & engaging storytelling for inspiring youth to develop 21st century skills to solve global grand challenges in their communities.
- The 10th and 11th webinars in our Frontier Technologies for Education series.

2024 ASPIRATIONS

- In 2024, the World Bank wants to continue building resilient education systems, with an emphasis on Resilience in Basic Education, continued capacity building through the Policy Academy, and ongoing Frontier Technologies for Education webinars with a special focus on AI.
- Building resilient education systems, with an emphasis on Resilience in Basic Education.
- Digital Skills, with a focus on Skills for Youth, TVET, and Higher Ed.
- Continued capacity building through the Policy Academy.
- Expansion of Evoke program to East Africa.
- Ongoing Frontier Technologies for Education webinars with a special focus on AI.

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2023 HIGHLIGHTS

World Education (WE) advances digital equity and responsible and evidence-driven use of technology to improve outcomes in learning, work, and life. Some highlights from 2023:

- Launched an AI For Education Initiative developing resources such as the Open Prompt Book and the UNESCO Master Class on Generative AI Open Education.
- Piloted the Google Read Along in Ghana, increasing English language learning and helping out-of-school girls return to primary school.
- Supported diverse community organizations in the U.S. to offer digital navigator services and to advocate for digital equity through partnerships with AT&T and the U.S. Office of Educational Technology.
- Field tested Adobe’s Liquid Mode in Malawi, improving digital text readability of healthcare information for 1,200 community case workers.
- Collaborated with the Cambodian government to develop a Moodle-based online platform for educators’ continuous professional development after a digital education landscape scan.

2024 ASPIRATIONS

- Improve training and career pathways for thousands of healthcare workers around the globe by collaborating more closely with our JSI colleagues and digital expertise.
- Expand effective use of Open Educational Resources (OERs) with our updated SkillBlox platform and related U.S. Institute of Educational Sciences research.
- Apply our experiences in the U.S. and in Saint Lucia of digital skill and workforce development and forming industry coalitions to other global contexts.

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2023 HIGHLIGHTS

- Globally, World Vision’s partnership in All Children Reading: A Grand Challenge for Development advanced EdTech Innovation and Research for over a decade. Resources, Research and Case Studies can be found in the ACR GCD Final Report. Building from ACR GCD, World Vision also recently partnered with SIL International to launch a World Vision bookshelf on Bloom which enables WV Field Offices to host country-level bookshelves and scale the digital books originally developed under ACR GCD throughout World Vision’s education programs in more than 37 countries.

- The Measuring Evidence of Quality Achieved (MEQA) app, developed by World Vision as a digital monitoring and coaching tool, is currently featured in the Brookings Institute’s Real Time Data in Education Tool Finder. MEQA is being used in 21+ countries by WV Field Office Staff and their local partners.

- In Rwanda, the USAID-funded Uburezi Iwacu project, led by World Vision, leverages appropriate assistive technology to enable children with disabilities to thrive in school, in community learning and home environments. Find out more here. Through Community Libraries, the project is also offering access to hundreds of digital books in Kinyarwanda and English in partnership with NABU and the Kigali Public Library.

- The Education team at World Vision International Nepal sought to empower reading and learning at school through an online book platform called KITAB Bazar. The digital platform developed in-house, by World Vision International’s Nepal Innovation Lab (NLab), allows schools to connect with publishers through their local municipalities and ensure that supply chain challenges are minimised and children get their books. Find out more here.

- Supporting families impacted by the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine and neighboring countries, World Vision partnered with Intel to offer Portable Connectivity Centers to Ukrainian refugee families which also enabled children to continue their education. World Vision expanded this partnership to schools in sub-Saharan Africa in 2023.

- World Vision’s Youth Ready positive youth development program contains four modules and incorporates Evoke, a digital, game-based character development platform developed by the World Bank. Evoke promotes youth leadership through cohort-designed and implemented, community-based activities that focus on resolving global challenges such as literacy, water scarcity, human trafficking, and gang violence. World Vision collaborated with the World Bank to fully integrate Youth Ready and Evoke into one online platform.

2024 ASPIRATIONS

- At the 2022, Global Disability Summit, World Vision committed to help more than five times the number of children with disabilities in our long-term programs by 2026. EdTech and appropriate assistive technology will help World Vision reach this goal.

- Youth Ready participants in the RISE Project (2023-2030) in El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras will use the integrated Youth Ready-Evoke online platform as they participate in project activities.

- Increase the number of WV FOs using EdTech to support improved learning outcomes for the most vulnerable children, including children with disabilities and learners who are struggling as a result of crises which have disrupted their education.

- Increase collaboration with Ministry of Education staff to use the MEQA tool to support quality improvements for pre-primary and primary education.

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Join the Alliance!

Our mission is to increase the impact of EdTech stakeholders globally by strengthening formal and non-formal educational systems, especially in low-resource and developing country contexts, with relevant and inclusive events, products and initiatives that are collaborative, not competitive in nature, developed in partnership with our member network and strategic partners.

mEducation Alliance Member Benefits
- Exclusive network access to mEducation Alliance organizational members
- Institutional EdTech highlights are featured in variety of channels (eCafés, EdTech Connected, eNews, Pulse Media Channel);
- Opportunity to have a branded Pulse Media Playlist
- Matchmaking/networking among Alliance members for potential funding opportunities;
- Co-creation and engagement in Alliance working groups;
- Ground-level engagement in signature activities (Math Power!, Youth Digital Champions, Global Digital Literacy, Literacy League, and #InspirationSTEM);
- Participation in invite-only, VIP annual Alliance member events such as workshops, co-creation sessions, trainings and other professional development opportunities;
- Free admission to all Alliance member events.

Membership in the mEducation Alliance also gives you access to discounted services that the Alliance provides such as:

- Sophisticated technical advice in planning your next physical and/or virtual event;
- Access to our engagement and communications campaign design and production team that can advise on your next webinar, workshop, targeted event, or marketing campaign.

Interested in becoming a member of the Alliance?

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The mEducation Alliance eNews is released on a biweekly basis. Within which, we feature timely and noteworthy tech and non-tech education-focused interventions around various thematic areas, including updates from Alliance Members, upcoming events, and funding opportunities.

Some of our Favorite issues include:

- **CELEBRATING INTERNATIONAL LITERACY DAY**
- **CLIMATE EDUCATION RESOURCES FOR A GREEN FUTURE!**
- **SIZZLING SCIENCE! EDUCATION TRACK, SMITHSONIAN, AND MORE!**
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