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EEF.NGO/3/22/Add.1  
15 February 2022

ENGLISH only

30th OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum  
FIRST PREPARATORY MEETING  
Vienna, 14-15 February 2022  
Session 4

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### **Use of digitalisation**

Digitalisation in education (and in other public services) must be seen in a holistic level.

This means that we must re-design our key processes to create best learning opportunities to our students.

One essential point of view is how to make learning possibilities more achievable to all. Including those people who have some learning constraints.

We should not just copy previous manual processes and convert them to digital. We need to look at the processes completely again through the goals of the work. This also means that the review should be done from the student's perspective.

We must also remember that digitalisation in education doesn't mean just teaching via Zoom or TEAMS. Digitalisation is an essential part of learning in most of the learning environments. We are using digital solutions in cars, CNC machines, in kitchens, in simulators and so on. So, we cannot anymore separate learning and digitalisation from each other's.

When you are talking about the digitalisation inside educational institutions we are often talk about the money. Where can we get the money to invest enough in digital solutions? One answer for this is clear: The more we invest in digital learning environments the less we need to invest in school buildings. But in decision making it is much harder to decide to invest million euros IT system than to build a house which will cost 5 million euros. And the reason is obvious, you cannot see the IT system, you just see the screen of the computer.

It is obvious that colleges cannot invest in all needed technology on their own. That's why we are co-operating with companies and transferrin our learning environments inside companies or to joint environments.

Digitalisation also requires a new kind of pedagogical approach. This is an issue which I think hasn't been talked enough. We are talking about how hard it is to study in TEAMS or in Zoom, but I think that the problem is not in digitalisation but in pedagogics behind teaching. We must create new ways of learning but at the same time we must study how to teach people with the use of digital solutions.

### **What is needed**

Knowledge plays a key role in the vitality of regions now and in the future.

For people to be able to develop their own skills in accordance with the principles of lifelong learning, we need to intensify cooperation between educational institutions, companies and other key actors.

This co-operation requires common understanding between all partners.

Common understanding can be created through close cooperation but above all through the creation and analysis of common data.

We must know where we are now, and what will happen in the future.

**Key message:**

Lifelong learning needs lifelong partnerships

Especially in regions we must have a clear target for our future, we must know which are the biggest obstacles in our path and we must have a common understanding how to reach our targets.

For that we need trust between people and organisations.

When we have a common goal, common understanding and common information (data) then it is much easier to work together.