



Source: Strategic intelligence World Economic Forum



# EDUCATION IN THE WORLD

Dynamic report of  
strategic intelligence

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

With the purpose of contributing to the strengthening of post-secondary education in the City, Sapiencia carries out a tracking of the initiatives and the processes related to education in different international scenarios, through the Strategic Intelligence (SI) tool of the World Economic Forum. This brings the possibility to learn and identify projection opportunities for the educational processes of the city.

Some findings of the examination are shown below.

## 1 CORE SOFT SKILLS

Soft skills are related to the implementation of a combination of social and communication skills, aptitudes and the ability to approach others, such as: creativity, flexibility, problem solving, critical thinking and teamwork. These skills begin to develop from basic education and are strengthened and refined in secondary and post-secondary education, as well as in adult life in the workplace. They are important not only to achieve greater adaptability in future jobs, but also to improve people's quality of life.

Taking into account the importance of strengthening soft skills, Sapiencia has

*included, within its offer of the Arroba Medellín digital citadel, different courses focused on contributing to the well-being of individuals inside and outside work scenarios, also has included tools to improve the different skills of people, as well as fundamentals for entrepreneurship.*

*Some international news story that are related to the training of soft skills are shown below.*



### How to make the most of your university experience, according to experts

World Economic Forum  
11th of october 2022

An education economist and a behavioural scientist have put together evidence-based tips to help students make the most of their college or university experience. Students should try out clubs and societies in the university, be conscious of their peers with whom they will build a social network, and challenge themselves academically; this implies persisting in subjects that are usually more difficult and that in the future may represent a higher return, for example, those related to the scientific method, according to their advice.

Heading to university with an open mind and a have-a-go attitude will help students find opportunities that create a rich and meaningful life.

## 2 QUALITY BASIC EDUCATION

Basic education is the educational level that lays the foundations for the learning process of girls and boys, however, although progress has been made in accessibility, new challenges have arisen with the appearance of the pandemic, which has made difficult, as stated in objective number four of the SDGs (Objectives of the Sustainable Development) to guarantee an inclusive, equitable and quality education, that promotes learning opportunities throughout life for everybody

*Due to its nature, Sapiencia does not focus directly on projects related to improving*

*the quality of basic education, however, within its forgivable loan programs it offers a program aimed at partially financing master's and doctorate studies of teachers and teaching directors of preschool, basic and secondary education in the district of Medellín to study in Higher Education Institutions of the nation.*

*An international some news articles related to quality basic education are shown below.*



### Ensuring learning continuity during COVID-19-related school closures: lessons from remote learning experiences in over 45 countries

World bank blogs  
27th of september 2022

The emergency remote learning responses adopted during the pandemic have highlighted many highs and lows, and a host of questions: what worked well and what didn't? which innovations amplify, expose, or mitigate preexisting inequalities? what institutional capacities proved useful to quickly adapt to the crisis? how to scale and possibly sustain effective remote learning policies? Around these reflections, the World Bank and the OECD are publishing a collection of 45 education continuity stories: "How Learning Continued during the COVID-19 Pandemic: Global Lessons from Initiatives to Support Learners and Teachers"



### Early grade learning assessments spur Sierra Leone to strengthen foundational literacy and numeracy skills

Brookings  
26th of september 2022

Boys and girls who learn to read, write, and gain strong basic literacy and numeracy skills in the early grade years are more likely to be successful throughout their academic lives. Aware of this reality, the country realized an assessment in the second and fourth primary grade throughout the territory. Sierra Leona is using evaluation results in its teacher training agenda, for helping to develop a better understanding of how boys and girls acquire the literacy and numeracy skills, how allow that students acquire fundamental skills, align instruction to the level of the learners, monitor performance and offer improvement actions.



### This is what it takes to ensure quality early childhood learning

World Economic Forum  
05th of october 2022

Today, 62% of children are enrolled in early childhood education worldwide, up from 33% in 2000. However, this expansion in access has not been consistently accompanied by investments to ensure sufficient quality education, experts say.

