



#### Digital Strategies

Education: Evidence from the Field



## Welcome





#### Presenters

**Dr. Mary Jane Parmentier** 



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### Poll #I – Regions represented?



- □ Africa
- ■Asia
- **□**Europe
- ☐ Latin America and the Caribbean
- ☐Middle East
- □ North America
- **□**Oceania

# Digital Technologies & Development







### What is Development?



Non-linear process

Encompasses social, economic, political, cultural

Economic growth and human development



## USAID Metrics: Journey to Self Reliance

#### Commitment

- Open and accountable government
- Inclusive development (gender)
- Policies: trade, business environment, environmental protection

#### Capacity

- Government services: effectiveness, tax administration, security
- Civil society and media
- Citizens: education, health, poverty
- Economy: PPP, ICT usage, export diversity

# USAID Journey to Self-Reliance Education Sector Relevance and Relationship

- Education noted as key to human development (part of Human Development Index)
- Educating citizens touches upon all of the other sectors: capabilities to participate in government, in the economy
- Most critical to development and self-reliance?



## Digital Technologies/ICT\* – What are They?

#### A range of multimedia and communication tools:

- Media networks fixed or wireless
- Hardware computers, mobile phones, tablets, etc.
- Software social media services, multi-media applications, mobile applications, etc.
- Interfaces with "old" media such as radio, television, and telephone

\*ICT = Information and Communication Technology



## Poll #2: Technologies in use?

Which technologies are in use for education in your country/region? (select all that apply)

- ☐ Fixed networks
- □Computers/tablets
- ☐ Mobile phones/smart phones
- □ Software
- □Interface with "old" media



#### Be Thinking About...



We'll revisit this question during the Q & A.

# Digital Technologies in Education

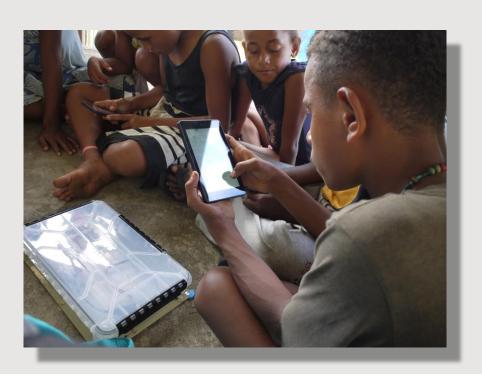




# Digital Technologies in Education: Opportunities & Benefits



- Empowering learners
- Digital technologies as effective education tools
- Transcending geopolitical boundaries
- MOOCs
- Education management
- Beyond traditional classrooms



# Poll #3-**Digital Technologies in Education:**Opportunities & Benefits



Which of these opportunities or benefits are related to your work? (select all that apply)

- □ Empowering learners
- ☐ Transcending geopolitical boundaries
- ☐ Beyond traditional classrooms
- ☐ Education management
- □ Digital technologies as effective tools
- Delivering education in times of crisis

## Digital Technologies in Education: Challenges or Risks



- Absence of proper content
- Infrastructure
- Lack of teachers
- Discrimination against women, minorities, other groups
- Privacy and security issues
- Technological determinism: disconnected designs, applications, hardware-centered policies



# Poll #4 Digital Technologies in Education: Challenges or Risks



- Which of these risks have you encountered? (select all that apply)
- □ Lack of infrastructure
- □ Lack of effective policies
- □ Lack of human resources
- ☐Gender or minority inequity
- □Compromised privacy or security

### Field Evidence







## SolarSPELL\*: An Offline Digital Library

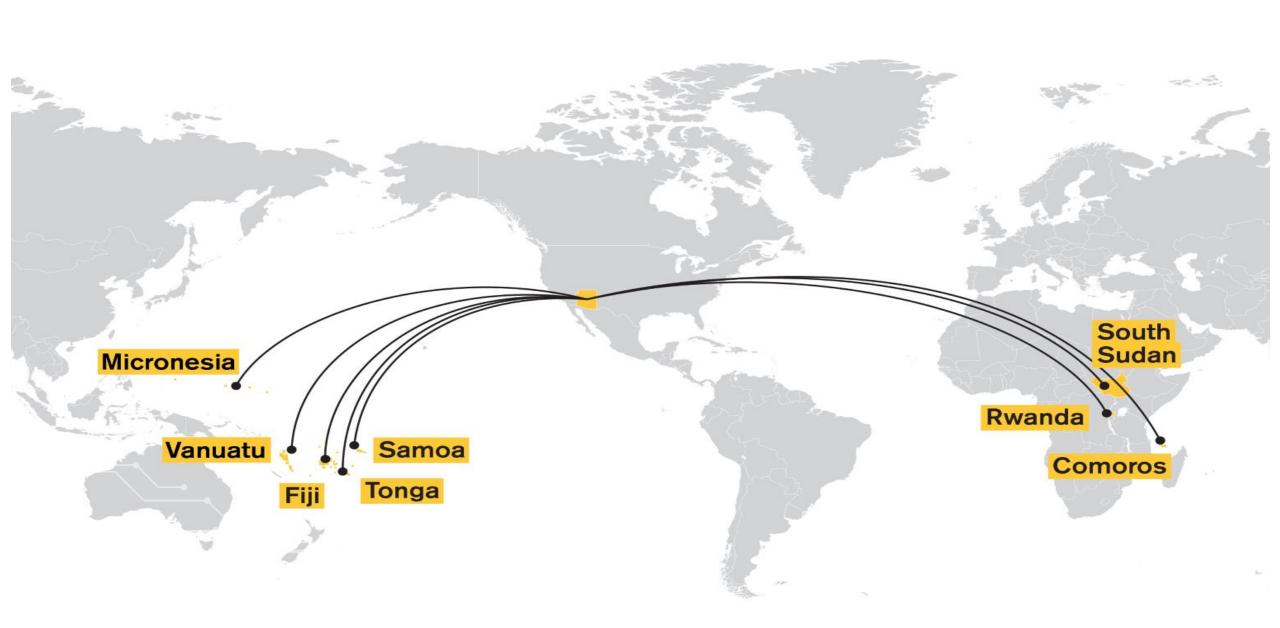
\*Solar Powered Educational Learning Library (SPELL)

Ruggedized,
portable, solarpowered, digital
library over an
off-line WiFi
hotspot

Mimics online experience so internet-ready skills can be taught offline

Provides relevant,
localized educational
content to low
resource locations
around the world

care workers, and Peace Corps volunteers to deploy the first 365 SPELL libraries.





