

مؤسسة قطر
Qatar Foundation



Unlocking human potential لإطلاق قدرات الإنسان

2023
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Wise

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لإطلاق قدرات الإنسان | Unlocking human potential

ABOUT WISE

WISE is an international, multi-sectoral platform for creative thinking, debate and purposeful action in education. Through both its biennial Summit and a range of ongoing programs, WISE promotes innovation and joint action to build the future of education.

WISE is an initiative of Qatar Foundation (QF), a non-profit organization working in education, research, and community development. Established in 2009 by Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, chairperson of QF, WISE has grown from a Doha-based event to a world reference in new approaches in education. Gathering a global community of innovators and education leaders active in 200 countries across the world, WISE is providing a global platform for the development of new ideas and solutions to the most pressing challenges in education.

13

years

150

organizations, projects and start-ups representing

250M+

of beneficiaries around the world

Through its biennial Summit and international events, WISE has gathered

14k+

event participants

from over **150** countries,

5,400

organizations and

12,000+ speakers,

an active community of members

150k+

social media followers.

Other WISE initiatives such as the WISE Awards have celebrated more than **84** winning projects from **30+** countries, impacting over **200M** beneficiaries. The WISE Edtech Accelerator has praised more than **40** EdTech ventures from **22** countries helping over **15M** beneficiaries in **130+** countries.

ABOUT THE SUMMIT

Held in the heart of Doha, Qatar, the WISE Summit gathered attendees in person and online from a vast variety of countries and sectors to network, collaborate, share effective practices and discover new ideas through interactive sessions, keynote speeches and debates.

The 2021 WISE Summit took place on 7-9 December 2021.

Experts and innovators from around the globe came together in Doha and virtually for the flagship event to tackle current education challenges with concrete solutions and with a commitment to giving a significant share of voice to the young and underprivileged.



“... every child on this planet deserves the chance to fulfill their boundless potential. And that’s why I wanted to be here at this important global Summit, a gathering focused on impact and inclusive growth.”

MICHELLE OBAMA
Former First Lady of the United States,
WISE 2015

WISE’s work spans multiple year-round projects and programs organized under five core pillars: **Innovation for Quality & Access, EdTech, Learning Ecosystems, Educational Leadership, and Learning Sciences & Well-being.**



“Through WISE and its mission to promote innovation in education, we are eager to share our innovative solutions with other organizations. Working together, we can make a difference for entire communities around the world.”

SHAKIRA MEBARAK
Singer-activist and founder of Fundación Pies Descalzados, WISE 2019

“You see a conference like this (...) creating the kind of convening power that we typically think of as coming from the great education centres in the Western World and to see it growing organically now, it’s been quite an extraordinary development.”

FAREED ZAKARIA
Columnist and CNN host, WISE 2017

THE 2021 SUMMIT

The Summit's latest edition convened under the theme
“Generation Unmute: Reclaiming our Future through
Education”, from December 7 to 9 both in Doha and Online.

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused the greatest worldwide disruption since the Second World War and education has not been spared. Billions have been kept out of schools and colleges, while others are struggling to transition to the workplace.

In addition, the pandemic struck at a time when the world was already facing multiple crises from climate change to growing inequality, and political instability, issues of great importance particularly for the young and the underprivileged, who have borne the brunt of the disruption, putting their future on hold to keep the frail and vulnerable safe.

And yet, as the world looks ahead in hope to the end of the pandemic and deliberates how to build back better, the voices of the young and underprivileged are conspicuously absent from the discussions. One might say their voices have been muted.

It's time to make things right. It's time to empower this muted generation and fully harness their energy and enthusiasm in order to address the multiple crises facing our societies so that we can together reclaim our future. **It's time to Unmute!**

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إطلاق قدرات الإنسان
Unlocking human potential

Generation
Unmute

Reclaiming Our Future
Through Education

DEC
7-9
2021 | DOHA
&
ONLINE



ارفع صوتك

لنشيء مستقبلاً
قوامه التعليم

ديسمبر
7-9
2021 | الدوحة
9
عن بُعد

الراعي البلاتيني

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INNOVATION FOR QUALITY AND ACCESS

Today the education landscape is witnessing an influx of innovations in education all over the globe. Yet, the hardest-to-reach children are marginalized from receiving access to quality education due to linguistic, geographic, or cultural limitations. One of WISE's core pillars concerns ensuring equal access to quality learning for the entire student population: **how can we create a broader, fairer and smarter education system which makes better use of technology, people, data and evidence?** WISE has developed a series of programs to nurture innovation for quality and access; these include the WISE Prize, the WISE Awards and the WISE Emerging Leaders.



