



Concept Note and Agenda (Draft Final)

Asia and Pacific Conference for CONFINTEA VII 2022 September 22, 2021

Background

The International Conference on Adult Education (CONFINTEA) has taken place every 12 to 13 years since the late 1940s. The first conference was held in 1949 in Elsinore (Denmark), followed by: Montreal (Canada) in 1960; Tokyo (Japan) in 1972; Paris (France) in 1985; Hamburg (Germany) in 1997; and Belém (Brazil) in December 2009. At the invitation of the Kingdom of Morocco, CONFINTEA VII will take place in Morocco in 2022. It will be the first CONFINTEA since the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the most significant event for the international ALE community in the lead-up to 2030, the target year of the United Nations' sustainable development agenda.

CONFINTEA VII will play a significant role in order to help Member States in achieving the SDGs in general and SDG 4 on education in particular by adapting a new framework for action that will replace the Belém Framework for Action, which was adopted in the last CONFINTEA VI in 2009 as well as the UNESCO 2015 Recommendation on Adult Learning and Education. As a UNESCO-led intergovernmental conference (Category II) for policy dialogue on adult learning and education (ALE) and related research and advocacy, invitations will be sent to ministers responsible for ALE in UNESCO Member States as well as representatives of civil society organizations, unions, employers, media and other stakeholders. It will provide a platform for debating tendencies in youth and adult learning and education in the context of lifelong learning.

The aim of CONFINTEA VII will be to outline effective ALE policies within a lifelong learning perspective and within the framework of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It will encourage Member States to put in place policies, incentives, regulatory frameworks and institutional structures and mechanisms to contribute to a culture of human rights, to social justice, shared values and sustainability. In the age of artificial intelligence, special attention will be paid to using information and communications technologies to promote access to ALE and inclusion.

The fifth edition of UNESCO's *Global Report on Adult Learning and Education (GRALE 5)* is currently in preparation, and will be launched at CONFINTEA VII. *GRALE 5* will provide a worldwide overview of the current state and key developments from an international perspective. This will be a key input for deliberation at CONFINTEA VII. *GRALE*, as a global monitoring tool, will review the implementation of the commitments entrenched in the Belém Framework for Action as well as the UNESCO 2015 Recommendation on Adult Learning and Education.

Process leading to the Global Conference from Sub-Regional Conference

2020-2021	Sub-regional consultations (East, Southeast, South, Central and Pacific)
2021	Regional Conference (Asia-Pacific)
2022	Global Conference (Morocco)



The *Regional Conference* will prepare the ground for the global conference in Morocco from a regional perspective. All regions will engage in similar preparatory processes, including the formulation of a consolidated regional synthesis report.

The series of regional preparatory conferences is a regular procedure for Category II UNESCO conferences in the run-up to CONFINTEA VII. These will help to articulate a global perspective for the future development of ALE, taking *the particular needs, experiences and visions at regional level* into account. The preparatory conferences will be used to identify the current key issues on ALE in each region and suggest benchmarks and recommendations for CONFINTEA VII. The outcome documents of the preparatory conferences represent key inputs to the draft framework for action that will be adopted by CONFINTEA VII. Each region will produce a regional report on adult learning and education that will reflect the regional specificities and highlight the main regional trends and issues.

The preparatory conferences will be key in renewing political momentum and commitment for the development of ALE in the context of BFA and the recommendation on adult learning and education (RALE, 2015). As well as highlighting ALE's crucial role for the achievement of the SDGs. Each conference will adopt an outcome document which summarizes the specific regional aspects with regard to developments and future perspectives for ALE policy and practice. These represent key inputs to the global conference and will be indispensable for drafting the outcome document.

Within that framework, five sub-regional consultations (East, Southeast, South, Central and Pacific) were held in view of capturing the diversity of contexts, trends and priorities within a particular region. In total, more than 45 countries and relevant CSOs participated and presented at the sub-regional consultations in 2021. All key points and summary will be presented at this Regional Conference.

Within the framework of GRALE 5, the national reports and data on the state of the art and development of adult learning and education that have already been prepared by the UNESCO Member States, will be available in November 2021. Regional analysis will be prepared on that basis and will constitute background documents for the Regional Conferences. This will provide the foundation for the discussion and the formulation of recommendations, towards the Regional outcome documents that will inform CONFINTEA VII.

Overall Aim of the Regional Conference

The overall goal is to share and understand the key common issues, innovations, challenges and forward-looking strategies to renew policies and action in youth and adult learning and education in preparation for CONFINTEA VII in 2022.

Specific Objectives

1. Assessing the specific issues and challenges that the sub-region is facing in ALE;
2. Documenting promising innovations, including at the policy level;
3. Analyze the impact of COVID 19 on ALE participation, provision and policies;
4. Outline future prospects of ALE with forward looking strategies and direction of ALE in the region, as well as the contribution of ALE to the achievement of the SDG4 to the other SDGs;
5. Identifying key priorities for the future of ALE in the sub-region;



Expected Outputs

Asia and Pacific Regional Recommendation for CONFINTEA VII 2022

Participants

Governments should be represented at the higher civil servant position within the main Ministry responsible for ALE/CE/LLL/NFE. Participants should mirror the diverse field of ALE/CE/LLL/NFE and include CSO representatives.