#### SolarSPELL in Classrooms

#### \_\_\_\_\_



#### South Pacific





#### Informal Education in Ecuador - Dreambuilder



#### Formal Education in Bangladesh





- Bangladesh government is implementing a long term plan, integrating Digital Technologies and Education
- Primary focus on infrastructure and content development
- Increasing equity and inclusion in education

#### Formal Education in Bangladesh, continued



- Jaago Foundation, a voluntary organization has a network of Digital Schools
- Work with underprivileged children
- Provide education in remote areas using digital solutions



#### **Emerging Technology Trends in Education**







# Artificial Intelligence, Augmented Reality, and Virtual Reality

- Al is integrated to monitor student performance and to better facilitate learning
- Al supports hands-on learning at the elementary level
- Students' level of gaining knowledge increased, through higher levels of peer-interactions and hands-on learning
- Beijing National Day School has no head teachers and no set classrooms - students have different schedules, can choose from more than 400 classes
- Xiaoyi, a teaching aid program, to answer students' questions



#### Online Education

- Online learning and teaching options through schools and universities
  - Online only education institutions from primary through higher education
  - Traditional universities with online offerings
- Education platforms, applications, hybrid offline-online services
  - OZoom, Google Hangout, Facebook Live
  - Khan Academy, Coursera, edX, Udemy, Lynda
  - Moodle, Google Classroom, Canvas

### Delivering Education in Times of Crisis



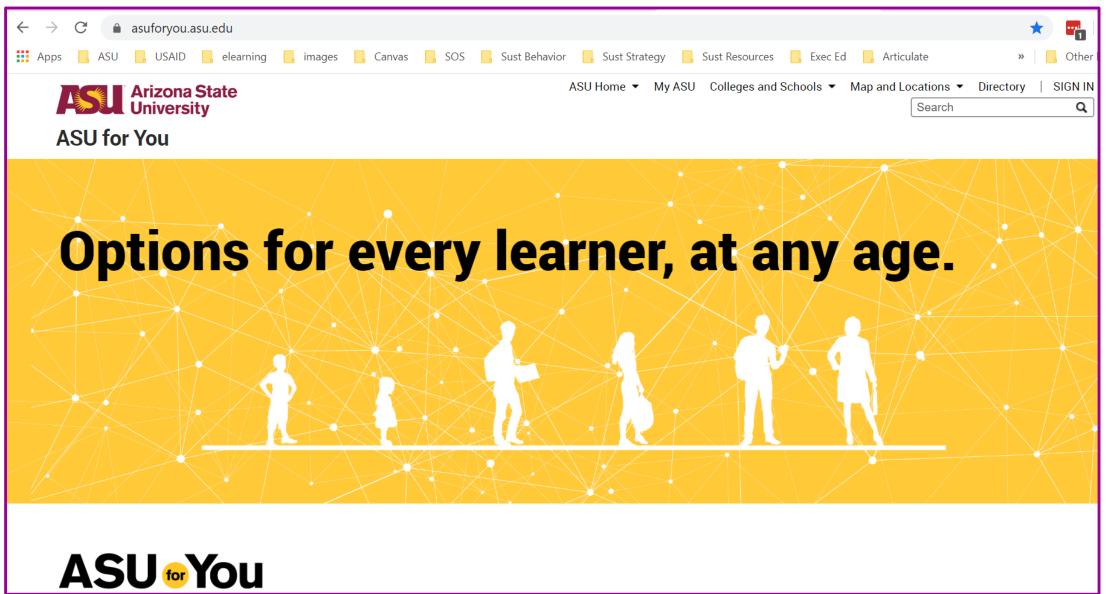






#### Delivering Education in Times of Crisis







# Delivering Education in Times of Crisis – What Can Be Done?

#### **Hybrid Solutions**

- Multi-platform approach
- Offline-Online combination
- Old Digital/Analog solutions (Radio, Newspaper, TV)
- Use of popular, less conventional platforms (TikTok, Imo)

#### **Evolving Pedagogy**

- Ensuring interactions, feedback
- More learner-centered
- More focus on learning goals/outcomes
- Less focus on grades/numbers/GPAs

# Poll #5 Digital Technologies in Education: Delivering Education in Times of Crisis



What are the most important factors to focus on for providing education using digital technologies in your country/region? (Select all that apply)

- □ICT Infrastructure
- ☐ Teacher Training
- □ Appropriate Teaching/Learning Content
- ☐ Cost of ICT Access
- ☐ICT Literacy
- ☐Government Policy



#### Q&A

What questions or comments do you have about the information presented?

Enter your questions and comments in the Chat box.



#### Conclusion

- ✓ Education is key to JSR
- ☑ Digital tools are key to education
- ☑ Digital tools, are constantly emerging, require effective use/adaptation
- ☑ Global pandemic illuminates the need for infrastructure/training
- ✓ Resources are available

#### Thank you for joining us today

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