COVER LETTER

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UNDP

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A little introduction beforehand

The United Nations Development Programme is one of the UN's key institutions that supports countries in achieving 17 sustainable development goals (SDGs) from 2015 to 2030. It focuses on areas like poverty reduction, governance, and environmental sustainability, often incorporating technology like artificial intelligence to advance these objectives. The UNDP emphasizes human development and inclusive growth, ensuring that technological advancements like AI benefit all, especially marginalized communities. This year session will focus on AI in the educational system, artificial Intelligence has made significant progress in the educational field though and we shall all know of key advancements :

1. Personalized Learning: AI can tailor educational content to individual students' learning styles and paces. Tools like intelligent tutoring systems (e.g., Carnegie Learning) adapt based on student performance.

2. AI-Driven Assessment: Tools are now used for automated grading and feedback (e.g., Google's "GradeScope"), making the evaluation process faster and more objective.

3. Language Learning: AI-powered language apps (like Duolingo) help learners practice speaking, listening, and grammar with feedback in real-time.

4. Predictive Analytics: AI can identify students at risk of dropping out or underperforming based on their engagement patterns, helping educators intervene earlier.

5. AI for Inclusion: Assistive technologies, such as text-to-speech or speech-to-text software, help students with disabilities, making education more accessible.

6. Virtual Classrooms and Tutors: During the pandemic, AI-powered tools like chatbots and virtual tutors supported distance learning, addressing gaps in teacher availability and resources.

Teacher sentiment about AI

NAIS surveyed member-school teachers to learn more about their experiences with ChatGPT and other artificial intelligence technologies in the classroom. They asked the following question: "*How do you feel about the role of AI technologies like ChatGPT in education ?*", 8% responded "*Very Negative*", 29% "*Somewhat negative*", 30% were "*Neutral*", 27% answered "*Somewhat positive*" and 6% responded "*Positive*".

Current and future use of AI in admissions at educational institutions

Based on the data provided on intelligent.com we can say that AI is most often used in the educational process in private high schools (~75%), while they are used the least in small colleges (~25%), where they have no plans to add them (~30%). But there are still colleges where ~40% still want to add AI to the educational process by the end of 2024

Regarding AI and education, AI is reshaping learning environments globally by offering personalized learning experiences, supporting teachers, and reducing administrative burdens. Tools like AI-powered tutoring systems adapt to individual students' needs, offering targeted assistance and enhancing engagement. Teachers can use AI to streamline tasks such as lesson planning, grading, and even giving real-time feedback during lessons, which frees up more time for direct interaction with students. This leads to a more dynamic, interactive, and inclusive classroom experience. However, there are also ongoing discussions about the ethical implications of AI in education, particularly regarding data privacy and the risk of over-reliance on AI for thinking and decision-making.

Could Elon Musk's AI robots save a problematic education system ?

Tesla's humanoid robot, Optimus, showcased at the "We, Robot" event, is designed with AI features that could potentially help educators handle routine classroom tasks, like supervising students and preparing materials. CEO Elon Musk envisions Optimus in schools, where it could reduce teacher burnout by taking on repetitive responsibilities. However, while some educators believe robots could enhance personalized learning, privacy concerns and the risk of over-reliance on technology remain. Collaboration

among educators, policymakers, and developers will be key to integrating such robotics thoughtfully into education.

You now have enough information to be able to build a letter for our year's concern, you shall be able to reflect on the main possibilities and problems regarding AI in the education domain. You ought to stay neutral in your reflection, it represents your country and not your ideas.

Key questions to help you start :

1. What opstacles (financial, technological, social, or geographical) currently prevent equal access to AI-powered educational tools, and how can they be overcome?
2. How can schools and governments ensure that AI tools are available in under-resourced areas and schools as much as they are in well-funded ones?
3. How can we ensure that AI systems used in education do not reinforce existing biases (racial, socioeconomic, gender, etc.) or introduce new ones?
4. What mechanisms should be put in place to audit AI educational tools for fairness and transparency?

5. How can we bridge digital literacy gaps among students from different socioeconomic backgrounds to ensure they have an equal foundation in using AI tools?

6. What training is necessary for teachers and administrators to effectively and equitably implement AI tools in classrooms?

7. How can governments, tech companies, and educational institutions collaborate to develop fair and accessible AI tools for students worldwide?

Help for your searches :

https://www.forbes.com/sites/danfitzpatrick/2024/10/12/could-elon-musks-ai-robots-save-a-troubled-education-system/

UNESCO's initiatives :

https://www.unesco.org/en/digital-education/artificial-intelligence

https://www.unesco.org/en/digital-education/ai-future-learning

https://www.unesco.org/en/articles/guidance-generative-ai-education-and-research

https://www.unesco.org/en/digital-education/artificial-intelligence

https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000380006/PDF/380006fre.pdf.multi

Certified Articles :

World Economic Forum: AI and Education

UNESCO: AI and the Futures of Learning

Stanford University: AI in Education Insights

NAIS Snapshot: ChatGPT in the Classroom (Week of March 6, 2023)