Poverty and malnutrition often contribute to "learning poverty", where boys and girl are unable to read and understand a short text. Investments in quality, scalable early childhood education programmes are needed to address developmental gaps and nurture potential.



### Too many children are struggling to learn basic skills at school. This international plan aims to change things

World Economic Forum  
06th of october 2022

School closures because of the pandemic have worsened levels of boys and girls learning around the world, with large numbers struggling with reading. Therefore, it is necessary to be an enhanced focus on foundational skills such as literacy, numeracy and socio-emotional skills to give boys and girls the building blocks they need to thrive in school and throughout their lives.

The Commitment to Action on Foundation Learning that is promoting international organizations like UNICEF and the World Bank provides a way for governments, international organizations, the private sector and the education sector to take joint action to support foundational learning.



### Robots Are Helping Immunocompromised Kids 'Go to School'

Wired  
11th of october 2022

This article shows different testimonials of robots that are used to complement boys and girls classes in some places of the world, especially during the pandemic and after of this. The text emphasizes the cases in where this type of technologies facilitate the boys and girls experiences that, due to their health problems, must stay in hospital, distant of their daily activities for their age, like go to school. Nevertheless, the article recognizes the problems that exist for the appropriation of these technologies, like stable and potent connection to internet and facilitate that teachers and students learn its operation.

### 3 CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Due to the constant changes that the productive sector is going through, it is necessary to provide training that allows the updating of knowledge, skills, attitudes, rules and concepts for people of all ages, which implies continuing education inside and outside traditional schools.

*Transformation of Learning (C4TA), for its Spanish acronym where training is given to the population of the city in different programs and levels as specialists in various technological processes. The focus of the second citadel Arroba Medellín is virtual education, where online programs of Post-secondary Education, Education for work and Specialized Talent are also offered.*

*Sapiencia runs a disruptive continuing education program, through the launch of two university citadels, one physical and one virtual, the first of which is the Citadel of the Fourth Revolution and the*

*Below there are some international news related to continuous training programs:*



#### What's the future of employment for India's youth?

India Development Review (IDR)  
29th of september 2022

The inform of tendencies of global employment 2022 published by the ILO affirm that people in the age of 15-24 years experienced much higher unemployment rate when compared to the people above 25 years. This happens, as shown in the report, because the approach for the majority of employers were secure retention of your existing staff, in place of realize new contracting. In this sense, India faces strong challenges due to its young population went further behind in 2021 compared to 2020, also it had one of the longest records of school closures, staking the learning for many boys and girls, which increases the mismatch between the skills and aspirations. The author of inform suggest that prepared the young to the labor insertion, the efforts according to the inform should focus on improve in the three following areas: 1) awareness about the green economy, 2) accessibility of digital resources and 3) aspirations around care labour.



#### POETA DigiSpark

The trust for the Americas  
05th of october 2022

POETA DigiSpark of the NGO The Trust for the Americas seeks to empower people over 16 years of age through technology, in order to facilitate their access to economic and educational opportunities such as: obtaining a job or a promotion, creating or strengthening an entrepreneurship, obtaining an internship, and starting or continuing their education.

Through their more than 20 local partners, POETA DigiSpark offers trainings in digital, technical and vital skills to people in vulnerable environments. Along with the training, POETA DigiSpark offers professional orientation and mentoring to their participants to connect with more and better economic and educational opportunities. The project is implemented in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Mexico, Peru, Puerto Rico y Uruguay.

### 4 PERTINENT POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

The need to modify the curricula has been expressed by some representatives of the business sector and the graduates, since there is a gap between the knowledge acquired in the educational processes and the skills required in the business world, as a result of the different technological changes that occur in the world. For this reason, it becomes necessary to have joint effort between the actors of the educational society to reduce this gap and the risks that derive from it.

