



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION VIII - EASTERN VISAYAS

October 2, 2020

REGIONAL MEMORANDUM

No. **514**, s. 2020

UNESCO's EDUCATIONAL RESPONSE TO COVID-19

To: Schools Division Superintendents
Regional Office Division Chiefs
Public Elementary and Secondary School Heads
All Others Concerned

1. Attached is a memorandum dated September 30, 2020 transmitting the report on UNESCO's Response to COVID-19 which is a compilation of education responses collated from the UNESCO's website.
2. Further inquiries, contact Dr. Harvie D. Villamor, HRDD Chief through hrdd.region8@deped.gov.ph or telephone number 323-7030.
3. Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.


RAMIR B. UYTICO EdD, CESO IV
Director IV

Enclosures: As stated

References: None

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index under the following subjects:

COVID-19 EDUCATION RESPONSE STAKEHOLDER

HRDD-ABL





Republika ng Pilipinas
Department of Education
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION OFFICE

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
 REGION VII, EASTERN VISAYAS
RECEIVED
 10-01-2020 / # 5493
 Date of Issuance No.
 Date Received 4.3.2020

Office of the Director

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR IV		Signature
Date and Time Received	4:18	Signature
Date and Time Released	4:21	Signature

MEMORANDUM

FOR : **UNDERSECRETARIES
 ASSISTANT SECRETARIES
 BUREAU AND SERVICE DIRECTORS
 REGIONAL DIRECTORS**

FROM : *Margarita Consolacion C. Ballesteros*
MARGARITA CONSOLACION C. BALLESTEROS
 Director IV

SUBJECT : **UNESCO's EDUCATIONAL RESPONSE TO COVID-19**

DATE : 30 September 2020

This is to respectfully transmit the report on UNESCO's Response to COVID-19.

This report is a compilation of UNESCO's education response to COVID-19. The information collated are from UNESCO's own website. Each category talks about global and regional education during COVID-19 and the systematic way of continuing education amidst this pandemic. From webinars to infographics as well as the usage of the radio and television the report showcases the means that UNESCO will undergo to make sure that "Learning Never Stops".

For your reference.

Thank you very much.

UNESCO'S EDUCATIONAL RESPONSE TO COVID-19

Topics

[UNESCO's Educational Response to COVID-19](#)

About

The overall list of UNESCO's Response to COVID-19 both global and regional.

<https://en.unesco.org/covid19/educationresponse/support>

The Global Education Coalition's theme of #LearningNeverStops. The Global Education Coalition launched by UNESCO, is a platform for collaboration and exchange to protect the right to education during this unprecedented disruption and beyond. It brings together more than 140 members from the UN family, civil society, academia and the private sector to ensure that #LearningNeverStops.

<https://en.unesco.org/covid19/educationresponse/globalcoalition>

[Global Education Coalition](#)

- [Alternative Solutions to School Closure in Arab Countries to Ensuring that Learning Never Stops](#)

- This is a brief report of UNESCO Beirut on school closures, national responses, and government circulars since the beginning of the pandemic.

- <https://en.unesco.org/news/alternative-solutions-school-closure-arab-countries-ensuring-learning-never-stops>

Regional Responses

- **Resources for Parents and Teachers: Motivating & supporting children during remote learning**

- As schools have closed due to COVID-19, the majority of children are learning remotely. Supporting and motivating children during remote learning is central to their success. Parents and teachers have an important role to play by providing children with psychosocial support, care, encouragement and feedback.
- UNESCO Beirut offers parents and teachers tips to support and motivate children during remote learning.
- <https://en.unesco.org/news/motivating-supporting-children-during-remote-learning-tips-teachers-and-parents>

- **Asia Pacific**

- A collection of educational applications, platforms and resources that aim to help parents, caregivers, teachers, school administrators and policymakers facilitate student learning, social-emotional support, safety and well-being during this difficult time.
- <https://apa.sdg4education2030.org/covid19>

- **Responding to COVID-19: Education in Latin America and the Caribbean**

- Children, young people and adults are staying away from school due to COVID-19. In Latin America and the Caribbean, many countries have declared educational quarantine (school closure?) As part of efforts to stop the pandemic.
- <https://en.unesco.org/fieldoffice/santiago/covid-19-education-alc>