WISE PRIZE FOR EDUCATION

Established in 2011, the WISE Prize for Education is the first distinction of its kind to recognize an individual or a team for an outstanding contribution to education.

Dubbed “the Nobel of Education” by the media, its objective is to give visibility to education heroes around the world who have dedicated their lives to alleviating global education challenges.

The WISE Prize for Education laureate is announced at the global biennial summit’s Opening Plenary Session and receives the WISE Prize medal and \$500,000 (USD).

2021

WENDY KOPP

CEO & Co-founder, Teach For All, United States

In 1989, at 21 years old, Ms Wendy Kopp founded Teach For America with the belief that, if given the opportunity, college graduates would choose teaching in marginalized communities over more lucrative opportunities. Addressing educational inequity, the program allows recent top college graduates to dedicate at least two years of their professional careers to teach in under-resourced urban and rural public schools. Throughout their lives, these graduates work with others, inside and outside of education, to ensure all children are able to fulfill their potential.

In 2007, in response to demand from social entrepreneurs from around the world who were looking to adapt this approach in their own national contexts, Ms Kopp decided to co-found Teach For All as an international network of independent organizations pursuing this mission in their countries. Teach For All now comprises 61 partner organizations on six continents and over 100,000 teachers and alumni, who continue to develop the next generation of leaders in education and beyond, creating lifelong learning opportunities and making sure all children reach their full potential.



“ 2 Questions to Wendy...”

_ How can education better prepare future young leaders?

W.K. : What brings all of us across Teach For All together is a vision for enabling all children to have the education, support and opportunity to shape a better future for themselves and all of us. This means we need education to develop students holistically, with the agency, awareness, problem-solving and critical thinking skills, empathy, and well-being necessary to solve the increasingly complex problems facing their communities and our global society, and also to create meaningful careers in a changing economy.

_ How will Teach For All expand its mission in the future?

W.K. : Teach For All’s network is working to support the development of more diverse and extraordinary leaders committed to enabling all children thrive, because we’ve seen that locally rooted, collective leadership is the most important factor in improving education and reshaping the system around children. We’re also working to foster the development of a deeply interconnected global community so these locally rooted leaders can learn from each other across borders in order to accelerate progress. Through all our work, we’re working to spread shifts in teaching and learning that develop students holistically as leaders who can shape a better future.

Seven outstanding and diverse laureates since the launch of the WISE Prize for Education.



2019 LARRY ROSENSTOCK

CEO and founding principal of High Tech High (HTH) United States

Mr Rosenstock has dedicated his life to rethinking and innovating in K-12 learning as a means of tackling inequality through education. He founded HTH in 2000, pioneering the concept of project-based education, and re-imagining the role of teachers and of 21st century skills through a network of 16 charter schools, serving over 6,000 students across four campuses.

<https://www.hightechhigh.org/>



2017 DR. PATRICK AWUAH

Founder and President of Ashesi University Ghana

Born in Ghana and educated in the United States, Dr. Patrick Awah is a former Microsoft engineer who's been transforming the higher education landscape in his home country and beyond for two decades. Ashesi University, the private, not-for-profit institution he founded, offers an interdisciplinary curriculum with a continual emphasis on leadership, ethics and entrepreneurship to educate tomorrow's business leaders in Africa. www.ashesi.edu.gh



2015 DR. SAKENA YACOBI

Founder of the Afghan Institute of Learning (AIL) Afghanistan

Dr. Yacoobi has worked for over twenty years to bring education to the most vulnerable people under extreme conditions of war, displacement, and oppression during the Taliban rule in Afghanistan. Dr. Yacoobi and the AIL have contributed to bringing health and education services to at least 12 million beneficiaries living in rural and marginalized areas of Afghanistan.

www.afghaninstituteoflearning.org



2014 MS. ANN COTTON OBE

President and Founder of Camfed United Kingdom

For more than two decades, Ms. Cotton has led efforts to improve education opportunities for girls and young women living in marginalized communities. With Camfed, she spearheaded an internationally acclaimed model for girls' education, which has placed learning at the heart of development in Africa, and benefited over three million young people in Zimbabwe, Zambia, Ghana, Tanzania, and Malawi. www.camfed.org

Seven outstanding and diverse laureates since the launch of the WISE Prize for Education.



