

Video Message from Dr. Xiaoxia Zhou

Hello, I am Xiaoxia Zhou, the Director of the International Center for UNESCO ASPnet, which is based in Hainan, China. ICUA strives for connecting worldwide ASPnet community through knowledge production, capacity development, technical support and information sharing.

The COVID-19 has caused over 90% of the world student population confined to home. It is time for us to come together in global solidarity not only to ensure that learning doesn't stop, but to invest in the transformational power that education carries for individuals, communities and societies. To respond to UNESCO's initiative: Learning never stops - coping with COVID-19 school closures, ICUA will work together with worldwide ASPnet community in fighting our common enemy. ICUA wants to tell teachers and students worldwide that teachers and students here in China experienced the home schooling at the very beginning of the outbreak, but they were not trapped in the crisis. Instead, they encouraged each other with the values of sharing and caring. We can find many inspiring stories shared by these teachers and students about their online teaching and learning at home with the "Disrupted Classes, Undisrupted Learning" initiative.

Coronavirus has spread with alarming speed and we have to stay at home to contain it. Nevertheless we are not isolated from each other, and we know how you feel. We hope you will find channels to share feelings and encouragements to build the unity. Together we can have the power to overcome the unthinkable challenge. As ICUA's vision goes, "Connect schools, make the world your classroom", now we'd rather to reverse the vision to "Connect students, make your home a common classroom".

This is an opportunity to re-imagine education of the future and we can start to make it now!