



Technology and Inclusive education: Digital Education Action Plan 2021-2027

EASPD 25th anniversary conference

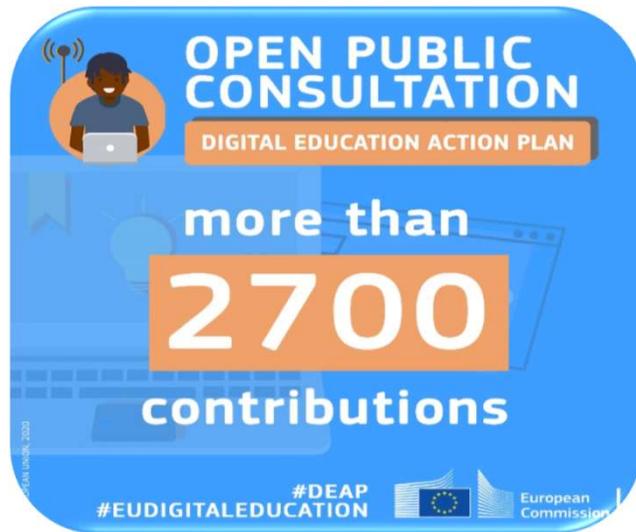
13 October 2021

Ivana Juraga
Digital Education Unit
Directorate-General Education, Youth, Sport and Culture
European Commission

Introduction

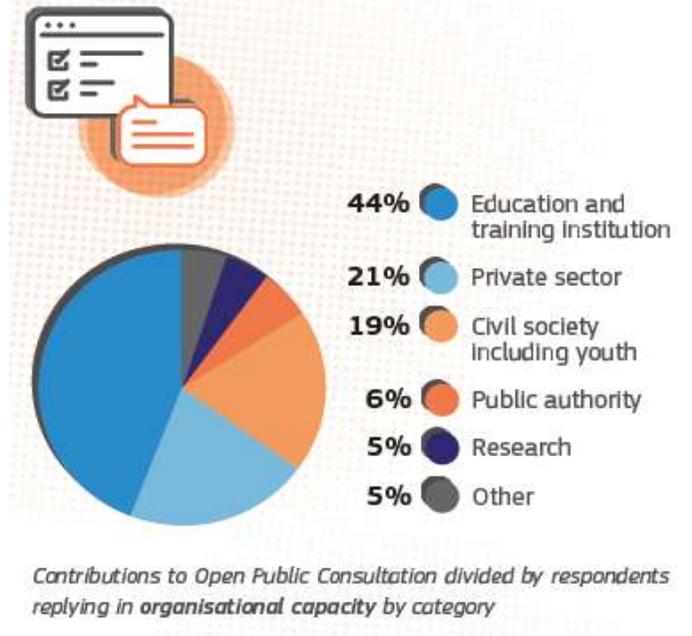
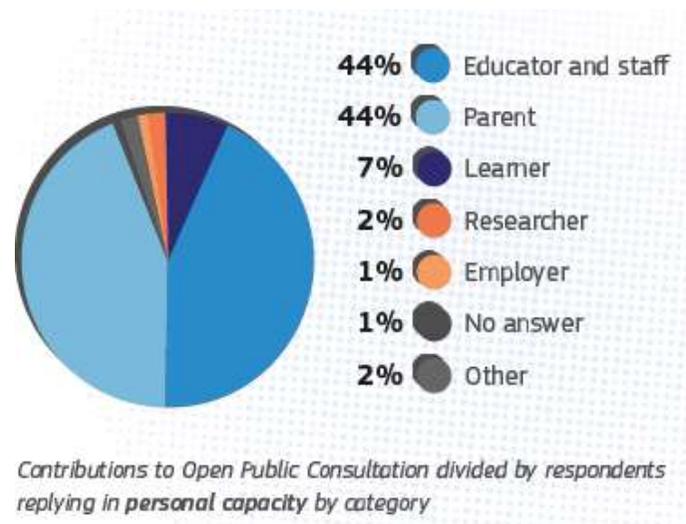
- **Large-scale shift to distance and online learning** during COVID-19 outbreak has been far from simple
- **1.6 billion learners** in more than 190 countries were **out of school**
- **Mass unprecedented use of technology** for learning revealed many opportunities...
- ...as well as **significant challenges** in terms of equity and quality

Open Public Consultation - Overview



+ 136 position papers
+ 59 replies to the Roadmap

60 countries



Open Public Consultation - Main findings

- The **COVID-19 crisis** led to the **first experience of distance and online learning** for many educators, education and training staff and learners;
- The COVID-19 crisis as a **turning point** for the use of technology in education for 90% of the respondents;
- **Digital skills and competences are considered crucial for life and work.**
- **5 top challenges:**
 - socioeconomic inequalities;
 - insufficient infrastructure and internet;
 - lack of teacher training and guidance;
 - lack of plan and vision for integrating digital technologies in education and training;
 - and lack of high-quality online learning content.



We need to develop better online platforms for learning. The ones we had to use were acceptable but still had massive limitations. We really need to develop better tools.”

— Student

Digital teaching offers many advantages, like flexibility and mobility. But there are risks. Using the screen all day impacts on concentration and can also be a burden on mental well-being.”

— Student

The EU response



Adopted on 30 September 2020

Focus

Two strategic priorities with one goal: **high-quality and inclusive digital education**



Strategic priority 1

Fostering the development of a high-performing digital education ecosystem

Strategic priority 2

Enhancing digital skills and competences for the digital transformation



Key Characteristics

- **Deeper cooperation across borders, sectors and cultures**
- In line with the EU programming cycle: **2021-2027**
- **Lifelong learning** approach covering formal, non-formal and informal education
- Supported by cooperation, good practice exchange, evidence, peer learning and research

Learners with disabilities

- **87 million persons** with some form of disability in the EU
- **Considerable barriers in access to education**
 - **20.3%** of young people with disabilities **leave school early** (compared to 9.8%)
 - **Only 29.4%** of persons with disabilities **attain a tertiary degree** (compared to 43.8%)

Priority Area	Actions
Fostering the development of a high performing digital education ecosystem	Enabling factors for successful digital education
	Online and Distance Learning for Primary and Secondary Education
	European Digital Education Content Framework and European Exchange Platform
	Support for connectivity and digital equipment for education
	Digital transformation plans and digital pedagogy and expertise
	Ethical guidelines on AI for educators
Enhancing digital skills and competences for the digital transformation	Tackling disinformation and promoting digital literacy through education and training
	Digital Competence Framework update
	European Digital Skills Certificate
	Improving the provision of digital skills in education and training
	Digital competence benchmark
	Digital Opportunity Traineeship
	Women's participation in STEM

European Digital Education Hub

Continuing to learn



Enhancing Learning Through Digital Tools and Practices: How Digital Technology in Compulsory Education Can Help Promote Inclusion

Thank you

EAC-DIGITALEducation@ec.europa.eu



@EU_DigitalEdu
#DEAP
#EUDigitalEducation