2013 MS. VICKY COLBERT

Founder and Director of the Escuela Nueva Foundation Colombia

Ms. Colbert has pioneered, expanded and sustained educational innovation from different spheres: as Viceminister of Education of Colombia, UNICEF's Education Adviser for LAC and through Escuela Nueva, where she co-created an education model which places children at the heart of the learning process, transforming the traditional classroom while also promoting entrepreneurial skills. So far Escuela Nueva has impacted 5M+ students, 20,000 schools in



2012 DR. MADHAV CHAVAN

CEO of Pratham India

After studying in the United States, Dr. Chavan returned to his natal India where he worked in the slums of Mumbai as part of the National Literacy Mission. As a result, he co-founded Pratham, today the largest education NGO in India, initially focused on a simple formula to achieve mass literacy and numeracy learning in Mumbai, and today active in most of India's 29 states, addressing a number of pressing education needs, from literacy and pre-school education to special programs for vulnerable and working children. www.pratham.org



2011 SIR FAZLE HASAN ABED

Founder of BRAC (Building Resources Across Communities) Bangladesh

Sir Abed dedicated his life to social development. He started BRAC in 1972, today one of the largest NGOs in the world. For over four decades, BRAC has contributed directly to the education of more than ten million disadvantaged students across 13 countries in Asia, Africa, Europe and the Americas. www.brac.net

INNOVATION FOR QUALITY AND ACCESS

WISE AWARDS

Each year, the WISE Awards recognize and promote six successful and innovative education projects. Since 2009, WISE has received more than 4,900 applications from over 150 countries.

Today, 84 projects have been awarded, from a wide variety of sectors and locations for their innovation, positive contribution and ability to adapt and scale. They have impacted over 20 million beneficiaries worldwide.

The WISE Awardees gain global visibility through the Summit and WISE@ conferences, in WISE publications, and through the online platform, along with a prize of US \$20,000 (USD).

Launched in

2009

84

winning projects

150

countries since 2009

+ 4,900

applications or nominations



2022 WISE Awards winners



OPPORTUNITY EDUFINANCE BY OPPORTUNITY INTERNATIONAL

is working to get more children into better quality schools with social finance in low- and middle-income countries across Africa, Asia, and Latin America.

Opportunity EduFinance first partners with financial institutions to provide technical assistance to launch and grow Education Finance Portfolios. It then invites partners' school borrowers to join EduQuality, a three-year holistic training program designed to equip school leaders to run sustainable schools and increase the quality of education over time.



EDUCATING FOR WELLBEING BY ATENTAMENTE

focuses on adult social and emotional competency (SEC) development, to promote educators' wellbeing and build caring environments in the classroom and school.

This in turn, provides a protective learning environment for students. The approach combines professional educator training, a curriculum for students, leadership training, and resources to engage parents. In three years, 12,500 preschool principals, teachers and educational authorities have trained in EW.



CHILDCARE SOCIAL FRANCHISING BY KIDOGO

uses an innovative social franchising approach to identify, train and support female entrepreneurs (Mamapreneurs) to start or grow their own early childhood education micro-businesses.

Their approach supports women as entrepreneurs to run their own early childhood centers, while also enabling young children to receive quality, affordable education and care. Kidogo is now the largest childcare network in Kenya, with 750+ franchises reaching ~16,000 children.

2022 WISE Awards winners



REMAKE LEARNING

connects students with learning experiences that cultivate creativity and imagination not only in the classroom but anywhere in the community.

It is a peer network of over 1,200 members, including school administrators, teachers, artists, librarians, designers and more. Remake Learning brings educators and innovators together to create learning opportunities that are engaging, relevant, and equitable for students, and then supports them as they navigate rapid social and technological change.



THE INTERNET FREE EDUCATION RESOURCE BANK BY EDUCATION ABOVE ALL

is a universally accessible collection of technology-free and low-resource requiring project-based learning resources, games, and activities for an engaging and relevant student-led approach to learning.

This adaptive solution has been used in different contexts, reaching 827,000+ learners in 14+ countries with 30+ partners, including marginalized learners in refugee settlements, remote rural communities, and underserved urban contexts.



CLIMATE CHANGE PROBLEM SOLVERS BY REAP BENEFIT FOUNDATION

developed the Solve Ninja platform to activate action-oriented youth and develop 21st century skills through local problem solving.

Leveraging the power of grassroots mobilization, technology, and action driven communities, 112,018+ Solve Ninjas have taken 94,000+ actions linked to climate and civic issues in India.

WISE EMERGING LEADERS

WISE Emerging Leaders is a nine-month fellowship program that aims to cultivate the next generation of systems leaders in education with the tools, skills, community, and mindset required to transform their communities and change systems.

Each year, WISE collaborates with high impact organizations to nominate young education professionals from within their organizations or network to support their professional and personal development. Selected fellows aged 25-33 participate in a series of collaborative and interactive modules on topics ranging from ethical leadership to social innovation delivered by WISE, Recipes for Wellbeing and The Weaving Lab to increase the impact of their work and collaborate on pressing challenges.

