

Press release:

New study to inspire higher education for future directions in digital times launched by ICDE

International Council for Open and Distance Education - ICDE has initiated the study: *Models for online, open, flexible and technology enhanced higher education*, describing emerging and innovative technology enhanced delivery models from higher education institutions across the globe. The study and final report will be presented in an open webinar 25 April 2018 at 15.00 CEST time.

ICDE commissioned the study from Fibs Research Institute for the Economics of Education and Social Affairs after an open call in 2016. The idea was to map various examples of online and technology enhanced delivery in a rapidly changing higher education landscape, and see if it was possible to narrow the findings down to a few, significant delivery models of online, open, flexible and technology enhanced higher education (OOFAT). The study includes 69 institutional cases, covering all regions of the world and more than 30 countries. It sets out to analyse how higher education providers from across the world are harnessing digitalisation to improve teaching and learning and learner support, and to identify emerging types of practice.

This report is particularly targeting senior management in higher education institutions, but also policy makers in governments and companies engaged in higher education.

Higher education institutions can use the report for strategic development, comparison, peer-learning, benchmarking and inspiration. Governments can get input to future directions of their educational frameworks and companies may detect potential innovative business opportunities.

For institutions that want to find out their current strategic position or identify which type of model they aspire to, the report offers a step-by-step guide. The report states that most higher education providers are just at the beginning of developing comprehensive strategies for harnessing digitalization. That makes this study and its findings very timely.

ICDE suggests that the report can support educational stakeholders in achieving the Sustainable Development Goal 4, Education 2030: "Ensure inclusive and quality education for all and promote lifelong learning".

The report will be open available. [Register for the launch webinar](#) (link)

The study is sponsored by:



About ICDE

The International Council for Open and Distance Education (ICDE) is the leading global membership organization online, open and flexible education, and draws its membership from institutions, educational authorities, commercial actors, and individuals. ICDE has consultative partner status with UNESCO and shares UNESCO's key value – the universal right to education for all.

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A global network for online, open and flexible education

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