

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization



## LEARNING in the Knowledge Societies

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## **Global trends**

#### **Demographic:**

145 people every minute is now being added to our global population The world's population is likely to reach 9.1. billion by 2050

### Science:

Bioethics, science education, water, energy

#### **Technology:**

Computation, biotechnology, nanotechnology...

#### Information revolution: Death of distance, new ICTs, new forms of learning

### **Globalisation:**

Integration, inequality, restructurisation, emerging markets, networks

### **Conflict:**

24 countries in conflict situation in 2006





### "There is no royal road to learning"

**Euclid** 

# Why learning is different today?

- Culture of innovation, creativity and renewal
- Attachment of value to knowledge generated
- Fast production, exchange and transformation of information to knowledge
- Education and learning can no longer be confined to a set and settled space-time, but may develop a lifetime
- Human dimension: a new type of learning based on learner stimulation
- Multi-dimensional collaboration
- Systematic public-private partnerships

## **UNESCO's approach**

#### **Knowledge Societies**

Respect for Cultural and linguistic diversity Freedom of Expression Universal Access to knowledge and information Quality Education for All

**Inclusion and Pluralism** 

Human Needs and Rights



### **Knowledge processes and principles**



Adopted from FIS KM Institute, Ottawa (2000)



# Old Media New Media

Radio Television Audiotape Videotape Books Slides

Ephemeral in nature for radio and TV Easy access to large number of people Reuse difficult Most useful for mass delivery Difficult to manipulate and do corrections Computer Multimedia CBT Internet WWW CD/DVD Virtual Reality

Digital learning resources Easy to manipulate, duplicate and transport Reusable with little difficulty Globally accessible through network Provides multi-sensory, multiple media in an integrated way Personalized instruction Cost intensive, though it is decreasing

## ICTs development and changes in learning





# **ICTs role in learning activities**

- Subject matter
- Medium to provide access to information and knowledge resources
- **Tool** to facilitate communication and learning processes



# **New Forms of Learning**

**New literacy types:** 

- Technology literacy
- Information literacy:
  - recognize when information is needed
  - have the ability to locate, evaluate and use effectively the needed information

# **New Forms of Learning**

### Nature of knowledge

- Increasingly interdisciplinary
- Increasingly contextual
- Application oriented ~ «learning by doing»
- Must reflect local/regional realities

### New pedagogical paradigm

- Learning as a constructive process
- More than acquisition of basic literacy skills
- Non-formal and non-linear learning
- New flexible learning environments

Learning is a complex and diverse process, which has to be monitored specifically according to

### Who the learner is

New adaptations of the teaching and learning process

### What has to be learnt

Customization of individual needs and adaptation to the newly discovered ubiquity



# **Conventional Education Model**

#### Large Numbers

#### Lack of Resources



Strongly dependent on the skills and knowledge of the instructor. Involve the direct transfer of information between the teacher and the student.

Constrained by both time and place.

Limited by in-house available resources.



# **UNESCO's Holistic Approach**





## UNESCO-Microsoft Innovative Teachers Programme

**Mission:** To create a connected learning community of *Innovative Teachers* enabling them to communicate, publish, discuss and recognize *innovative ICT practice*.





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### Thank you for your attention.

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