The program includes:

- Access to expert-led masterclasses and webinars on key education topics;
- three residential trainings (two virtual, and, depending on the evolution of the COVID-19 pandemic, one in person) provided by WISE;
- and a project-development module through which participants will work with their organization to pilot and/or implement a project identified prior to, or during, the first residential session.



Here's what they had to say:

“The WISE programme prompted a mindset shift for me that I don't believe I would have been able to do this work without. I have an incredible like-minded community (now friends!) around the world who continue the gifts of the programme through their strength, support and practical tools and tips”

SAM BUTTERS,
Co-CEO, Fair Education Alliance (UK),
2019 WEL cohort

“I learnt more about the world, about education, about learning and about the goodness of humanity. It was and still is- through every chat, message, catch up sessions - a truly life transforming and forward thinking experience!”

CHRISTINA BWANA
Chief Operating Officer & General Manager,
Ubongo (Tanzania), 2020 WEL cohort



EDTECH & AI

In the midst of a catastrophe, opportunity can always be found. For the education sector, COVID-19 has truly shaken some of the fundamental elements of our schools and universities, prompting long-overdue questions around how we design the learning experience, classroom dynamics and the role of technology. Over the last decade, edtech has become increasingly prevalent in our schools and universities, however it is only now as we move towards truly hybrid models of learning, that we will see an acceleration of innovation that is set to redefine the way we teach and learn for the 21st century. Through WISE's second core pillar on edtech, we hope to support these new technologies come to the fore.



WISE ACCELERATOR

Launched in 2014, the WISE Edtech Accelerator program is designed to support the growth of young, innovative startups that aim to achieve positive impact in the field of education at scale.

Each year, the WISE team selects up to eight startups to take part in a 12-month program aimed at supporting their development and scaling.

Through bespoke mentorship and coaching, three international bootcamps and access to global networks, our cohort members have the opportunity to access leading experts in education, as well as potential investors.

Qatar as an Edtech hub

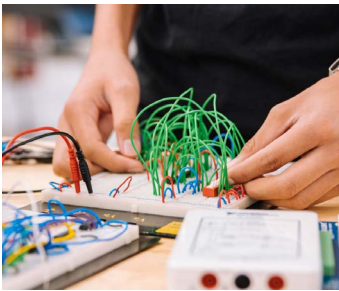
In the world of edtech, opportunities to test and develop innovation in real classrooms are almost a rarity, which often results in more mismatched technology than success.

We know what we want to build, but understanding what works and why in edtech is not always a given. With that said, WISE have chosen to launch their edtech testbed here in Education City this year, with three main objectives in mind:

- Provide local schools with ongoing access to new innovation, in turn raising the capacity of teachers and students
- Help entrepreneurs gain access to a unique testing ecosystem where our research can help them determine ways to improve their product
- Demonstrate Qatar's capability as an edtech hub, one of the first in the region



The 2022 WISE EdTech Accelerator Cohort



PRAXILABS EGYPT

- **In a nutshell:** PraxiLabs aims to provide equal opportunity for an enhanced STEM education for students everywhere by providing 3D interactive virtual simulations of science labs that are accessible, usable, and affordable for educational institutions and students alike. PraxiLabs not only offers an immersive virtual lab experience, but adds enriched content that provides students with more understanding and knowledge according to their own pace and learning style (in Arabic and English).

- **Traction so far:** Founded in 2017, PraxiLabs currently has over 500,000 users across the Middle East and countries including the US, UK, the Philippines, Thailand, Peru, Mexico and New Zealand. The PraxiLabs team plans to further expand their reach across Africa and Europe.

- **Founder:** Khadija Elbedweihy



YNMO SAUDI ARABIA

- **In a nutshell:** The Ynmo app provides schools, learning centres and clinics with the capability to design and monitor individualised treatment plans for students with special needs. Using their combined clinical and research experience in developmental disabilities (including autism), the platform helps users design, monitor and share personalised therapeutic plans, and in turn, share these daily notes of progress with students' families so that they too can be involved in their development and learning.

- **Traction so far:** Founded in 2017, Ynmo has established partnerships across several countries in the Middle East including the UAE, Oman and Saudi Arabia. Currently, the team works with 3000 students with disabilities in 50+ service centres.

- **Founders:** Fahad Alnemaury and Dr. Abdullah Murad



LYNX EDUCATE FRANCE

- **In a nutshell:** Lynx Educate is a platform that supports European companies in connecting their employees with high-value upskilling and education programs. Lynx engages individually with employees to guide them to the right programs aligned to their career goals, and provide continuous support throughout their learning journey. Lynx acts as a lever for talent attraction and retention, while also unlocking career advancement opportunities for all employees.

