How to engage in the Transforming Education Summit

May 2022

I. Who can engage?

The Transforming Education Summit is open to all, and it belongs to all.

Everyone is invited to learn about the Summit, to engage in the Summit preparatory process and workstreams, to participate in the Pre-Summit and Summit, to contribute to the Transforming Education Knowledge Hub, and to spread the word about transforming education.

The Summit is inclusive and youth led. It brings together the full range of stakeholders that are relevant to the advancement of the 2030 Agenda’s commitments on education and lifelong learning, including youth and children, teachers, academia, international organizations, civil society and the private sector.

The Summit preparatory process will ensure the meaningful engagement of young people and the full set of education stakeholders as follows:

✓ National consultations will reflect the voices of a diverse range of stakeholders, especially children and young people, and lead to bold national commitments based on a multi-stakeholder, inclusive and transformative vision.

✓ Thematic Action Tracks will be co-led and shaped by various stakeholders, including children and young people, to promote accelerators and good practices, resulting in the scaling up of promising, innovative initiatives.

✓ Public engagement will rally various stakeholders, including children and young people, to raise awareness on the transformative power of education, drive political commitment and action at the global, regional and national levels, and create a global movement.

II. Engaging in the Summit preparations

a. National Consultations

Organizers of national consultations will work to ensure adequate representation of youth, parents, teachers, civil society organizations, local authorities and other stakeholders in National Consultations.

Youth groups and local CSOs (including teachers and parents’ groups) are encouraged to approach national conveners and/or United Nations Country Teams to make sure that they are involved in these

1 The three Summit Workstreams are National Consultations, Thematic Action Tracks and Public Engagement.
processes. Guidelines for National Consultations are available [here](#). A [Transforming Education Summit National Convenor’s Handbook](#) is also available.

All stakeholders may organize independent dialogues on transforming education and should ensure that these feed into the broader national consultations.

### b. Thematic Action Tracks

All stakeholders can engage in the Summit Thematic Action Tracks. Selected CSOs and a youth representative have been identified to co-lead Thematic Action Tracks and will provide leadership in encouraging broad stakeholders’ engagement in the various tracks.

All stakeholders will be invited to shape the technical content of these tracks by participating in public consultations, which will be announced through the [Transforming Education Knowledge Hub](#). This hub will also allow stakeholders to share good practices and engage in thematic discussions.

Findings from the action tracks can be used to advocate for inclusion of transformative ideas in national policies. Independent events and dialogues that connect to the Thematic Action Tracks and offer ideas for accelerating transformation and good practices may also be organized.

Young people are particularly encouraged to share their ideas and good practices. A Youth Pitching Innovations for Education Transformation initiative to recognize and support ideas with a potential to transform educational practices in alignment with Action Tracks is under consideration.

The private sector also has a key to play when it comes to Thematic Action Tracks: private sector partners are encouraged to mobilize their networks to rally support and resources around each of the five action tracks, and to organize dialogues and exchanges to identify and promote good practices to accelerate education transformation.

### c. Public Engagement

All stakeholders are regularly informed through the Summit Stakeholders Consultations, co-chaired by Ms. Stefania Giannini, UNESCO Assistant Director-General for Education and Mr. Leonardo Garnier, Special Advisor to the Secretary-General for the 2022 Transforming Education Summit. These consultations are open to all and will be advertised [here](#).

To effectively harness ongoing efforts, planned campaigns and key education moments, a core group of civil society partners, teachers’ organizations, youth groups, United Nations agencies, and private sector actors has also been invited to form a Summit Mobilization Hub. The objective of this Hub, coordinated by the United Nations Foundation, is to build on existing initiatives, align advocacy efforts, and create a global movement around the Transforming Education Summit.
d. Pre Summit and Summit

The Pre-Summit will be held at UNESCO in Paris on 28-30 June 2022 in hybrid format, to allow broad participation from a wide range of stakeholders. The Pre Summit will start with a Day of Engagement on 28 June 2022, which will include a Youth Forum.

Youth are critical to transforming education and their vision and perspectives will be part and parcel of the Pre-Summit and Summit. On 28 June 2022, a Youth Forum will provide dynamic and creative space for youth voices and inputs. Although youth-led, it will bring together a range of political leaders and civil society actors to ensure critical intergenerational dialogues on the emerging issues most relevant for young people. Young people will also be involved and represented in the main programme of the Pre Summit on 29-30 June, and will bring conclusions from the Youth Forum to the Summit in September.

Youth Delegates will be selected on the basis of an open and transparent call for applications to attend the Youth Forum, Pre-Summit and Summit. More information on the Pre Summit, Youth Forum and Summit, as well as details on the registration process will be released in due course.

III. Stakeholder specific engagement

a. Member States

The Summit is country led and Member States will be actively engaged throughout the Summit process. They are co-leading and contributing to thematic action tracks, encouraged to convene national and regional consultations, and participate in the Pre-Summit and Summit.

The Summit Advisory Committee, co-chaired by the Deputy Secretary General and a Member State representative includes 11 Member States to drive and shape the Summit. Delegations in New York and Paris are regularly briefed, consulted and offered space to provide constructive feedback during the preparatory process.

Ministers of Education, Finance, Planning, Social Development, Development Cooperation, and others will be invited to attend the Pre-Summit in Paris in June 2022, and Heads of State and Governments will participate in the Summit in September 2022, where they will present national statements of commitment to education, building on existing plans, capturing national priorities, and highlighting transformative actions.

b. Children and youth

Transforming education starts with children and youth as agents of change. Four youth representatives are part of the Summit Advisory Committee and represent the broader youth and students’
constituencies, ensuring that young people are involved in the Summit at all levels and develop and drive initiatives around the Summit.²

Key global and regional moments such as the ECOSOC Youth Forum, the World Higher Education Conference and upcoming regional education ministerial conferences are being leveraged to allow young people to express their views and ideas on transforming education, paving the way to the Summit.

