Initial Lessons Learned and Promising Practices on Teaching in Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic and Implications for the Future

UNICEF Bahrain

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COVID-19 and the Future of Education

Bahrain Education and COVID-19

- EduNet, an electronic education portal, provides sample teaching and learning materials, including e-books sample lessons and plans

- TV2 provides broadcasting of lessons in Arabic and English

- Select high-performing supervisors and teachers facilitating live online teaching at intermediate and secondary level

- Assessments shift to more performance based / continuous learning assessment

- Private school fees for lower socioeconomic students are limited/waived and students with disabilities are provided specific video lessons.

Resilience
Support teacher resilience

a. **Creating coping mechanisms** — The WHO defines self-care as "the ability to individuals, families, and communities to promote health, prevent disease, maintain health, and to cope with illness and disability with or without the support of a healthcare provider." (From TPTP manual). Self care is any activity that we do intentionally in order to take care of our mental, emotional, and physical health.

b. **Recognizing and mitigating burnout** — Burnout is a state of physical, emotional, and mental exhaustion that results from prolonged exposure to job stressors or work situations that are emotionally demanding.

c. **Enhancing intrinsic motivation.**

Resilience
Support student well-being

a. Prioritizing vulnerable and disadvantaged students

b. Supporting students' psychosocial well-being

  1. Recognizing learner stress and knowing the stress looks differently at all ages.

  2. Supporting student well-being through various exercises, i.e. imaging a special place, taking a mindful walk, writing a letter.

  3. Improving communications with your students, i.e. active listening, tips for children about talking illness and death,

  4. Linking students to resources, i.e. drawing a neighborhood map of resources, providing local referral contacts to parents, etc. (Source: TPTP)

c. Promoting safeguarding

Resilience

Promising Practice &
Implication for the Future:
TPTP Teacher and
Student Well Being
(TPTP, Module 2)

Ready to Come Back:
Teacher Preparedness Training Package

unicef
for every child

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unicef
pour chaque enfant

Instruction
Understand remote service delivery of education

a. **Defining Asynchronous teaching and learning** — Asynchronous learning enables students to complete tasks without being bound by strict meeting schedules (Source: LTE). Some examples are pre-recorded video lessons, online discussion boards, collaborative documents on cloud, blogs, emails, etc.

Instruction
Understand remote service delivery of education

b. **Defining Synchronous teaching and learning** — Synchronous learning takes place in 'real-time' where students are engaging in learning at the same time (Source: LTE). Some examples are virtual classrooms, video conferencing, live webinars, and instant messaging.

Instruction
Understand remote service delivery of education

c. **Defining Blended Learning** — Active blended learning is a pedagogical approach that combines teachers and students with content both in and out of the classroom (Source: University of Northampton). The 'active' part promotes interactions between teachers and students, students and students, students and content while the 'blended' part combines both face to face and online. It often combines both synchronous and asynchronous learning.

Instruction
Support teachers with instruction

a. **Remembering the same principals of face-to-face instruction still apply** — They are *structure*, i.e. planning and teaching well-structured lessons that have clear explanations, *adaptation*, i.e. adapting teaching when appropriate to meet individual needs through scaffolding and building upon what the learner knows, and *assessment*, i.e. making accurate and productive use of continuous feedback loops.

b. **Providing relevant teacher professional development** — Professional development needs to be short, responsive, and blended approaches (both face-to-face and in-person).

c. **Providing real-time support for teachers**

Instruction
Support students in learning

a. **Providing more teacher presence.**

b. **Making learning collaborative for students.**

c. **Increasing communications with students.**

d. **Equipping teachers to assess students, particularly for remediating learning losses.** (Source: World Bank)