- **Founders:** Sylvie Milverton and Lamia Rouai



INSTILL EDUCATION SOUTH AFRICA

- **In a nutshell:** Instill Education supports educators and aspiring teachers in their education journey through a digital professional development platform, Upskill. Upskill is an accessible multi-channel, mobile learning, credentialing and rewarding platform. The platform comprises a learning management system with a library of modules that improve classroom and school practices, job boards and access to financial products.

- **Traction so far:** Founded in 2015, Instill Education now works with over 8500 teachers from Ghana, Kenya and South Africa. The Instill Education team aims to

LEARNING ECOSYSTEMS

As millions of learners found themselves locked out of schools and universities due to the coronavirus pandemic, the world realized that effective learning does not rely solely on formal education systems. WISE's Learning Ecosystems pillar examines how stakeholders in a society (private sector, cultural institutions, community-led organizations) can collaborate with formal education institutions to enhance inclusive, accessible and effective learning opportunities for learners of all ages. How can we effectively co-design and steward a learning ecosystem? What are the main challenges and opportunities for collaboration? In which ways can learning ecosystems broaden and diversify learning opportunities and ultimately benefit learners?



LEARNING ECOSYSTEMS LIVING LAB (LELL)

Learning Ecosystems Living Lab (LELL) regularly brings together practitioners, experts, policymakers, and innovators from different regions to create a global community of practice and thought-leadership that identifies shared challenges and contextualized solutions in designing and implementing Learning Ecosystems to be applied in various global contexts.

In July 2022, the Learning Ecosystems Playbook by the WISE Living Lab was published. The unique book provides readers with tools to plan and work on practical steps, acting as a blueprint for educators to replicate Learning Ecosystems' models within their own communities and contexts.

The subject of Learning Ecosystems has been a growing area of interest in recent years, giving a glimpse into what the future of education might look like, if non-traditional learning providers, sharing technologies and resources, worked together to co-create and enhance learning opportunities within their community.

Taking this into account, as well as research and the potential for enhanced access to quality education of Learning Ecosystems, the Playbook provides clear guidance on how to build and manage one.



Divided into three parts, the book helps readers prepare, design and tailor a learning ecosystem to its learners.

[Discover and download the playbook.](#)



“There is a knowledge gap on design principles and best practices in developing Learning Ecosystems. The Living Lab is an endeavor to bridge this gap by becoming a global design and innovation hub.”

SÉBASTIEN TURBOT
WISE Senior Research Fellow

ACTION RESEARCH

In 2020, WISE launched a project combining research and collaborative co-design to develop a set of recommendations and tools for Qatar-based stakeholders interested in the creation of learning ecosystems.

This effort focuses on the following elements:

Evidence & Narrative: To develop a narrative and understanding of the education, learning, skills and civic challenges in Qatar that the development of a learning ecosystem would address.

Networks & Vision: To engage and activate key stakeholders to co-create a shared vision for action, thereby deepening local networks and relationships between key partners.

Tools & Blueprint: To develop a knowledge resource for education stakeholders invested in building coalitions of public, private and nonprofit entities towards a learning ecosystem, identifying emerging best practice and innovation.

DOHA LEARNING DAYS

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أيام الدوحة للتعلّم
DOHA LEARNING DAYS

In 2017, WISE launched the first edition of 'Doha Learning Days' (DLD), Qatar's first experiential learning festival. This year, on the 18-19 November 2021, alongside its distinguished partners, The Doha Learning Days (DLD) hosted a community event offering Qatar's youth, families and general public an opportunity to indulge in experiential informal learning.

DLD offers meaningful learning opportunities for the community through connecting people, partners, education stakeholders, formal education entities, and informal learning spaces. DLD expands what learning means by providing new, creative, exciting, meaningful, accessible, and experiential learning opportunities for everyone.

In 2021, DLD came together under the theme 'Generation Unmute', and activities focus on empowering our youth through wellbeing and creative self expression. This was especially important for the youngest members of our community, who can now come together after an extended period of separation, to enjoy explorative learning among their friends and peers.

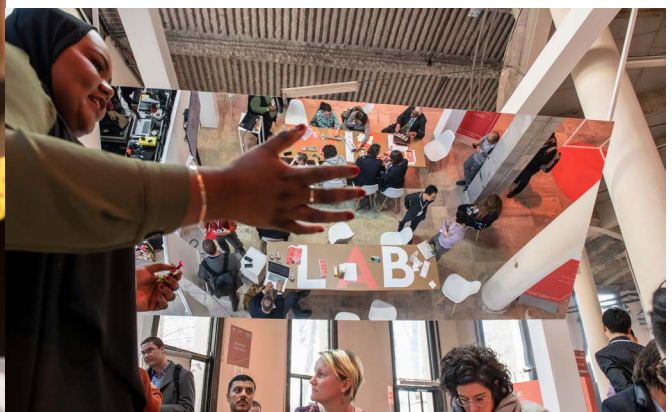
Activities include coding labs, wellness master classes, sensorial experiences, drumming, photography exhibitions and workshops, leadership masterclasses, hands-on science classes, LEGO Serious Play sessions, and many more.

