



Purpose

The Commonwealth Education Hub is a pilot initiative of the Commonwealth Secretariat. The Education Hub aims to provide an integrated and user-friendly ‘one-stop-shop’ supporting education policy makers and professionals across the Commonwealth to connect, consult and collaborate more effectively, and to share and access relevant knowledge.

How does it work?

The Education Hub provides its services via an Internet Portal. The site provides easy-to-use access to the Community of Practice, knowledge resources, information aggregation services and access to specialists in the field. The **Community of Practice** is an email-based mail group at the heart of the Education Hub. Members can request or share good practices and experience, seek expertise, or participate in discussions on current issues. The **portal** offers access to curated resources relevant to education professionals across the Commonwealth. The Education Hub is supported by a facilitation team with education experience and expertise.

Scope

The Education Hub’s focus is on emerging and ongoing issues of critical significance to its education community. These will vary as the needs of policy-makers change, but the role of education in delivering the sustainable development goals will underpin all activities. Discussions to date have included a focus on ICT integration in education and financing for education.

The Community of Practice serves as a space to keep participants of the triennial Conference of Commonwealth Education Ministers (CCEM) connected between meetings and to continue conversations beyond them. Issues that are discussed by the Community will also reflect and align with past and upcoming CCEM priorities.

Community of Practice

Membership of the Education Hub is free and open to all Commonwealth education stakeholders. Over 600 education policy makers and planners are currently signed up including:

- Government policymakers at central, regional and local levels;
- Researchers and academics;
- Officials of foundations and donor funding agencies;
- Professionals in NGOs and advocacy groups;
- Private sector professionals in the education field; and
- Education administrators and teachers groups.

Benefits

The Education Hub offers four key services through an email-based Community of Practice and a website:

- **Collect** The Education Hub website offers access to a curated collection of digital knowledge resources that include Commonwealth policy tools and frameworks, country policies and good practices, as well as the ‘discussion summaries’ produced by the Community of Practice.
- **Connect** The Education Hub currently connects more than 600 education policy makers and professionals from across 53 Commonwealth countries through the Community of Practice mail group. It also provides links to Commonwealth Organisations and wider partners and resources.
- **Consult** Once connected through the Community of Practice, members can ask policy questions, request resources, engage in global advocacy and participate in policy debates.
- **Collaborate** The Education Hub supports collaboration by sharing information, creating networks, and connecting partners for research, resources and innovation. It offers tools for team collaboration via the Secretariat’s Commonwealth Connects platform.

Context

The Education Hub's starting point has been to deliver on the Commonwealth Secretariat's role in supporting member countries to achieve their education goals including:

- Facilitating the sharing of knowledge, lessons, experience and information so that the capacities of member states are increased and practices improved;
- Enhancing partnership and collaboration opportunities among member countries and between Commonwealth bodies;
- Maintaining engagement among member states between ministerial meetings;
- Facilitating more inclusive and meaningful discussions of the main issues affecting access and quality of education in the Commonwealth; and
- Promoting linkages to global processes.

The Education Hub will provide support and engagement throughout the policy cycle: advocacy, assessment, development and implementation.



Pilot initiative

The Education Hub is a developing pilot initiative, learning and adjusting as it progresses. The 'pilot' nature of the project allows it to test new knowledge-sharing approaches and to leverage more efficient and affordable ICT systems. The next phases of development will focus on developing the connection service further, expanding the web resources available and developing the collaboration service and roster of experts. Your feedback and suggestions are welcomed as the Education Hub continues to evolve.

How to join

Email the Facilitation Team at: eduhub@commonwealth.int
or visit our website at www.thecommonwealth-educationhub.net
for more information.

The Commonwealth Education Hub is a Commonwealth Secretariat initiative.
www.thecommonwealth.org