<p><u>Webinars</u></p>	<p>UNESCO Headquarters, field offices and institutes are organizing regular webinars on the educational dimensions of the COVID-19 pandemic. Those webinars provide a venue for stakeholders working in education to share practices, ideas and resources about country responses to school closures and other challenges stemming from the global health crisis.</p> <p>The webinars address a range of topics with a view to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • maintaining the continuity of learning, especially for underprivileged children and youth; and • ensuring all students return to school as they reopen <p>https://en.unesco.org/covid19/educationresponse/webinars</p>
<p><u>Thematic knowledge-sharing workshops</u></p>	<p>In the framework of the Global Coalition for Education to ensure #learningneverstops, UNESCO, in partnership with the European Broadcasting Union (EBU), organizes a series of introductory virtual workshops</p> <p>https://en.unesco.org/events/setting-educational-radios-and-televisions-virtual-knowledge-sharing-workshops</p>
<p><u>UNESCO Education Issue Notes</u></p>	<p>UNESCO Education Sector's issue notes cover key topics related to the COVID-19 education response. They provide evidence of good practices, practical tips and links to important references to mitigate the short- and longer-term impact of school closures.</p> <p>The issue notes are prepared collectively by UNESCO education colleagues across the world and cover several topics under nine thematic areas, namely: Health and wellbeing; Continuity of learning and teaching; Gender equity and equality; Teaching and learning; Higher education and TVET; Education and culture; Education policy and planning; Vulnerable populations, as well as Global citizenship education and Education for sustainable development</p> <p>https://en.unesco.org/covid19/educationresponse/issuenotes</p>

- **Resource Center of Responses for COVID-19**

- UNESCO is closely monitoring the impact of this crisis on media freedom, safety of journalists, and the fundamental right to access information.
- In a context of unprecedented challenges for the media and digital technology sectors, UNESCO has created a “resource center” of selected responses to COVID-19.
- <https://en.unesco.org/covid19/communicationinformationresponse/media-support>

- **Audio Resources to Counter Disinformation**

- To contribute to countering disinformation on COVID-19 and promoting healthy behaviors, UNESCO has produced a series of audio messages that can be freely used by radio stations from around the world. UNESCO is making these resources available to help stop the harm caused by the so called “info-demic” accompanying the virus.
- The short audio messages (available in English, French, Spanish and Arabic) give useful information on preventive measures, debunk myths about the virus, and highlight the importance of non-discrimination and solidarity
- <https://en.unesco.org/covid19/communicationinformationresponse/audior-resources>

- **Visual Resources to Download and Share**

- At the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, UNESCO produced visuals, graphics and social media messages to counter disinformation, fight discrimination, and promote best practices.
- <https://en.unesco.org/covid19/communicationinformationresponse/visual-resources>

Information Sharing & Countering Disinformation

- **Video Resources to Counter Disinformation**

- To contribute to countering disinformation on COVID-19 and promoting healthy behaviors, UNESCO has produced a series of video messages that can be freely used by TV stations from around the world. UNESCO is making these resources available to help stop the harm caused by the so called “infodemic” accompanying the virus. The short video messages (available in English, French and Arabic) give useful information on preventive measures.
- <https://en.unesco.org/covid19/communicationinformationresponse/videos>

- **Code the Curve- Hackathon**

- Organized in partnership with IBM and SAP, the CodeTheCurve Hackathon calls young developers and innovators to use their digital skills, creativity and entrepreneurial spirit to join forces to inspire and develop digital solutions to current and future pandemic-challenges.
- CodeTheCurve is organized around three main themes:
 - Ensure continued learning
 - Data management and information
 - The present and the future: societal and health issues
- <https://en.unesco.org/events/codethecurve-hackathon>

- **Mobilizing documentary heritage community amid the COVID-19 pandemic**

- Documentary heritage is an important resource for providing quality information and a historical perspective on how global health emergencies have been addressed in the past. UNESCO, through the Memory of the World (MoW) Programme, stands ready to support all Member States and memory institutions in their efforts to preserve and ensure public access to official records related to COVID-19. As part of this, we feature initiatives that harness the scientific, educational and artistic potential of documentary

heritage to address the pandemic.

- <https://en.unesco.org/covid19/communicationinformationresponse/documentaryheritage>

- **Open solutions to facilitate research and information on COVID-19**

- In the face of the Covid-19 pandemic, the value and necessity of Open Solutions is crucial. Open Access to scientific information and open data facilitate better and faster research towards a vaccine and inform public health measures essential to contain the spread of the virus.

- Open Educational Resources (OERs) keep citizens updated and educated about the virus, helping to ensure their compliance with public health advisories, and allow learning to continue at a distance. On this page, open solutions refers to peer reviewed open access journal articles and open scientific data, and our initiatives on open access and open scientific data are presented.