In November 2020, DLD took place as a hybrid community program in Al-Wakra, Qatar, a member of UNESCO's Learning Cities' Network, and focused on **promoting social awareness, responsibility and innovation towards sustainability.**

By leveraging the WISE community and piloting innovation with local youth, DLD aims to:

- Promote highly interactive informal learning opportunities outside of physical/digital classroom contexts.
- Develop insights that can inform school curriculums and policy recommendations.

The next edition of DLD will take place from February 1st to February 4th 2023.



WISE LEARNERS' VOICE

Established in 2010, the WISE Learners' Voice program aims to empower learners to be future innovators in education by building education knowledge, as well as communication, entrepreneurship and leadership skills.

Through workshops, experiential sessions and creative exercises delivered by high-level mentors, learners design their own educational projects which are presented at the biennial WISE summit.

The current Learners' Voice community comprises **more than 200 Learners from over 60 countries** and diverse backgrounds and disciplines.

Since 2021, the program has shifted its focus towards middle school students based in Qatar, helping them improve their self-expression skills so they can voice their opinions and engage in civic participation.



“I won't be the same person I was before the WISE Learners' Voice experience because everyone brought something new to the table.”

ANA KAREN FETZER DE LEON
2013-2014 cohort, Guatemala

“It is a life-changing experience through which you can explore your own passions and skills more deeply, get to meet outstanding young people with a similar mindset, and be exposed to professional workshops and debates that open your eyes to fundamental issues in education.”

MARIEM FEKIH
2013-2014 cohort, Tunisia

EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Education systems around the world are trying to improve student learning outcomes by developing curricula, training teachers and improving assessment frameworks. However, few systems recognise that improving education also relies on strong leadership capacity in schools. This does not mean principals and senior leadership only; it includes teacher and student leadership as well. **How can school and system leaders, as well as youth and next generation education leaders, develop and influence sustainable education reform?** This WISE strategic pillar examines the role and responsibility of educational leadership in defining the future of learning.



ALL-IN

Research has shown that school leadership is one of the most important influences on student learning, and thus, a critical factor for improving the life and educational outcomes of children and the broader economic conditions of nations.

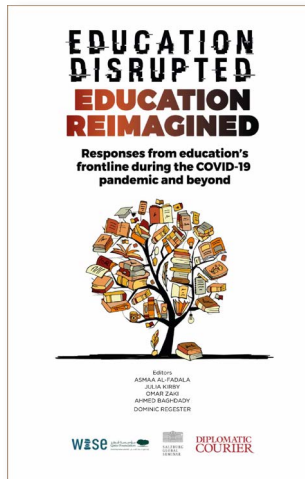
However, despite strong empirical evidence showing the importance of investing in school leadership, actual investment by governments and systems has declined in the last two decades.

This, coupled with a seismic shift in how we think about learning and schooling in the face of an ever changing future, particularly in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, has left many schools and systems deficient in the necessary leadership needed to nurture future-fit educators and learners as they navigate a path of increasing uncertainty.

The WISE Agile Leaders of Learning Innovation Network (ALL-IN) was established in 2017 as a global community of practice for educational leadership experts that research, design, and advocate for high quality school leadership policies that prepare and support school systems in educating the learners of today and the future. ALL-IN's diverse network of members come from over 25 countries in five continents around the globe and represent an array of public, private, and international organizations, including the World Bank Group, UNICEF, OECD and over 20 leading universities and colleges worldwide.

“At its core, a good education should be about gaining and continuously updating our understanding of four things: consciousness, civilization, ecology, and the cosmology that envelops them.”

STAVROS N. YIANNIOUKA, CEO, WISE



Special Edition E-Book: Education Disrupted, Education Reimagined

In response to the massive disruption caused by world-wide school closures during the COVID-19 pandemic, WISE, in partnership with Salzburg Global Seminar, launched the convening series - Education Disrupted, Education Reimagined - in April 2020 to bring together key education stakeholders, including practitioners, policymakers and thought leaders, from over 98 countries in a three-part series of global conferences aimed at bringing the global education community together in the midst of what became the biggest education crisis in a generation.

