

DYNAMIC REPORT OF STRATEGIC INTELLIGENCE

A look over the main educational news and tendencies of the international landscape



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Source: Strategic intelligence
World Economic Forum



1. Core soft skills

According to The World Economic Forum estimates published in 2020, For 2025, around 85 million jobs will be lost due to growing division of labor between humans, devices and algorithms, although 97 million new jobs may emerge that are better suited to this new dynamic. And while there is broad consensus that no single skill set or area of expertise is likely to be able to sustain a long-term career well into the future, core 21st century soft skills, including not only creativity and flexibility, but also complex problem solving, critical thinking and collaboration will be crucial in enabling people to better adapt to the changing needs of the job market.



JSTOR DAILY

Little Red Riding Hood On Campus: Women & Public Space

20th of september 2021

Safety advice has been given to women for a long time, but never more so than when women are in public. However this investigation shows that safety advice reinforces traditional gender norms which emphasize women as vulnerable and necessarily fearful and men as fearless and invulnerable. Criminology professor Sara M. Walsh explains using research collected from a college campus in what she describes as a low-crime college town, Walsh noted that women often “view evening exams, late running buses and far away parking lots that force women to be alone in the dark as threats to women’s safety.” This, Walsh notes, likely has deeper roots. “College culture does not exist in a vacuum; surely women and girls come to campus already exposed to and invested in the ‘stranger in the woods’ mythology.” This mythology reinforces the perception of public spaces as dangerous, and much like the etiquette manuals of old, leads to advice about how women should act in these spaces. But, Walsh writes that the overall effect of these safety warnings is that women enjoy public space less, not that it’s made any safer.



LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICAL SCIENCE

How volunteering shaped my LSE experience

22th of september 2021

On the back of turbulent year, London School of Economics asked to their students how volunteering shaped their experience and why they’d recommend others to get involved. This text reports the experience of 3 university students who consider volunteering as an invaluable experience in their academic training.



IN DEPTH NEWS

Climate Change: Emerging Human Adaptations

01st of september 2021

In August 2021, NBC News published a piece about the renewed interest in schools providing survival skills and urban disaster preparedness. The increase in attendance in these schools have one thing in common: climate change. Furthermore, the most common demographic is families with young children. In this article is explored several of these emerging human adaptations to climate change.





2. Quality Basic Education

According to the World Economic Forum, more than 263 million young people around the world do not go to school. Basic education should provide a stronger foundation to learn new skills in the future. Unequal access to education leads to a unequal access to opportunities and can permanently hinder the students' potential to learn new skills in the future. Technological innovation could be a good way to tackle this problem.



SOUTHERN VOICE

Peru: gender gaps in digital higher education during the pandemic

06th of september 2021

The COVID-19 pandemic has had significant effects on nearly every dimension of society. It has had an impact on everyday life, on the way people work, communicate and study. In this respect, education in Peru –on its different levels– has also been subject to drastic changes. The Peruvian Studies Institute (Instituto de Estudios Peruanos, IEP) is part of the Southern Voice project “Leaving no one behind in digital delivery of public services”. This research looks into the effects of introducing digital devices in higher education during the pandemic. The main purpose is to understand the complexities of the current scenario to provide recommendations for policymakers at the national and global levels. In this way, it is hoped to contribute to the positive impacts of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs), especially for women.



CENTER FOR GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT

Teaching and Testing by Phone in a Pandemic

01st of september 2021

How did children learn while schools were closed during 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic? In low-income countries where internet access is scarce, distance learning is often passive, via TV or radio, with little opportunity for teacher-student interaction. In this paper is evaluated the effectiveness of live tutoring calls from teachers, using a randomized controlled trial with 4,399 primary school students in Sierra Leone. Tutoring calls increased engagement in educational activity but had no effect on mathematics or language test scores, for girls or boys



BROOKINGS

Student reassignments achieve diversity without academic adversity

01st of september 2021

The elimination of School desegregation works, at least in the Afro-descendant population. A growing body of evidence demonstrates that federal efforts to dismantle separate and unequal systems of public education improved Black children's life trajectories. These programs achieved gains in educational achievement and attainment, increasing employment, and reducing arrests and crime victimization. However, this body of research finds little evidence of offsetting effects for white children.





3. Continuing Education

Generally, education ends early in life, which is a disadvantage for labor market productivity. Training for adults is vital to ensure that those already in the workforce and their employers can face the challenges generated by the fourth industrial revolution. Providing flexible learning or helping employees acquire new skills will be a key method of mitigating unemployment and unequal access to resources.



THE CONVERSATION

“Open universities”: another vision for distance education

24th of august 2021

In these times altered by the global pandemic, school systems were forced to guarantee "pedagogical continuity" overnight. Although this transition has often been more criticized than accepted, particularly experiencing technical difficulties, this text proposes that it is possible to learn from open universities. This system, which exists for more than fifty years and has always operated on a large scale, it is primarily intended for another audience, that of the adult population in professional education. However, its story reminds us that distance education is not well suited to improvisation.





