



Youth and adult literacy: better data for more efficient policies

Monday 28 June 2021, from 10:00 to 12:00 (GMT+2)



Chair: David Atchoarena is Director of the UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning (UIL) in Hamburg, Germany. He was appointed in April 2018. He was previously Director of the Division for Policies and Lifelong Learning Systems at UNESCO, including Policy, Higher Education, Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) and Technology in Education. Prior to working for UNESCO, including many years at the International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP) as programme specialist and later as Team leader, Mr Atchoarena served as Chargé de Mission at the National Agency for Lifelong Education (ADEP) of the French Ministry of Education and as project coordinator in the Ministry of Finance and Planning in Saint Lucia. He holds a doctorate in Economics from the University of Paris I (Panthéon-Sorbonne).



Speaker: Iddo GAL is an Associate Professor (Retired) and past-Chair, Dept. of Human Services, University of Haifa, Israel, with an MA in Personnel Psychology from Tel-Aviv University and a PhD in Cognitive Psychology, University of Pennsylvania. He enjoys multidisciplinary interests that focus on two fields: development and assessment of adult numeracy and statistical literacy and related functional competencies; and managerial issues in service organizations, in particular empowerment of frontline workers and of clients of service organizations. Iddo has extensive experience in international collaborative work, has chaired the Numeracy Expert Group of the OECD Survey of Adult Skills (PIAAC), led the Numeracy Team of the Adult Literacy and Lifeskills Survey (ALL), was a member of the OECD Expert Group on skills use and skills mismatch, and has worked with UNESCO on developing conceptual and assessment frameworks for evaluating adult numeracy for the U.N. Sustainable Development Goal 4.6. He is a Past-President of the International Association for Statistical Education (IASE), past Editor of the Statistics Education Research Journal, and a Consulting Editor of the Journal of Disability Policy Studies.



Speaker: Nicolas JONAS is a programme specialist at UNESCO-UIL, where he coordinates the work related to SDG Target 4.6. Previously, he was responsible for the national skills measurement surveys in France, at the Institute for Statistics (INSEE), then a policy analyst at the OECD's directorate for education. His work focuses on assessment methods, determinants of skills proficiency in adulthood, and the influences of family configurations on skills acquisition and use. He is a professor of social sciences and economics, graduated from Sciences Po Paris, and holds a master's in sociology.



Speaker: Colleen Dube. Since moving to Ireland from the US in 1990, Colleen Dube has continuously contributed to Ireland's cultural and educational landscape. In the first part of her career, Colleen was an art critic, curator with the National Museum of Ireland and Interpretative Planner. Her first foray into adult education was on the EU funded, Four Cities Project which led to a position as Liaison Officer for the Irish Government's RAPID programme which aimed to increase investment and social inclusion in disadvantaged areas. From 2006-2015 she was Executive Director of the Ireland-United States [Fulbright] Commission for Educational Exchange. Prior to joining NALA as Chief Executive Officer in November 2020, Colleen was Chief Executive of University, a Registered Charity that offered a Master of Arts in Creative Process until 2017 and from January 2018 awarded *Higher Education Scholarships to Adult Learners*. Colleen Dube holds a Bachelor of Arts in American Studies and Art History from Drew University in New Jersey, an MPhil in Irish Studies from the National University of Ireland Galway and a MBA from the Smurfit School of Business. She also has Certificates in Adaptive Leadership and Professional Irish.



Speaker: Min-Seon Park is a programme specialist at the National Institute for Lifelong Education, Republic of Korea (NILE). While with NILE, she worked primarily on managing international affairs for the organization. She holds a M.A in International Studies from Seoul National University and a B.A. in East Asian Studies from Smith College.



Speaker: Hervé Fernandez has been Director of the public interest grouping (GIP) Agence nationale de lutte contre l'illettrisme (Agency for the Fight against Illiteracy) since 2011. After working as a company lawyer, he was a project manager at the Ministry of Labour. He then contributed to the creation of the National Agency for the Fight against Illiteracy, which he joined as Secretary General. From 2001 to 2010, he was more specifically in charge of territorial action and relations with the business community to develop the fight against illiteracy in companies. As director of the GIP Agence nationale de lutte contre l'illettrisme, he submitted the application and obtained the label Grande cause nationale 2013 awarded by the Prime Minister.



Moderator: Rakhata Zholdoshalieva is a Team Leader of the Policy Support and Capacity Development Programme at the UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning (UIL) in Hamburg, Germany. Before joining UIL, between 2015 and 2016, Ms. Zholdoshalieva worked with the Deputy Ministry for Literacy of the Ministry of Education in Afghanistan. She contributed to capacity development of curriculum designers and textbook writers and managed the development of new early literacy and numeracy textbooks for youth and adults. Between 2000 and 2008, she worked as a senior lecturer at private and public teacher education institutions in Kyrgyzstan and Pakistan. She holds a doctorate in education from the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education at the University of Toronto, Canada, and a master's degree in education from the Institute for Educational Development at the Aga Khan University, Pakistan. She is a trained teacher of foreign languages from Osh State University in Kyrgyzstan.

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