The Transformative Potential of Data for Learning
Session Outcome Document

ITU/UNESCO Broadband Commission for Sustainable Development

26 May 2023 @ 14h00 CET

https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2023/Agenda/Session/525

Key Issues discussed (5- 8 bullet points)

- What equitable, safe, effective use of learner data look likes
- Real-life examples about how data use can improve educational experiences
- Ethical implications of using education data and the safeguards needed to protect learners
- Capacity building to support data literacy and digital skills of all education stakeholders
- Barriers to using learner data and how to overcome them through multistakeholder cooperation

Towards WSIS+20 and WSIS beyond 2025, please share your views on the emerging trends, challenges, achievements, and opportunities in the implementation of the WSIS Action Lines to date (5-8 bullets)

- Action Line 3: Access to Information and Knowledge
    - At present, there is a stark digital divide that engenders a data divide across and within countries. This divide prevents equal access to digital education data, which threatens to further widen global educational inequities, minimizing the ability to make data-informed decisions to improve teaching and learning experiences.
- Action Line 4: Capacity Building
    - Data literacy is increasingly vital in a world where fact and fiction are not always easy to distinguish; therefore, investing in the data skills of all education stakeholders – from basic technical understandings to ethical use of data for learning – is fundamental.
- Action Line 6: Enabling Environment
    - As data collection and use continue to expand and transform, adaptable policies and regulations are needed to address the ever-growing ethical implications of sharing learner data. Globalized safeguards are needed to ensure that education systems and learners are not compromised or taken advantage of through the use of their data.
- Action Line 8: Cultural Diversity and Identity
    - The digital divide exacerbates the lack of available data in underserved regions, limiting understanding of distinct cultures, languages and digital capacities. This data, which provides cultural insights and opportunities for exchange is critical to developing informed and inclusive digital education systems.
- Action Line 13: Digital solidarity agenda
    - Multistakeholder cooperation is fundamental for creating sustainable and inclusive digital education systems. All education stakeholders must be brought to the table to ensure the safe and equitable use of learner data.

Tangible outcomes (such as key achievements, announcements, launches, agreements, and commitments (3-5 bullet points)

- Publication of the final report "The Transformative Potential of Data for Learning" by the Broadband Commission Working Group in September 2023
    - Including a "Resource Pack" for education stakeholders
- Linking the Data for Learning outputs and expertise with other multistakeholder coalitions around data-informed digital education transformation, such as the UNESCO-led Digital Transformation Collaborative

Actionable plan (2-5 points)

- Continue Working Group discussions in preparation for the report launch Fall 2023
- Event summary article on the Broadband Commission website and included in the newsletter
- Meet at SDG Digital Day, on the sidelines of UNGA, to continue the discussion
- Include this topic in upcoming events such as the AIforGood Summit

Suggestions for thematic aspects that might be included in the WSIS Forum 2024 (WSIS+20 Forum High-Level Event) (one paragraph)

- The impact of the Global Digital Compact on data collection, rights, and transparency

- How data and other emerging technologies will impact global digital education systems