Dates and Venue

22 September 2021

https://unesco-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMrcO2prjMuH93blhcUt_OLla2IXT1UY-5s

Working Languages

English

Organisers and Key Partners

UNESCO Bangkok Office and Field Offices, in cooperation with the UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning (UIL)

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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



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Tentative Agenda		
BKK Time (GMT+7)	Participants of East, South, South East and Central Asia	Participants of Pacific
8:00-8:30		Registration and technical test
8:30-9:30		Session 5 (Moderator: Ms. Aya Aoki, UNESCO Apia) Breakout Session (Sub-Regional) 60 mins (due to time gap, Pacific will have the session 5 before the opening session)
9:00-9:30	Registration and technical test	
9:30-9:45	Opening session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome Remarks by Mr. Shigeru Aoyagi, Director, UNESCO Bangkok Remarks by Mr. David Atchoarena, Director, UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning (UIL) Group photo (online) 	
9:45-10:00	Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brief introduction on global preparation of CONFINTEA VII by Mr. Werner Mauch, Team Leader MAL, UIL Overview of objectives of the Regional Conference for CONTINTEA by Mr. Ichiro Miyazawa, UNESCO Bangkok 	
10:00-11:30	Session 1 Sub-Regional Presentation (15 mins each, including QA) <i>Moderator:</i> Mr. Werner Mauch, Team Leader MAL, UIL <ul style="list-style-type: none"> East Asia (Dr. Kiichi Oyasu, ACCU) Southeast Asia (Mr. Ichiro Miyazawa, UNESCO Bangkok) South Asia (Ms. Huma Masood, UNESCO New Delhi) Central Asia (Ms. Meirgul Alpysbayeva, UNESCO Almaty) Pacific (Dr. Timote Vaioleti) 	
11:30-12:00	Session 2 Inputs from CSO partners on ALE (15 mins each) <i>Moderator:</i> Dr. Johann Heilmann, Regional Director, DVV International <i>Speaker:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Maria Helen Dabu, Secretary General, Asia South Pacific Association for Basic and Adult Education (ASPBAE) Ms. Nasiba Mirpochoeva, Project Manager of MCF Microinvest 	
12:00-13:00	Lunch Break	
13:00-13:30	Session 3 Trends and Outlook of Online Learning of Lifelong Learning (30 mins) Data and Statistics of Online Learning in Asia and Pacific <i>Speaker:</i> Mr. Jirawat Poomsrikaew, Head of Government Affairs and Public Policy, Google	
13:30-14:30	Session 4 Innovative ALE and LLL Programs of Private Sectors, Governments and CSO Breakout Session A (Skill Development for the Future)	



Moderator: Ms. Sowirin Chuanprapun, UNESCO Bangkok

1. Accelerating Thailand: Digital Skills for Employment

Speakers:

- Ms. Supahrat Juramongkol, Microsoft Philanthropies Lead, South East Asia and Thailand
- Ms. Punramol Sutthirit, Foreign Relations Officer, Professional Level, Division of Strategy and Planning, Office of the Non-Formal and Informal Education (ONIE), Ministry of Education Thailand

2. Go Digital ASEAN

Speaker:

- Ms. Hannah Najar, Regional Program Manager, The Asia Foundation

3. Global Skills Academy

Speakers:

- Ms. Soledad Patiño, Global Skills Academy Coordinator, Section of Youth, Literacy and Skills Development, Education Sector, UNESCO HQ
- IBM (TBC)

Breakout Session B (Online course and Effective Platform/LMS)

Moderator: Ms. Rika Yorozu, Head of Executive Office, UNESCO Bangkok

1. Transforming Lifelong Learning through Chatbots, Conversational Pedagogy and Nano Learning™

Speaker:

- Mr. Micheal Choy, CEO, Tech Tree

2. Micro-credentials/Blockchain

Speaker:

- Mr. Adam Lemmon, Manager of Engineering Operations, Convergence Tech

3. Online Course of Lifelong Learning and Community Learning Centers

Speaker:

- Mr. Ichiro Miyazawa, Programme Specialist, UNESCO Bangkok

Breakout Session C (Innovative Program for Disadvantaged Targets)

Moderator: Ms. Cecilia Soriano, Regional Policy and Advocacy Coordinator, ASPBAE

1. SeniorsGoDigital Project by Mrs. Helen Charalambides, Emphasys centre, Cyprus

2. Kiron Open Higher Education

3. Fitness Assistant by Mr. Klas Tallvid, Director, UNEVOC Centre of Sweden

14:30-15:30

Inputs for Draft Regional Recommendation (Draft will be circulated before the event)

Session 5

Breakout Session (Sub-Regional) 50 mins

Breakout Session A (East Asia, Moderator: Dr. Kiichi Oyasu, ACCU)

Breakout Session B (South Asia, Moderator: Ms. Huma Masood, UNESCO New Delhi)

Breakout Session C (Southeast Asia, Moderator: Mr. Ichiro Miyazawa, UNESCO Bangkok)

Breakout Session D (Central Asia, Moderator: Ms. Aisulu Sulaimanova, UNESCO Almaty)



	<p><i>Breakout Session for Pacific is conducted in the morning (before the opening session)</i></p> <p>Plenary: Results of Breakout Sessions (5 mins x 5 25 mins)</p> <p><i>Moderator: Mr. Werner Mauch, UIL</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Presentation of the Draft by Mr. Ichiro Miyazawa, UNESCO Bangkok
15:30-16:00 Closing session	<p>Conclusion and Way Forwards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Remarks by UIL● Remarks by UNESCO Bangkok