



10 years of celebration

Youth empowerment through AI and digital skills

WYSD
WORLD YOUTH
SKILLS DAY

Background

World Youth Skills Day (WYSD) was established by the United Nations General Assembly on 15 July 2014 to highlight the strategic importance of equipping young people with the skills needed for employment, decent work, entrepreneurship, and for addressing global challenges and advancing sustainable development. Since its inception, WYSD has served as a global platform for dialogue among youth, Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) institutions, policymakers, development partners, and the private sector, fostering collaboration and commitment to youth skills development.

In response to the global disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, and as part of the 2020 WYSD celebrations, UNESCO launched the Global Skills Academy (GSA) under the umbrella of the Global Education Coalition. The GSA was established as a strategic initiative aimed at equipping ten million youth and adults with essential skills for improved employability and lifelong learning by 2029.

The year 2025 marks a significant dual milestone: the 10th anniversary of World Youth Skills Day and the 5th anniversary of the Global Skills Academy. To commemorate these milestones, UNESCO will convene a global hybrid event on **15 July 2025**, from **09:00 to 16:30 CET**, at the **Learning Planet Institute in Paris**, bringing together a wide range of stakeholders to reflect on progress, renew commitments, and explore future pathways.

As the Fourth Industrial Revolution accelerates-driven by artificial intelligence (AI)-TVET systems are at a crossroads. While AI offers transformative tools for innovation, personalized learning, and skill development, it also poses significant challenges. Without systemic reforms and targeted investments, the digital divide may deepen, exacerbating existing inequalities and leaving marginalized youth further behind.

In this context, the global event will provide a space to reflect on how AI is reshaping the global labour market and how young people can be empowered to navigate and thrive in this rapidly evolving landscape. The theme for WYSD 2025, "*Youth Empowerment through AI and Digital Skills*", underscores the urgency of integrating AI into TVET systems in ways that foster inclusive, equitable, and resilient societies while bridging the digital divide

World Youth Skills Day
Hybrid Global Event
Learning Planet Institute, Paris, France.
Tuesday, July 15, 2025; 9:30- 16:30 CEST
Online Participation (attend virtually via live stream):

Theme: Youth empowerment through AI and digital skills	
Time	Description
8:30 – 9:30	<i>Arrival Registration welcome coffee</i>
9:30 – 9:40	Welcome & introduction
9:40 - 9:45	WYSD video from past 10 years: <i>Introduce WYSD's history</i>
9:45- 10:05	Keynote Speeches: Youth empowerment through AI and digital skills • Mr. Francois Tadei, Co-Founder & Director, Learning Planet Institute (Host's welcome) • H.E. António Guterres, Secretary General of the United Nations: written Message delivered by a Youth representative • Representative of the Delegation of Portugal to France and to UNESCO (tbc) • H.E. Manisha Gunasekera, Ambassador of Sri Lanka to France and Permanent Delegate to UNESCO • Ms. Stefania Giannini, Assistant Director-General for Education, UNESCO
10:05-10:20	Youth perspectives on AI: <i>2025 survey report on TVET and AI</i>
10:20-11:05	Panel 1, Youth focus group: AI in TVET: A tool for empowerment or a threat to human potential Speakers: • Ayeni Oluwatobi Dorcas (MissTechy), Nigeria • Abdulaziz Essa Ali Buabdulla, United Arab Emirates (UAE) • Muhammad Oka Ramadhan, Indonesia • Francesca Pia Aquilina, Malta • Vannia Bascuñan, Chile • Nurit Davidowicz, Austria • Shweta Ratanpura, India • Hira Shehzadi, Pakistan
11:05-11:10	Youth Voices video: <i>Youth voices campaign</i>
11:10-12:20	Global Skills Academy 5th anniversary: AI skills demand: Key trends, challenges and opportunities • GSA Partners
12:20-12:35	Global Skills Tracker live demonstration • Claudia Pompa, UNESCO
12:35-13:30	Lunch break

13:30-13:35	WYSD around the world: <i>Intervention from a UNEVOC Centre</i> Lyza Belle Lagura, Coordinator, Iloilo Science and Technology University, Philippines
13:35- 14:20	Panel 2, Policy and Practice: <i>Skills Demand, Trends, and Institutional Readiness</i> Speakers: - Borhene Chakroun, Director for Policies and Lifelong learning UNESCO - Heike Kuhn, Head of Education Division, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) - Ray English, WorldSkills International (WSI) Board Member for strategic Development, and Delegate for WorldSkills Ireland - Matteo Sgarzi, Head of Mission, Centre for Study and Research on Training and Qualifications (Cereq) France - Amandine Durr, Chief Product Officer, Back Market - Ayeni Oluwatobi Dorcas, Youth Representative, Nigeria
14:20-14:30	Audience Engagement: <i>Mentimeter</i>
14:30-14:45	Coffee break
14:45-15:30	Co-Creation and Innovation: <i>AI-ready TVET systems (Round Table discussion)</i> <i>Breakout room 1- Amphitheatre (Level - 2)</i> - Srinivas Reddy, Chief, Skills and Employability Branch, International Labour Organisation (ILO) - El Iza Mohamedou, Head, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Centre for Skills - Inge Gorostiaga, Director of Digital Transformation and Advanced Learning, Regional Ministry of Education, Basque Government, Spain - Ben Khalid Hima, Délégué général du fonds de dotation, KPMG France - Shweta Ratanpura, Youth Representative, India
14:45-15:30	Applying AI in the Classroom and Workplace (<i>World Café knowledge sharing format</i>) <i>Break out Room 2- Classroom 1.10 (1st Floor)</i> Table 1: Learner Engagement & Learning Styles; Franceska Pia Aquilina, Youth Representative, Malta Table 2: Ethics/Media Literacy & Responsible Use; Muhammad Oka Ramadhan, Youth Representative, Indonesia Table 3: Encouraging Agency & Human-Centric Pedagogies; Sanil Pandhare, Youth Representative, India
14:45-15:30	Youth-Led Innovation Ecosystems – Co-creating and Leading Skills Solutions (Interactive dialogue format) <i>Break out Room 2- Classroom 1.11 (1st Floor)</i> - Maria Angelica, Youth Representative, Colombia - Learning Planet Institute (Students)
15:30-15:50	Closing and call to action: <i>Engagement and Amplification</i> Borhene Chakroun, Director for Policies and Lifelong learning UNESCO
15:50- 16:30	Marketplace - Free interaction - Tea ceremony, by China POCY Group

Happy World Youth Skills Day - Celebrating 10 years of impact!