*In 2020, Sapiencia modified its mission purpose through Decree 019, which has made possible to lead the formulation and the implementation of programs, plans and projects for the consolidation of Post-Secondary Education. In this way,*

*Sapiencia is currently leading the construction of the public policy for post-secondary education (PPEP for the Spanish acronym), which proposes to establishing a system that integrates Secondary Education, Higher Education, Training for Work, and Specialized Continuing Education, through a modular and sequential. The policy seeks that people can achieve a degree of training according to the needs, interests and potentialities of the students, the productive sector and society in general.*

*Some international news regarding pertinent post-secondary education are shown below*



#### Impact of Nachtigal Hydro Power Company's investments on vocational education and training in Cameroon-A report

Global Development Network  
10th of october 2022

A new report titled 'Impacts of Nachtigal Hydro Power Company's Investments on Vocational Education and Training in Cameroon' under the European Investment Bank (EIB) and Global Development Network (GDN) program was published. The research that gave rise to the inform, it is based in a study realize during the last cycle EIB-GDN program of Financing applicate to development that was launched in 2017. Its objective was collect additional information about the results and impacts of some financed projects under the Impact Financing Envelope (IFE) for Africa, Caribbean and the Pacific (ACP), which they involve the renovation of the scholar infrastructure and the provision of training teams for technical and vocational schools in the center of Cameroon.

The program has used academic research techniques to study the development impact of ongoing private-sector investments, built capacity for evaluative research in developing countries, and helped to boost the EIB's accountability and development effectiveness.



#### Women now account for the majority of the college-educated labour force in the US

The Conversation  
04th of october 2023

Women have overtaken men and now account for more than half (50.7%) of the college-educated labor force in the United States, according to a Pew Research Center analysis of government data. The change occurred in the fourth quarter of 2019 and remains the case today. The pandemic disproportionately impacted labor market activity for adults without a bachelor's degree, especially among women. The number of women with some college or less education in the labor force has declined 4.6% since the second quarter of 2019, compared with a smaller change among men with some college or less education (-1.3%).

### 5 STEM EDUCATION

STEM education consisting of those areas of knowledge related to Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics, currently is presenting a high demand in the world of work, leading to plan how can students be equipped to acquire these skills that are necessary and transversal to all areas of knowledge. This digital fluency builds on basic digital literacy, adding the ability to apply critical thinking and ethical considerations when using or developing digital technologies and/or data processing.

*these areas, which allows the acquisition of skills for the called industry 4.0, which includes software development, programming languages, automation and intelligent manufacturing, among others, that allow a greater articulation with the technology industry. Likewise, a dissemination and awareness strategy is carried out to promote women's access to post-secondary education programs related to the software valley.*

*Sapiencia, through the Talento Especializado program offers a series of free and modular courses focused on*

*An international news article about the actual landscape of STEM education is listed below*



#### Higher Education Digital Transformation in Latin America and the Caribbean

Inter-American Development Bank  
27th of september 2022

This inform of the Inter-American Development Bank present the main results of the study about digital transformation in higher education across Latin America and Caribbean. The text has as its purpose; provide an outlook of the principal challenges, capabilities, approaches and needs that faces the higher education institutions in the region, to understand better the COVID-19 impact in their institutions and comprehend the approach in digital transformation and the future vision that these have. This research contributes to build a global image

of the strategic changes in the higher education and how the institutions are planning its future. The study was realized in 73 institutions across 14 countries. A little more than half of the institutions were from Brazil, follow by Colombia (14 %), Mexico (8 %), among others.



**Embracing the vital human element in building critical technology futures**

Australian Strategic Policy Institute (ASPI)  
27th of september 2022

Australian Industry and Science Minister Ed Husic has called for a national conversation on revitalising Australia's science priorities. Few countries have the resources to be competitive in all technologies that might be critical to their national interest. Through its trade agreements and security partnerships, particularly the Quad<sup>1</sup>, Australia has the potential to strengthen its research and development, entrepreneurial and investment systems focusing on critical technology. The critical technology team has commenced work focusing on talent flows, to highlight the human element in building critical technology futures.,

<sup>1</sup> Is a diplomatic network of four countries (Australia, India, Japan and USA) committed to supporting a free and open Indo-Pacific that is inclusive and resilient.