Technology
Understand available platforms

Name	Description	Connectivity Type	Subjects	Format	Mobile App	Conditions of Use	Language	Target Group	Link
Learning Resource Exchange	A European Schoolnet (EUN) product, this enables schools to find educational content from many different countries and providers. It offers access to a network of learning content repositories and associated tools that 'travel well' and can be used by teachers in different countries.	Online	Languages Arts, STEM Social Studies & Humanities	Multiple formats	No	Primarily Creative Commons license	English Arabic & more	From kindergarten to high school	http://lreforschools.eun.org/web/guest
OpenStax	Houses peer-reviewed, openly licensed textbooks, which are available in free digital formats and for a low cost in print.	Both (online & offline)	Languages Arts, STEM Social Studies & Humanities	Textbook	Yes	Primarily Creative Commons license	English Arabic & more	All	cnx.org/
Khan Academy	Offers practice exercises, instructional videos, and a personalized learning dashboard that empower learners to study at their own pace in and outside of the classroom.	Both (online & offline)	Languages Arts, STEM Social Studies & Humanities	Video	Yes	Primarily Creative Commons license	English Arabic & more	From kindergarten to high school	https://www.khanacademy.org/

Name	Description	Connectivity Type	Subjects	Format	Mobile App	Conditions of Use	Language	Target Group	Link
iTunes U	iTunes U offers lectures and learning materials from K-12 education to Higher Education, where state or national education departments provide content for both students and educators.	Offline	Languages Literacy	Multiple formats	Yes	Free	English Arabic & more	K-12	https://www.apple.com/education/appledistinguishededucator
The Global Reading Network	Toolkit for international education stakeholders universal design for learning to help all children read: promoting literacy for learners with disabilities.	Offline	Languages Arts, STEM Social Studies & Humanities	Textbook	Yes	Primarily Creative Commons license	English Arabic & more	All	globalreadingnetwork.net
Children Library	A project of the ICDL Foundation in collaboration with the US's University of Maryland's Human-Computer Interaction Lab which offers open access to children books.	Offline	Languages Literacy	Multiple formats	Yes	Free	English Arabic & more	K-12	childrenslibrary.org/icdl/SimpleSearchCategory?langid=309
Rumie	Education tools and content to enable lifelong learning for underserved communities.	Offline	Languages Arts, STEM Social Studies & Humanities	Multiple formats	Yes	Free	English Arabic & more	All levels	https://rumie.org

Name	Description	Connec-tivity Type	Interaction	Main Function-ality	Platform	Conditions of Use	Language	Target Group	Link
Tangerine Central	Helps with Early Grade Reading and Mathematics Assessments, and interviews with students, teachers, and principals. Open source data collection software optimized for use on mobile devices and in low-resource contexts. Facilitates learner assessments and interviews; allows for multimedia content integration. Online editor with downloadable app for offline data collection and content sharing.	Offline	Asynchronous	Assessment	Both (desktop and mobile)	Freemium version	English Arabic & more	Students Educators	tangerine central.org
Evernote	An app designed for note taking, organizing, task management, and archiving.	Offline	Asynchronous	File manager	Both (desktop and mobile)	Freemium version	English Arabic & more	Students Educators	evernote. com
Canvas & Canvas Network	Canvas Network provides a place and platform where teachers, students, and institutions worldwide can connect and chart their own course for personal growth, professional development, and academic inquiry.	Offline	Both Asynchronous and Synchronous	Learning Manage-ment System	Both (desktop and mobile)	Freemium version	English Arabic & more	Students Educators	https://www .canvas.net

Name	Description	Connec-tivity Type	Interaction	Main Function-ality	Platform	Conditions of Use	Language	Target Group	Link
Moodle	Moodle is an open source platform used for blended learning, distance education, flipped classroom and other e-learning projects in schools, universities, workplaces and other sectors.	Offline	Asynchronous	Learning Manage-ment System	Both (desktop and mobile)	Free	English Arabic & more	Students Educators	moodle.org
Kolibri (Learning Equality)	Kolibri makes high quality education technology available in low-resource communities such as rural schools, refugee camps, orphanages, non-formal school systems, and prison systems.	Offline	Asynchronous	Learning Manage-ment System; Content Repository	Smart-phone app	Freemium version	English Arabic & more	Students Educators	learning equality.org /kolibri
Google Class-room	Free tool (as long as you have a free Gmail account) developed by Google to support online classroom experience for teachers and students. It permits online communication to support distance education. Google Classroom Includes tools for online assessment development, administration, scoring, and feedback.	Online	Synchronous	Learning Manage-ment System	Both (desktop and mobile)	Free	English Arabic & more	Students Educators	classroom. google.com