One key outcome of the convening series was the publication of a WISE Special Edition E-Book, Education Disrupted, Education Reimagined: Thoughts and Responses from Education's Frontline During the COVID-19 Pandemic and Beyond. Based on the content shared during the event series, the E-Book tells the education story during the COVID-19 crisis in real time, through a collection of over 40 articles and essays written by key stakeholders on education's frontline during the crisis, including from schools, NGOs, governments, and international organizations. **To date, there have been over 20,000 downloads of the E-Book.**

The E-Book has now also been published in Arabic, reaching a wider audience than ever before.

EMPOWERING LEADERS OF LEARNING (ELL)

The WISE Empowering Leaders of Learning (ELL) program is a Qatar-based school leadership development program operated by WISE in partnership with Qatar's Ministry of Education and Higher Education that supports educators in their development of leadership for learning skills and to improve student outcomes.

At the core of ELL is improving instructional leadership in schools as a catalyst for systemic improvement to: guide school change processes to improve learning outcomes; empower educators at all levels with leadership skills and capabilities; and support and encourage the development of collaborative school environments where educators can openly discuss challenges and share best practices.



This year's ELL involved in-depth leader development and coaching work with four Ministry of Education and Higher Education Schools. The program also focused on developing leadership-oriented mindsets and practices. Despite the challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, the program was delivered successfully through an interactive mix of hybrid, in-person and digital synchronous and asynchronous learning, engaging school leaders in highly practical, authentic leadership work. Including individual and team coaching, cross-school learning sessions where leaders and leadership teams can engage with their peers at different schools, and one larger action-based leadership project taken up by the leadership team in their schools. Many of these new and innovative program delivery modes have proven to be so successful that even after the COVID-19 pandemic has subsided they will continue to be incorporated as best practices in future iterations of ELL.

LEARNING SCIENCES & WELL-BEING

Learning is a multi-faceted process that involves several actors: students, teachers, school leaders, and parents. While trying to improve learning under normal circumstances and ensuring continuity of education provision during crises, the well-being of these actors is often neglected. Curricula for 21st century skills continues to focus primarily on the academic subjects and on transversal skills such as critical thinking and problem solving while programs that support well-being tend to be extra-curricular. **How can we make well-being a core goal of education? More generally, what can learning sciences teach us about how health and education are connected? These are some of the questions that this strategic pillar, Learning Sciences & Well-being, examines.**



INNOVATION HUB

There has been an increasing global conversation and movement in education geared towards deeper learning and transformation to personalized, mastery-based learning of critical competencies for the modern world.

We have a range of innovative models of how to organize learning environments to meet this objective, but how do we help schools design for the future and support them in making this massive shift?

This is the question the Innovation Hub seeks to answer. A research, design and development hub, it works with schools to establish their own Innovation

Lab--a space to build prototypes and pilot innovative solutions and scale these innovations across the learning environment. These schools collectively form a network, where insights and innovations can be shared and collaboratively built.

For 2020-2021, the focus of the Lab has been to explore the features and impact of employing an Innovation Lab model in three case-study schools - two in Qatar and one in Australia - and researching the following areas of Learning Science:

- key structures to support the transition to personalized/mastery-based learning, including how to redesign learning environments to empower learners with agency
- innovations to capture and support the development of social and emotional learning and well-being across schools and learning environments
- empowering teachers as leaders and innovators in the classroom
- engaging parents and the entire learning ecosystem to support learning inside and outside the classroom.



WISE 2021 RESEARCH REPORTS

WISE Releases New Research Reports Addressing World's Critical Education Issues Ahead of 2021 Summit.

WISE released 10 timely and comprehensive research reports, featuring action-oriented recommendations and policy guidance for stakeholders across the education industry. Produced in collaboration with recognized global thought leaders, the 2021 Research Series was informed by the unique challenges the COVID-19 pandemic presented to education across the globe.

Ranging from investigation into education theory to policy and practice in the context of Qatar's education system, the exploration resulted in locally-informed, globally-relevant research findings.

Here are some brief descriptions of the vital reports undertaken by WISE:

EMBEDDING INNOVATION LABS IN SCHOOLS AS A VEHICLE FOR TRANSFORMATION IN EDUCATION

In February 2020, WISE launched the WISE Innovation Hub as a platform and research collaborative to support schools in their effort to design their way to the future. While education reform has been a central focus for decades, in the last five years the conversation has shifted from reform to redesign—to transforming our fundamental model of teaching and learning from that of acquiring knowledge, to learner-driven personalized learning.

RWANDA LEARNING PARTNERSHIP: INSIGHTS ON SCHOOL AND SYSTEM LEADERSHIP DURING COVID-19

A learning partnership was developed with the Rwanda Basic Education Board (REB) to undertake rapid research on school and system leadership during the pandemic. The aim of the project was threefold: to shed light on the role that effective school and system leaders played during school closures and reopening in mitigating inequalities for the most vulnerable; to ascertain what essential leadership skills, competencies and behaviors leaders demonstrated to promote equity in delivery during and after the crisis; and to contribute to the emerging body of evidence of case studies in school leadership in the Global South.

