

PANELISTS BIOS

Jennifer Adams

Executive Committee, Karanga: Global Alliance for SEL & Life Skills

Jennifer has recently completed an eight-year term as the Director of Education for the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board in Ontario Canada, serving a diverse student population of 73,000 across 150 elementary and secondary schools. She is a former superintendent of curriculum, elementary school principal, and French teacher. Jennifer earned her doctorate in educational administration from the University of Toronto/OISE, Canada.

Jennifer has served as the Chair of the Informal Advisory Group for the OECD Study on Social and Emotional Skills and is currently on the Executive Committee for Karanga: The Global Alliance for Social Emotional Learning and Life Skills. She is the Chair of the Board of Governors at the University of Ottawa.

Jennifer is the founder and CEO of Educating Leaders, a consulting company specializing in education, future skills, and senior leadership/talent development. She is the Senior Education Advisor for Knowledgehook, a digital math company in Toronto. Jennifer is the Senior K-12 Advisor for Phelps Group, an executive search firm in Toronto.



Alejandra Arratia

Under-secretary of Education of Chile

Under-secretary of Education of Chile. Psychologist from the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile and PhD in Education from the University of Melbourne, Australia.

She has almost 30 years of experience in the educational field, particularly in the public sector, focusing on curricular and evaluative policies, and was the executive director of Educación 2020. She has worked in educational institutions both in Chile and the State of Victoria, Australia, and has collaborated with international organizations such as IBE-UNESCO on curricular and technical cooperation matters.



Roberto Ricci

President of INVALSI, Italy

President of INVALSI since 2021, Dr. Ricci has worked there since 2008 as head of national assessments and coordinator of the research area. After earning a Ph.D. in statistical methodology for scientific research, he has worked for more than two decades in the field of measuring learning through standardized tests. He is a member of the General Assembly and Standing Committee of the IEA and the PISA and TALIS Governing Councils of the OECD.

In recent years Dr. Ricci has been involved in the national implementation of important assessment tools in schools, such as measuring the school effect, so-called value-added, and defining diachronic-longitudinal change in learning levels. He has been involved in the transition to computer-based testing (CBT) of INVALSI assessments, including from an individual-level adaptive perspective (multistage adaptive testing). He is a trainer at schools to foster constructive dialogue on external assessment issues. He is the author of numerous popular and technical-methodological articles on aspects related to large-scale standardized measurement.



Andreas Schleicher

Director for Education and Skills, and Special Advisor on Education Policy to the Secretary-General at the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in Paris

He initiated and oversees the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) and other international instruments that have created a global platform for policy-makers, researchers and educators across nations and cultures to innovate and transform educational policies and practices.

He has worked for over 20 years with ministers and education leaders around the world to improve quality and equity in education. Former U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan said that Schleicher “understands the global issues and challenges as well as or better than anyone I’ve met, and he tells me the truth” (The Atlantic, July 11). Former UK Secretary of State Michael Gove called Schleicher “the most important man in English education” – even though he is German and lives in France.

Before joining the OECD, he was Director for Analysis at the International Association for Educational Achievement (IEA). He studied Physics in Germany and received a degree in Mathematics and Statistics in Australia. He is the recipient of numerous honours and awards, including the “Theodor Heuss” prize, awarded in the name of the first president of the Federal Republic of Germany for “exemplary democratic engagement”. He holds an honorary Professorship at the University of Heidelberg.



Eri Shimomukai

Researcher and CEO of roku you Inc., Japan

Eri Shimomukai holds a Master's in Developmental Psychology from the University of Pennsylvania. After working at an alternative school in Tokyo, founded roku you Inc. in Okinawa, Japan where she is the CEO. She specializes in SEL, involved in school reforms and inquiry-based learning at over 100 schools nationwide. Author of "Promoting World-Standard SEL Education".

