ABOUT UNESCO’S ICT IN EDUCATION PROGRAMME AND THE SYMPOSIUM

UNESCO believes that ICT can contribute to achieving universal education worldwide, through the delivery of education and training of teachers, improved professional skills, better conditions for lifelong learning, and the potential to reach people outside the formal education process.

UNESCO takes a holistic and comprehensive approach to promoting ICT and enriching learning so that it is used and adapted to serve educational goals. Access, inclusion and quality are leading challenges for ICT in Education.

UNESCO’s mission is to promote education as a fundamental human right, to improve the quality of education and to facilitate policy dialogue, knowledge sharing and capacity building.

The Symposium on Mobile Learning will take place in the framework of the UNESCO Mobile Learning Week (MLW). The MLW consists of two main events: an international experts’ meeting to produce mobile learning policy guidelines and a strategy for teacher development based on mobile phones; and the Symposium, which looks to foster knowledge sharing and build international networks for cooperation in the field of mobile learning.

Website:

@UNESCOICTs

UNESCO ICTs in Education

And don’t forget to create an idea for the Education for All Crowdsourcing Challenge!
http://www.ideasproject.com/efa

UNESCO SYMPOSIUM ON MOBILE LEARNING
15–16 December, UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, France
How can mobile phones help us achieve the Education for All goals?

Can mobile phones transform educational processes and outcomes?

> EDUCATION FOR ALL (EFA) AND MOBILE LEARNING

A global economic recession, political conflict and natural disasters have made the challenge of achieving the EFA goals by 2015 all the more significant. With 5.3 billion mobile phone subscribers around the world, mobile phones present an exciting opportunity to support the advancement of EFA in new ways. Connecting formal educational contexts with an informal, situated learning experience, mobile phones have an enormous potential to transform the delivery of education and training, especially for marginalized groups.

Mobile phones can facilitate distance learning when access to education is difficult or interrupted because of geographical location or as a result of post-conflict or post-disaster situations. Mobile phones are not only content delivery devices for learners and teachers, but also administrative tools to strengthen education systems. A more effective and efficient administrative system means that more time can be spent on teaching and learning.

Mobile learning is a broad and emergent field. UNESCO will initially focus on how mobile phones specifically - and not the constantly changing range of mobile devices - can support the advance of EFA, not only through learning but also through the reinforcement of education systems.

> UNESCO: LEADING THE WAY IN MOBILE LEARNING

UNESCO, in collaboration with Nokia, is organizing the Symposium on Mobile Learning to discuss critical educational issues and the role of mobile phones therein. It will provide an opportunity to:

- Discuss policy guidelines to help countries develop their own approaches to mobile learning.
- Conceptualize sustainable and scalable modalities of mobile phone use to support teaching, as well as the professional development of teachers.
- Discuss the latest developments in mobile technologies and their implications for education, and envision innovative ways to enhance the quality of education and transform learning processes.

> THEMES, KEYNOTE SPEAKERS & PANEL DISCUSSIONS

- Mobile Technologies, Education and Socio-Economic Development:
  Stephane Boyera (Web Foundation)
- Future Trends in Mobile Technology Development:
  What Can We Expect in the Next 5, 10, 15 years?
  Paul Kim (Stanford University)
- Appropriate Pedagogy and Learning with Mobile Phones
  Mike Sharples (University of Nottingham)
- Education Content and Applications for Mobile Phones
  Eric Klopfer (MIT)
- Trends in Mobile Technology Development, Usage and Social Appropriation: The Implications for Education
- Learning with Mobile Phones:
  The Implications for National Policy
- The Cost, Scale and Sustainability of Learning with Mobile Phones: Looking Ahead

Policy makers, educators, academics, researchers, practitioners and representatives from the private sector will be able to examine mobile learning technologies and initiatives, their evolution and their integration within education systems.

Participants are encouraged to learn more about recent developments in mobile learning technologies and trends in the Walking Gallery, an exhibition space for partners from the private sector, education institutions, academia and NGOs.

> WALKING GALLERY

The Walking Gallery will provide Symposium participants with an opportunity to learn about recent trends in mobile technologies and mobile learning, through projects presented by partners from the industry, non-profit and education sectors. Attendants will have a chance to interact with these initiatives and reflect upon their impact on education.