

Sustainability and technology enabled education

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Ajay Shukla, PhD
President
World Class Scholars

What?



Technology in education has unique dilemmas. Use of devices, their obsolescence and disposal are sustainability challenges.

On the other hand, the reusability of devices, updating of content, embedding of interactivity, and ability to communicate outside the classroom outweigh the challenges.

Then there is the question of – how can sustainability be embedded in teaching and learning to create a generational change?

Where?

Technology is used as ipads/tablets/laptops/smartboards within the school or university

E-books and digital learning/collaboration platforms are used for teaching, learning, research, assessment, collaboration and automation of institutional processes.

While this is true of the 'first world' much of the developed world is yet to adopt these technologies.

Sustainability – Opportunities in education tech

Teaching sustainability is yet to be embedded in the primary, middle school and only cursorily in secondary school as a subject.

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Catalogue of competencies’ for 21st century teachers requires: "Protecting the environment: taking into account the impact of technologies on the environment."

How?



The question of teacher training in the development of digital skills, including the eco-responsible use of the associated resources, can no longer be avoided.

Teachers are critical and here is a proposed framework:

- Teachers are aware of their power and responsibility – they are building a generation of citizens
- Teachers have a self-perception as an agent of change
- Teachers are not just imparting knowledge of safe and competent use of technology but also eco-responsible usage
- Teaching approach should be one of collaborative, hands-on and practical learning on responsible use of technology. Any theoretical approach should be immediately dismissed.

A real-world example of how education technology
can be a force for good to foster cultural
understanding and sustainability

<https://youtu.be/FvESY1XHzDc>

THANK YOU!

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