Name	Description	Connec-tivity Type	Interaction	Main Function-ality	Platform	Conditions of Use	Language	Target Group	Link
Can't Wait to Learn	Gaming technology to deliver quality education to children, including those in conflict contexts. Can't Wait to Learn is fast, effective and low-cost - and utilizes custom gaming technology to deliver quality education. The evidence-based program was developed by War Child and partners through years of testing and research.	Offline	Asynchronous	Learning Manage-ment System	Both (desktop and mobile)	Free	English Arabic	Students Educators	warchildholland.org/projects/cwtl
Ustad Mobile	A platform from India that can be used entirely offline. Can be used for content creation and delivery, record keeping, attendance tracking etc. Can be used on multiple platforms and is entirely open source.	Offline	Asynchronous	Learning Manage-ment System; Content Repository	Both (desktop and mobile)	Free	English Arabic	Students Educators	www.ustadmobile.com/lms
We Love Reading	A program that develops a love of reading in children by training adults to read aloud to them in a public space on a routine basis.	Offline	Asynchronous	Training	Web based	All Rights Reserved	English Arabic	Adults	welovereading.org

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Google Hangouts	Google Hangouts is a unified communications service that enables text, voice, or video chats, either one-on-one or in a group. Hangouts is built into Gmail, YouTube, and Google Voice, plus there's Hangouts apps for iOS, Android, and the web.	Online	Synchronous	Video conference system	Both (desktop and mobile)	Free	English Arabic & more	Students Educators	hangouts.google.com
Amazon Chime	AWS is offering free use of all Amazon Chime Pro features for online meetings and video conferencing from March 4, 2020 to June 30, 2020 for all customers that start using Amazon Chime for the first time during this period from their AWS account.	Online	Synchronous	Video conference system	Both (desktop and mobile)	Freemium version	English Arabic & more	Students Educators	aws.amazon.com/chime

Technology
Understand available platforms

a. **Understanding the various platforms of remote service.**
   Standardized platforms deliver standardized quality content at scale. This may be useful in schools that are hard to staff (remote, rural), schools where teachers are absent, and schools where teachers have low levels of pedagogical and subject matter content. Examples include Prerecorded lessons; Broadcasted live lessons; Pre-loaded Laptops. (Source: Brookings Institution)