Principles

Youth engagement in the Summit follows three principles: diversity in representation, inclusion of networks from the North and South, and diversity of voices by empowering the most marginalized youth. Youth engagement guidelines are being developed and will be available shortly.

Safeguarding considerations will be central to all youth engagement initiatives, especially for engagement of those under 18, in alignment with the Council of the European Union’s recommendation on establishing a European Child Guarantee and UNICEF’s Guidelines on Adolescent Participation and Civic Engagement.

Youth surveys

To allow children and young people to share their vision on what is needed to transform education, UNESCO is curating a survey geared towards children, students, and young people that will be publicly available here. This survey will be widely disseminated and open to all to ensure that as many ideas as possible can be collected.

In addition, a Global Consultation organized by the World’s Largest Lesson, in partnership with UNESCO and UNICEF, is being launched to allow children and youth to contribute their ideas on transforming education in a selected set of countries and schools.

Youth Declaration

The Summit is committed to ensure meaningful engagement of young people. To that end, a Youth Declaration is being developed by youth with the support of the Office of the Secretary-General’s Envoy on Youth, capturing key findings from the various youth consultations as well as priorities expressed by youth groups. A first draft of this Declaration will be presented at the Pre-Summit in June 2022 and the Declaration will be presented at the Summit in September 2022 and will contribute to inform the Summit Outcome document.

² Youth representatives on the Summit advisory committee are Ms. Armel Azihar, SDG4Youth member and GPE Youth leader; Mr. Ulises Brengi, SDG4 Youth member and Generation Unlimited Youth Ambassador; Mr. Peter Franc, Organizing Bureau of the European School Student Unions; and Ms. Asma Rabi, Youth Researcher.
c. Teachers, Parents and Civil society

Civil society organizations, and more broadly associations and networks of schools, universities, teachers, students, parents, academics, or researchers, as well as global partnerships are powerful allies to transform education, as service providers, knowledge brokers, advocates, influencers, and conveners.

All stakeholders are encouraged to act as leaders, conveners, and relays to spread the word and amplify messages around the transformation of education throughout the Summit process. Several stakeholders and civil society groups (including teachers and parents’ groups) are represented on the Summit Advisory Committee.

Teachers and parents

Teachers are central to the Transforming Education Summit. Teachers’ organizations are represented on the Summit Advisory Committee, in the Thematic Action Tracks, and in the Mobilization Hub. An advocacy campaign focusing on teachers and their contribution to transforming education is in planning stage.

Parents are also a key stakeholders’ group. A parent representative is part of the Summit Advisory Committee to liaise with parents’ groups more broadly. Parents are represented in the Mobilization Hub and are encouraged to engage in the Summit process across the three workstreams.

d. Private sector

The private sector and private foundations are key allies for transforming education. They play a significant role in supporting governments - the stewards of education systems – in making progress towards the achievement of the education related goals of the 2030 SDGs.

The involvement of the private sector in education and training is not new. It covers, among others, collaboration for work-based learning, digital learning, financing, research and innovation. Private sector involvement during the pandemic proved key in advancing solutions by sharing new methods and tools to address education challenges and brought significant contributions to education results and to the creation and sustainability of local eco-systems.

As the world emerges from the COVID-19 crisis, the private sector has a key role to play in achieving SDG4, and success will require multistakeholder partnerships between public and private sectors, civil societies, media and academia.

Role of the private sector

Drawing from platforms and networks genuinely involving private sector in education like the UNESCO Global Education Coalition, GenU, the Global Business Coalition for Education, and the UN Global Compact, the Transforming Education Summit provides an opportunity to mobilize greater political ambition, commitment, and action to reverse the slide on SDG 4.
Membership of the private sector on the Summit Advisory committee will contribute to ensure that private sector organizations are part of the Summit process. In addition, private sector partners will be consulted through dedicated briefings, with a view to achieve the following:

- Understand, map and synergize social impact objectives of individual organizations and their alignment to the TES Action Tracks;
- Develop principles that the private sector can consider to adopt within the Action Tracks;
- Share promising practices and case studies in the form of knowledge product(s);
- Identify spotlight initiatives that will promote the involvement of private sector in the different action tracks and initiatives.

IV. Main tools and resources

a. Transforming Education Knowledge Hub

The Transforming Education Knowledge Hub has just been launched and provides several direct avenues for engagement for all stakeholders, including a map that identifies where and when National Consultations are taking place, a space for discussions on the five Thematic Action Tracks to allow all stakeholders to share their ideas and engage in dialogues, and a knowledge base.

b. Communicating about the Summit

Everyone is free to communicate about the Summit. You may use the following hashtag #Transforming Education when communicating on social media and follow the Summit on Twitter at @TransformingEdu.

All communications resources, including key messages, will soon be available on Trello and will be updated regularly.

c. More information about the Transforming Education Summit

The latest information about the Summit, including key documents, can be found on the TES website: https://www.un.org/en/transforming-education-summit.

You can reach out to the Summit Secretariat through e-mail:

- For general inquiries to the Secretariat: tes@unesco.org
- For information on the National Consultations: tes.nationalconsultations@unesco.org
- For information on the Action Tracks: tes.actiontracks@unesco.org
- For information on Public Engagement: tes.publicengagement@unesco.org
- For media relations and communication: TES.communications@unesco.org