

Implementing digital skills in the era of Artificial Intelligence

Location:	UNESCO Headquarters, ROOM 3
Date and time:	Monday 26 March 2018, 16:30-18:00
Presenters:	Maria Nieves Lorenzo Galés and Raymond Gallon, The Transformation Society, France and Spain

About the workshop:

In a hyperconnected technological world, the primary challenge is to develop new concepts for understanding human dimensions at individual, collective and inter-networked levels.

Humans are enhancing their own capabilities through technological aids to sensory perception, decision-making and communication, in an entangled synergy, creating a deep needs for reflection on where biological boundaries lie, and where accountability should be as we face the future of human evolution. With each new mobile device, with every new human-machine interconnection, we must relearn how to relate in a real-time global context that is fully virtualized and merged with technical devices, programmed routines, and self-replicating learning algorithms. In this hybrid human-machine society, we will need to learn how to generate, abandon, reformulate, and incorporate concepts, strategies, and skills. The context is changing so rapidly that it is imperative to focus on being, relating, and doing, to face digital transformation while maintaining our humanist essence. It is urgent to reorient educational systems, relationships between labour and financial markets, and the virtualization of institutional responses to social needs.

In this workshop we present a sequence of three activities that exemplify explicit, implicit, and meta-reflection learning situations, by using existing tools that call upon emerging technologies that comprise Industry 4.0.

A. Changing learning processes: enhancing sensorial perception. What is a human-being when connected to devices that extend human capacities? We propose activities that can be done using free tools that use Artificial Intelligence, not just for content learning, but to reflect on what knowing means, and what makes us rational entities, living beings, and ultimately human.

B. Redefining community dynamics: How do hybrid humans build virtual networks and entities that bridge physical and virtual worlds? We use Big Data analytics that can be applied in education with free, existing programmes, to help understand how information-flow itself can create groups and relationships. Understanding transmedia flow is essential to learning how to participate, lead, and develop sustainable societies in a global mobile digital world.

C. Mapping a common framework: action in education and industry. What skills are needed to bridge intention and action, in service of adapting learning experiences to emerging needs? We present existing examples of how to develop common policies to explore and implement initial learning and re-skilling in formal and non-formal environments.

Attendees will need to bring their own mobile devices.

Meet the presenters:

Maria Nieves Lorenzo (Neus Lorenzo) is cofounder of the Transformation Society, which promotes digital transformation and organizational learning, and currently teaches at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (UAB). She works at the Education Inspectorate in Catalonia (Spain), and is also Chair of the Primary and Pre-primary 'Research and Development Community' of the Association for Teacher Education in Europe (ATEE). She is member of the Information 4.0 Consortium and has collaborated as training consultant, coordinator, researcher or expert evaluator for the Education Commission of the European Parliament, the Council of Europe, and other national and international foundations and organisations.

Ray Gallon is president and cofounder of The Transformation Society, which promotes digital transformation and organizational learning, and currently teaches at the Universitat de Barcelona, and the Université de Strasbourg. He is an award winning radio producer and journalist, and former programme manager of WNYC-FM, New York City's public radio station. Since 1992 Ray has devoted himself to the convergence of communication, technology, and culture, working with companies such as General Electric, 3M France, Alcatel, and IBM as well as many startups. He is president of the Information 4.0 Consortium and former board member of the Society for Technical Communication.