   Differentiated instruction deliver education that go beyond 'one size fits all'. In some countries, the response is due to rapid expansion, but in other countries this approach can be used to adjust the level and pace of the students. Examples include computer-adapted learning; Live one on one tutoring; video tutorials; gamification; simulations (Source: Brookings Institution).
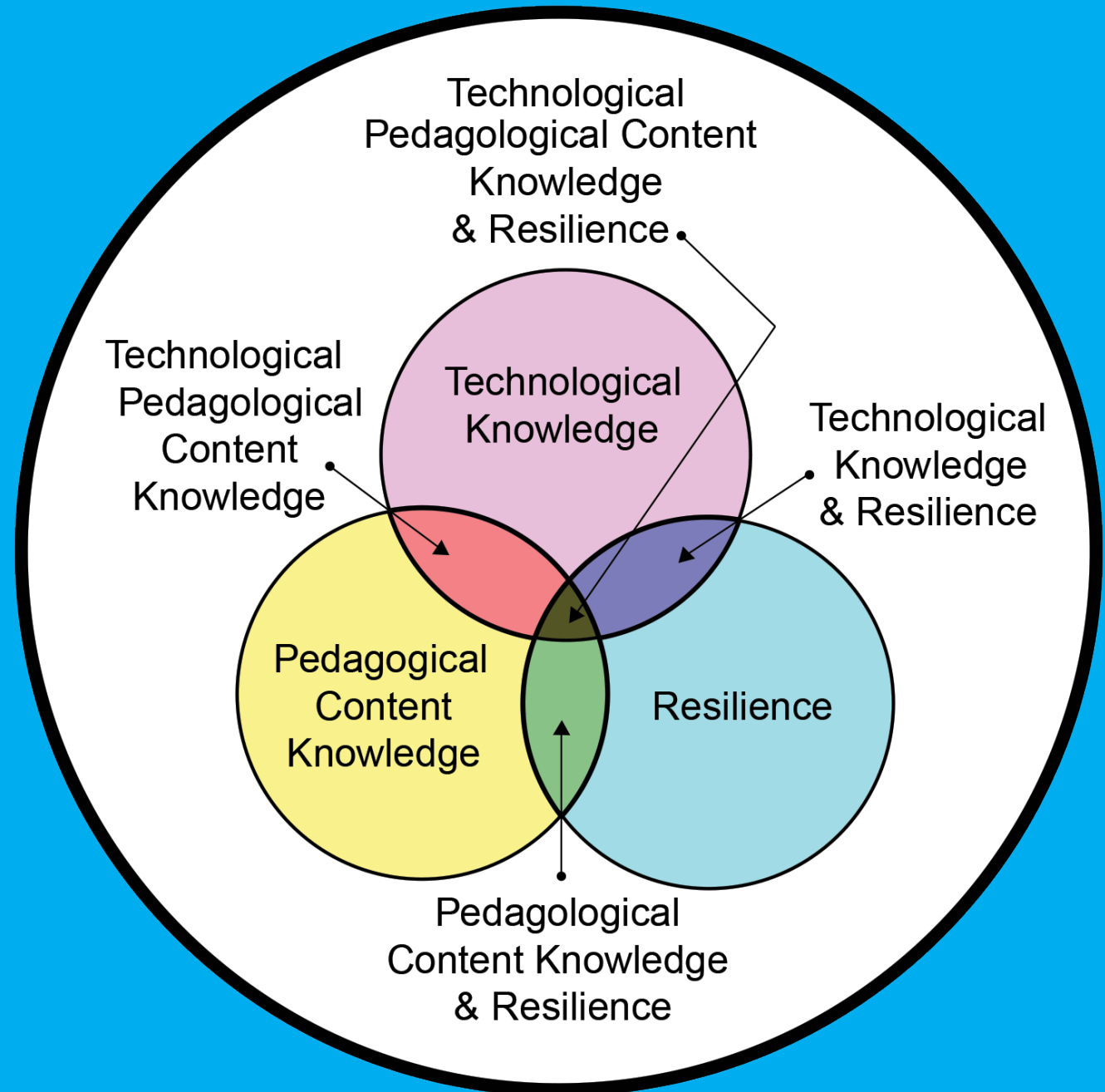
Technology
Understand available platforms

b. **Providing access to broadcast and digital communications for teachers (hardware, software, and connectivity)**

c. **Designing broadcast and digital communications for cognitive engagement and learning**

d. **Building teacher skills for broadcast and online teaching activities**

Summary for Implications for the Future

Technological Pedagological Content Knowledge & Resilience

Technological Pedagological Content Knowledge

Technological Knowledge

Technological Knowledge & Resilience

Pedagogical Content Knowledge

Resilience

Pedagological Content Knowledge & Resilience

UNICEF Case Studies in South Africa & Uruguay

South Africa - Department of Basic Education partnership with UNICEF and 2Enable to create digital learning content through online and apps, as well as radio and TV broadcasts, for pre-school and primary school students.

Uruguay – Ministry of Education and Culture through Plan Ceibal provides free laptop to each primary and first stage secondary school students beginning in 2007. It also has CREA, its own National Learning Platform.

Promising Practice and Implication for the future
Best practices (Source: EDC)

- Technology must be one part in a larger system of educational reform

- Develop a vision of how technology should be used

- Develop a shared language about teaching, learning, and technology

- Develop a comprehensive national ICT in education policy with a designed focus

- Define and promote the roles of multiple stakeholders

- Align national and school goals and expectations around the use of technology for teaching and learning

- Change the teacher evaluation system to reflect technology integration supported by learner-centered instruction and assessment

- Ensure adequate classroom access to technology

Promising Practice and Implication for the future
Best practices

- Develop standards for equality education

- Build strong leadership

- Recruit, hired, and continually train high quality teachers

- Provide teachers with a variety of different types of high-quality professional development

- Integrate technology into the curriculum by helping teachers with instructional design

- Incentivize teacher use of technology to support learner centered instruction

- Provide teachers with ongoing support

- Build reliable, valid and rigorous evaluation systems

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Thank you and Q&A

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