



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM  
OF JORDAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS



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## SIDE EVENT

At the Multi-stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for the SDGs

### Higher Education in conflict & crisis – How innovation can drive the implementation of SDGs in situations of displacement

organized by the Governments of Jordan and Switzerland as well as the University of Geneva and  
UNHCR

**16 May, 2017, 1:15 – 2:30pm**

**Conference Room 11, UN Conference Building**

(Non-UN badge holders are requested to RSVP individually before 11 May 2017)\*

#### **About the topic:**

Conflict and crisis disrupt higher education. The scope of forced displacement requires today efforts to identify innovative pathways to learning and to learning credentials. Technology and Innovation have enabled the development of new pedagogical models, which have been piloted and scientifically validated in a number of refugee contexts. Digital Learning through open educational resources, such as Massive Open Online Courses, has proven to be a successful strategy to scale access to higher education for refugee youth. Furthermore a blockchain approach is being studied to enable the secure storage of learning credentials. To-date over 5,000 refugees have benefited from accredited Connected Learning programs, which have embraced this new approach. The experience gathered from the field in Azraq, Jordan (53'000 refugees) will be showcased.

#### **What you will learn:**

Through concrete examples you will learn how a global challenge involving multiple SDGs is being tackled by a coalition of Universities, Governments, International Organizations, NGOs and actors from private sector and how technology and innovation can drive the implementation of SDGs in situations of displacement.

#### **Draft Program:**

Welcome & Introduction:

- H.E. Jürg Lauber, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the United Nations
- Mr. Amjad Mohammad Saleh Al-Moumani, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to the United Nations

#### **Panel Discussion among:**

- Prof. Barbara Moser-Mercer, Director InZone, University of Geneva
- Ms. Grainne O'Hara, Deputy Director of UNHCR New York Office
- David Barth, Director, Youth Opportunity and Learning, Ford Foundation

**Moderator:** Mr. Philip Spoerri, Permanent Observer and Head of Delegation, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)

#### **Moderated Discussion with the audience**

\*Please RSVP by Thursday, 11 May 2017, with [melanie.leuenberger@eda.admin.ch](mailto:melanie.leuenberger@eda.admin.ch) and [natalie.ulrich@eda.admin.ch](mailto:natalie.ulrich@eda.admin.ch)