4. Pertinent Post-Secondary Education

There is a disconnect between the skills needed for a job and the training that is given. Without the proper modifications to the education and training, this gap between supply and demand is expected to increase considerably. To deal with this, it will be very important to go back to align global talent sources with market needs. However, closing this gap will be increasingly difficult, as the requirements of skills change rapidly, especially in fields like information and communication technology (ICT).

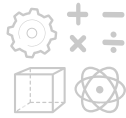


SCIENCE DAILY

Food insecurity during college years linked to lower graduation rate

01st of september 2021

A study led by a researcher at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health found that food insecurity among college students is associated with lower college graduation rates and lower chances of obtaining a bachelor's or advanced degree. Food insecurity is a household's lack of consistent access to adequate food resources. The study examined a nationally representative sample of 1,574 college students in 1999-2003 to assess whether they lived in a household experiencing food insecurity. They found that nearly 15 percent of the students qualified as food insecure. Following up on data on educational attainment through 2015-2017, the researchers found that students in the food-insecure group were more than 40 percent less likely to graduate from college and more than 60 percent less likely to achieve a graduate or professional degree.



5. STEM Education

Science, technology, engineering, and math skills are at the core of the fourth industrial revolution. Therefore, young people must develop digital fluency and STEM skills from a young age if they want to be prepared to thrive in the workplace and in modern society.



GOVLAB – LIVING LIBRARY

Enrollment algorithms are contributing to the crises of higher education

14th of september 2021

Hundreds of higher education institutions are procuring algorithms that strategically allocate scholarships to convince more students to enroll. These algorithms are valuable to colleges for institutional planning and financial stability, as well as to help reach their preferred financial, demographic, and scholastic outcomes. Unfortunately, the widespread use of enrollment management algorithms may also be hurting students, especially due to their narrow focus on enrollment. The prevailing evidence suggests that these algorithms generally reduce the amount of scholarship funding offered to students. Further, algorithms excel at identifying a student's exact willingness to pay, meaning they may drive enrollment while also reducing students' chances to persist and graduate.



ETH ZÜRICH

Good intentions don't guarantee good value

2nd of september de 2021

Out-of-school programmes designed to develop children's science and technology skills are booming. Some may be helpful, but others are even harmful, argues Elsbeth Stern. "A major challenge facing our modern society is the shortage of skilled personnel in technical professions". Too few school leavers choose to train and study in this field, and of those who do, many fail to meet expectations. Apprentices who struggle with percentages or first-year engineering students who, despite excellent grades, can't distinguish between equilibrium of forces and reaction forces attest to problems with learning at school.



6. Educational Innovation

Training courses are updated very infrequently and are generally not adapted to the Fourth Industrial Revolution. Technological innovation is changing the way educational materials are generated, the way educational content is distributed, the way students they involve with the materials and processes used to evaluate the results of education. Technology presents opportunities to educate in new, playful and personalized ways, which could change the traditional role of teachers and facilitate a comprehensive learning experience.

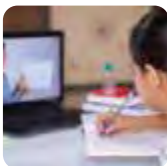


INSEAD KNOWLEDGE

The World's Most Innovative Countries, 2021

20th of september 2021

In the latest years efforts to transform national economies towards a more ecologically and socially responsible approach, while taking advantage of the most recent digital tools, Covid-19 has not slowed down this process, on the contrary, Innovation has, in many ways, flourished over the past 19 months. Digital transformation has accelerated, as it became a vital necessity for firms around the globe, and the abrupt reduction in human activities showed both the opportunity and peril of a quick transition towards a carbon-free economy. The Global Innovation Index (GII) measures a country's innovation performance based on its innovation inputs (such as national spending on research and development, higher education, the regulatory environment, and infrastructure) and innovation outputs (such as intellectual property). This study presents the most innovative countries in the world in 2021.



RAND CORPORATION

The Rise of Virtual Schools. Selected Findings from the Third American School District Panel Survey

30th of august 2021

The onset of the (COVID-19) pandemic has prompted school districts in the United States to offer remote schooling options for their K-12 students. The authors of this report fielded the third American School District Panel (ASDP) survey in June 2021 to assess districts' plans to offer both temporary and more-lasting remote instruction options starting in fall 2021. Results from the June 2021 ASDP survey suggest that K-12 remote instruction will outlast the pandemic. Additionally, they suggest that District interest in virtual schools is high as parent demand for a fully remote education option in 2021-2022 is strong.



CENTRE FOR CIVIL SOCIETY

National Education Policy 2020: A One-time Comprehensive Evaluation

26th of august 2021

The National Education Policy 2020 (NEP 2020) of India, was launched in July, 34 years after the last National Education Policy in 1986. It aims to address the country's development imperatives and proposes to revamp the education structure, including education governance. This monograph examines the key reforms pertaining to school education under the NEP 2020; These include extension of the right to education, changes in the medium of instruction, learning assessments and outcomes, early childhood care and education, and strengthening foundational literacy and numeracy. The monograph also sheds light on the proposed regulatory framework for schools and the fee regulation norms.