



# Learning and education in the digital age

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# Institute of Innovative Governance



Non-governmental organization based in Estonia and Ukraine

Objectives:

- explore the potential of public innovations to ensure transparency, efficiency and accountability of public sector;
- Promote social innovations and ensure that digital transformation benefits vulnerable groups. Digital inclusion as a core principle.

# European Digital Development Alliance



- EDDA represents social innovators and digital development organizations at working groups of the European Commission and advocates for fair and inclusive digital agenda in and outside the EU.
- Goal: to influence EU policies to reduce digital divide and promote inclusive digital innovations within and outside the EU
- Produce research, briefings, newsletters
- Connects with organizations, Universities and experts which work in the EU and EU partner countries
- Facilitates the access to the EU funding schemes by coordinating applications for grants and tenders
- If you would like to join, it is the best time as we have been recently established and do not charge any membership fees 😊
- To join please write to Anna Melenchuk, [anna.melenchuk@instingov.org](mailto:anna.melenchuk@instingov.org)

# From MDGs to SDGs

- MDG 2 dealt with achieving universal access to primary education.
- By 2015 we managed to achieve a wider access to primary education worldwide. The total enrolment rate in developing regions reached 91 percent in 2015, and the worldwide number of children out of school has dropped by almost half.
- This allowed us to prioritize **quality education** which is SDG 4.

# Digital skills and learning



- One of the tools which can help to provide access to good quality learning and education is digital education and utilization of some disruptive technologies such as AI, blockchain or machine learning in education and learning.
- At the same time technologies can exacerbate inequalities and lead to digital divide and exclusion.

# Digital skills and digital education: challenges



- Connectivity (lots of remote regions, which do not have access to internet, even in Europe)
- Affordability (in Tajikistan people pay around 200 USD per month per internet)
- Infrastructure (tech and digital infrastructure is expensive)

# Digital learning: new and additional



- Digital learning should not be a substitute of traditional learning and schooling but be new and additional.
- Some extreme examples from PPPs projects in Uganda where the number of teachers in schools was reduced while new e-learning systems are believed to provide same or better quality of education.

# What skills are needed for future jobs?

- Future jobs would require first and foremost such skills as problem solving, creativity, critical thinking, team building, emotional intelligence coupled with hard skills like coding and robotics.
- Such skills as team building or emotional intelligence could only be gain trough interaction in groups, meaning offline, face-to-face training with other peers.
- This does not undermine the role of e-learning. Some skills and education could be gained through e-learning and some not.



# Recommendations

- We need digital skills and digital education to help to ensure quality education for all.
- To ensure that everyone has access to digital skills and digital education we need to fight poor connectivity, affordability and lack of infrastructure for digital services all over the world.
- Some successful traditional learning and schooling methods should be preserved. Digital and tech learning should be additional.