- <https://en.unesco.org/covid19/communicationinformationresponse/opensolutions>

- **Fighting COVID-19 through digital innovation and transformation**

- UNESCO and its partners have undertaken initiatives to harness the potential of digital technologies against COVID-19, including in regions which are digitally isolated. In the long-term, the COVID-19 crisis reminds us that we should nurture the socially beneficial applications of digital technologies and focus on improving access and uses in countries where it is lacking.

- <https://en.unesco.org/covid19/communicationinformationresponse/digitalinnovation>

- **The MIL Alliance response to COVID-19**

- Media and Information Literacy (MIL) competencies are foundational for all members of society. It is more so because we are dependent upon each other to live and thrive in healthy information, media, and technological environments. Media and information literacy is necessary every day, but especially during turbulent times when misinformation runs rampant.
- <https://en.unesco.org/themes/media-and-information-literacy/gapmil/covid19>
- **MILID Network's response to COVID-19**
 - UNESCO-UNAOC UNITWIN Cooperation Programme on Media and Information Literacy and Intercultural Dialogue (MILID University Network) "raison d'être" is dialogue and cultural diversity, founded in critical information, verification, critical social discourses in the media and online environments, and purposeful engagement with technology must be buoyed by media and information literacy
 - <https://en.unesco.org/themes/media-and-information-literacy/milidnetwork/responsetocovid19>
- **Combating the disinfodemic: Working for truth in the time of COVID-19**
 - To #ShareKnowledge, UNESCO has published two policy briefs offering critical insights into the fast-growing COVID-19-related disinformation that is impeding access to trustworthy sources and reliable information.
 - The impacts of COVID-19 disinformation are more deadly than disinformation about other subjects, such as politics and democracy. That is why this research, in line with UNESCO's role as a laboratory of ideas, coins the term disinfodemic to describe the problem.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - https://en.unesco.org/covid19/disinfodemic • <u>Communication and Information Webinars on COVID-19</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UNESCO is organizing webinars to discuss and find solutions to the unprecedented challenges for the media and digital technology sectors amid the COVID-19 crisis. UNESCO Communication and Information Sector's webinars cover a range of topics such as combating misinformation and disinformation, addressing the need of professional journalism and reliable information, protecting journalists' safety while covering COVID-19, media and information literacy, and others. - https://en.unesco.org/covid19/communicationinformationresponse/webinars • <u>#ThinkBeforeSharing - Stop the spread of conspiracy theories</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The COVID-19 pandemic has sparked a worrying rise in disinformation and conspiracy theories. Conspiracy theories can be dangerous: they often target and discriminate against vulnerable groups, ignore scientific evidence and polarize society with serious consequences. - https://en.unesco.org/themes/gced/thinkbeforesharing
<p><u>Distance Learning Solution</u></p>	<p>The list of educational applications, platforms and resources below aim to help parents, teachers, schools and school administrators facilitate student learning and provide social care and interaction during periods of school closure. Most of the solutions curated are free and many cater to multiple languages. While these solutions do not carry UNESCO's explicit endorsement, they tend to have a wide reach, a strong user-base and evidence of impact. They are categorized based on distance learning needs, but most of them offer functionalities across multiple categories.</p> <p>https://en.unesco.org/covid19/educationresponse/solutions</p>

<p><u>National Learning Platforms and Tools</u></p>	<p>Learning Platforms and Tools per states</p> <p>https://en.unesco.org/covid19/educationresponse/nationalresponses</p>
<p><u>Keeping Girls in the Picture</u></p>	<p>That's the number of girls who might not return to school this year due to COVID-19's unprecedented education disruption. This alarming number not only threatens decades of progress made towards gender equality, but also puts girls around the world at risk of adolescent pregnancy, early and forced marriage, and violence. For many girls, school is more than just a key to a better future. It's a lifeline.</p> <p>https://en.unesco.org/covid19/educationresponse/girlseducation</p>
<p><u>Learning Never Stops</u></p>	<p>The COVID-19 pandemic forced schools and universities to close their doors, impacting an unprecedented number of learners worldwide. Students, teachers and parents from the UNESCO Associated Schools Network shared their stories on coping and continuing to learn during the lockdown. As schools begin to open in some parts of the world, UNESCO is asking people to share their experiences of resuming education in the COVID-19 era.</p> <p>https://en.unesco.org/covid19/educationresponse/learningneverstops/</p>
<p><u>Adverse Consequences of Schools Closure</u></p>	<p>School closures carry high social and economic costs for people across communities. Their impact however is particularly severe for the most vulnerable and marginalized boys and girls and their families. The resulting disruptions exacerbate already existing disparities within the education system but also in other aspects of their lives.</p> <p>https://en.unesco.org/covid19/educationresponse/consequences</p>