EXPLORING EDUCATIONAL ECOSYSTEMS THROUGH THE LENS OF INTERMEDIARY ORGANIZATIONS: INSIGHTS FOR POLICY AND PRACTICE

As the research and work on educational ecosystems has grown, we now recognize a growing global trend that has positioned “intermediary organizations” in an oversized ecosystem role. The authors discuss how their research can help other such organizations to better consider and gain access to the kinds of ecosystem relationships and resources that are likely to prove important to their work and to positive impact on schools and students.

TEACHER WELLBEING: FINDINGS FROM A SCOPING LITERATURE REVIEW AND CASE STUDIES IN CAMBODIA, KENYA, AND QATAR

Challenges such as hard work, stress, anxiety, family issues and low income are just some of the reasons why teachers want to quit and this is particularly concerning at a time when the world needs more teachers. According to UNESCO in 2020 there were 94 million teachers worldwide, however to achieve SDG4, we need another 69 million teachers by 2030. So how do we keep the teachers we have? This session discusses how improving teachers' wellbeing is one way to tackle this teacher retention crisis.

REVISITING EQUITY: COVID-19 AND EDUCATION OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

Around April 2020, some 1.5 billion learners were out of school due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Although the shutdowns were difficult for all children, it was particularly bad for the most vulnerable groups including disabled children in low and low-middle income countries. This report - a joint effort between Cambridge University and WISE - is one of the first of its kind to explore how Covid-19 school closures impacted the education of children with disabilities of primary school going ages in Nepal, Ethiopia, and Qatar.

TECHNOLOGY OVERUSE AMONGST ADOLESCENTS IN QATAR – PRELIMINARY REPORT

The importance of technology in our lives has increased significantly and many of us use digital technologies for various purposes. In some cases, people use

digital technologies excessively to the extent that it might affect their health, education, or relationships within their families and with others. In this session, authors share preliminary findings from a study recently conducted in Qatar to understand how much adolescents use digital technologies and how their use of these technologies affects their lives.

DEVELOPING LOCAL LEARNING ECOSYSTEMS IN QATAR TO ADVANCE EQUITY, INCLUSION AND SOCIAL COHESION

The notion of a learning ecosystem recognizes that education and learning, and the provision of support for young people more generally, is a collaborative endeavor.

This research project aimed at better understanding the potential of learning ecosystems in Qatar, by mapping the nature of partnership working among different organizations, looking at educational practices and technologies, and identifying systemic structures that incentivize or hinder innovation and collaboration.

USING PROJECT-BASED LEARNING IN LOW RESOURCE CONTEXTS GLOBALLY: UNDERSTANDING THE CHOICES AND CHALLENGES

This research report addresses the topic of project-based learning (PBL) and investigates the challenges faced when implementing PBL, particularly in low-resource learning scenarios. In looking at teachers and school leaders' decision-making factors when designing PBL experiences, this report provides recommendations as to how PBL can be used in a variety of learning contexts.

ABOUT QATAR FOUNDATION

UNLOCKING HUMAN POTENTIAL

Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF) is a non-profit organization that supports Qatar on its journey to becoming a diversified and sustainable economy. QF strives to serve the people of Qatar and beyond by providing specialized programs across its innovation-focused ecosystem of education, research and development, and community development.

QF was founded in 1995 by His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, the Father Amir, and Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, who shared the vision to provide Qatar with quality education. Today, QF's world-class education system offers lifelong learning opportunities to community members as young as six months through to doctoral level, enabling graduates to thrive in a global environment and contribute to the nation's development.

QF is also creating a multidisciplinary innovation hub in Qatar, where homegrown researchers are working to address local and global challenges. By promoting a culture of lifelong learning and fostering social engagement through programs that embody Qatari culture, QF is committed to empowering the local community and contributing to a better world for all.

For a complete list of QF's initiatives and projects, please visit: www.qf.org.qa

For any media inquiries, please contact: pressoffice@qf.org.qa

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Unlocking human potential لإطلاق قدرات الإنسان

CONTACT DETAILS

AND WISE SOCIAL NETWORK LINKS

WISE can connect you with leaders and innovators in education from around the world.

If you would like to interview a WISE representative or a member of the WISE Community, please submit your request to media@wise.org.qa. WISE also invites you to visit its Newsroom on the WISE website to access its latest news and download media assets.

<https://www.wise-qatar.org/about/#about-press>



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