**How summer schools boost STEM students**

World Economic Forum  
14th of october 2022

Recent research has shown that students offered seats in STEM summer programs are more likely to enroll in and graduate from university.

Students who participated in STEM summer programs at a major US university were more likely to remain enrolled in college through their senior year than students that no participate in these courses. Apparently, how much long and immersive was the program, most likely for students to still in the fourth year of college.

**6 EDUCATIONAL INNOVATION**

Educational processes have been undergoing changes, which were accelerated after the pandemic and the mandatory use of virtual education, making it necessary to think about education in the short, medium and long term. Educational technologies are emerging around the world, and this represents great opportunities to improve access to education, but also poses challenges in terms of its application and evaluation. In this way, research in pedagogy is relevant, which can demonstrate the performance of the different technologies: their applicability and monitoring for all students, even those with specific needs.

*From the Sapiencia Observatory, information search strategies are carried out that allow identifying the main technological initiatives that are carried out at an international level, in order to communicate and transfer knowledge that is useful to experts and/or decision makers, such is the case of the dynamic reports and the issues notes.*

*Below there's a summary of some international news about educational innovation:*



**Digital policies in education in Latin America. Emerging trends and future perspectives**

ReliefWeb  
29th of september 2022

The purpose of this exploratory study was to compile and analyze the main ICT in education responses that were deployed at the national a group of Latin American countries: Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Mexico and Uruguay. Although the study is based on the recognition of the particular aspects of the context, this effort to identification and systematization effort aims to capitalize on the lessons learned and new capacities installed in the remote learning scenario and to promote in the future, the development of digital policies that will make educational models more flexible, in order to make them more inclusive and integrate the school in the digital culture from a rights-based approach.



**Towards Education 4.0: 10 Modules for The Implementation of Hybrid Models**

Inter-American Development Bank  
05th of october 2022

Hybrid educational models present great opportunities to improve the quality and equity of learning, accelerate the processes of educational digital transformation, and promote education 4.0. These models are based on an innovative, competency-based approach and are adapted to the needs and context of each education system. Within the implementation framework, structured on the basis of 10 modules, the IDB invites each national education system to select and combine those modules that best suit their context, allowing them to develop their hybrid education roadmap

The 10 modules designed by experts deal with: connectivity, physical infrastructure and technology, curriculum adaptation, pedagogical practices, human resources, digital content platforms, flexible modalities, skill certification, educational management and financing and edtech ecosystem.



**The Digital Transformation of Education in the Pacific Alliance: Chile, Colombia, Mexico and Peru. Analysis framework and roadmap**

Organization of Ibero-American states  
10th of october 2022

Nowadays, the productive and educational systems have been promoting a learning spiral framing in new knowledge and skills of the persons, as result of the deep change we are living through. But every era of technological change does not depends only on investments in technology, but also on the strengthening and development of formal educational systems and of public policies that encourage strategic sectors of activity. This report is framed within the evolution from the knowledge society as the vision of an emerging form of society enabled by digital transformation. The text compiles elements of the technical and vocational education system, its effects on the digital transformation, policies and plans, and a particular strategic analysis of Chile, Colombia, Mexico and Peru.



**Challenges and Opportunities in Teacher Education Reforms**

Asian Development Bank  
23th of october 2022

This inform draws on lessons from Finland, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Uzbekistan to explore how despite tight public budgets, governments can strengthen training and continuous professional development for teachers to boost their skills and improve student learning outcomes. In addition, it notes the role that mentoring and digital technology can play in improving teachers' skillsets and enhancing classroom experiences for pupils

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