

2026 Global Smart Education Conference

—The Annual Conference of GSENet

Reimagining Education in the Age of AI: Equity, Quality and Sustainability

Beijing · China **08.18** - **08.20**

Concept Note



A Decade of GSE: Towards a New Phase of Smart Education

2016

The 1st US-China Smart Education Conference
January 14-16, 2016, Beijing·China
Theme: Creating Platforms, Designing Solutions, Anticipating Trends and Fostering Exchange

2018

The 3rd US-China Smart Education Conference
March 18-20, 2018, Beijing·China
Theme: Vocational Education and Industrial Development

2020

Global Smart Education Conference
August 20-22, 2020, Beijing·China
Theme: Artificial Intelligence and Future Education

2022

Global Smart Education Conference
August 18-20, 2022, Beijing·China
Theme: Intelligent Technology and Digital Transformation in Education

2024

Global Smart Education Conference
August 18-20, 2024, Beijing·China
Theme: Educational Transformation and International Understanding

2017

The 2nd US-China Smart Education Conference
March 18-20, 2017, Beijing·China
Theme: Prospects for Smart Learning in Higher Education

2019

The 4th US-China Smart Education Conference
March 18-20, 2019, Denton·Texas
Theme: Transforming Education through Intelligent Technology

2021

Global Smart Education Conference
August 18-20, 2021, Beijing·China
Theme: Smart Learning and Futures of Education

2023

Global Smart Education Conference
August 18-20, 2023, Beijing·China
Theme: Education Transformation and Data Governance

2025

Global Smart Education Conference
August 18-20, 2025, Beijing·China
Theme: Human-AI Collaboration: Reshaping the Educational Ecosystem for the Future



2021

Reimagining Our Futures Together: A New Social Contract for Education



The Digital Transformation of Our Societies is Impacting Our Lives in Unprecedented Ways

Computers are quickly changing the ways in which knowledge is created, accessed, disseminated, validated, and used. Much of this is making information more accessible and opening new and promising avenues for education.

2022

Transforming Education Summit

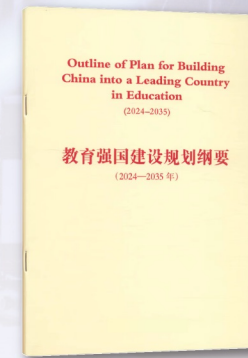


Assuring and Improving Quality Public Digital Learning for All

We must harness the power of the digital revolution to ensure quality education is provided as a public good and a human right, with a particular focus on the most marginalised.

2024

Outline of Plan for Building China into a Leading Country in Education



Building a Learning Society and Opening New Development Tracks and Shaping New Advantages through Educational Digitalization

China will implement the national strategy for educational digitalization, adhere to an application-oriented approach underpinned by sound governance, promote integrated, intelligent and international development, strengthen and make full use of the National Smart Education Platform, and build a horizontally and vertically interconnected, well-coordinated digital education system.

What We Focus On

Emerging Priorities and Key Concerns

- AI and future education
- Human–AI collaborative teaching and learning
- AI and future-ready schools
- Data governance and ethics in education
- Digital public platforms and services
- Student wellbeing and holistic development
- Cognitive development and on-demand learning
- Integrated STEM and science literacy
- Work-based learning and education–industry linkages

Critical Elements of Smart Education

- Digital learning resources and smart reading
- Smart campuses and learning environments
- Educational technology and equipment
- Data-informed assessment and evaluation

Full-Spectrum Education Coverage

- Early childhood education
- K–12 education
- Technical and vocational education and training (TVET)
- Higher education
- Lifelong learning
-



Attendees

- 20 Academicians
- 2 Nobel Laureates
- 2200+ Guest Speakers
- 100+ Countries



Forums

- 1600+ Keynote Speeches
- 110+ Forums
- 350+ Regions & Schools



Achievements

- 2000+ Best Practices
- 40+ Research Reports
- 8 Platforms



Media

- 30 millions+ Live Stream Views
- 20+ Live Stream Channels
- 150+ Supporting Media



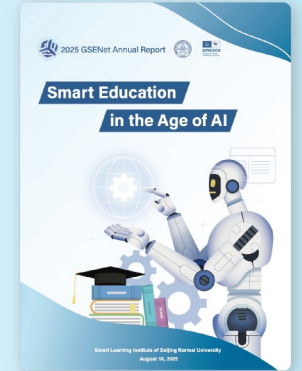
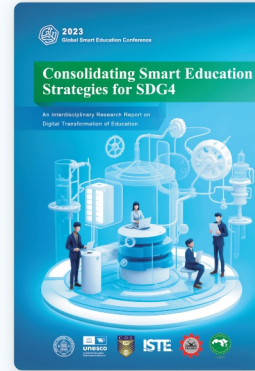
Enterprises

- 170+ Exhibitors
- 70+ Sponsors
- 6 Exhibitions

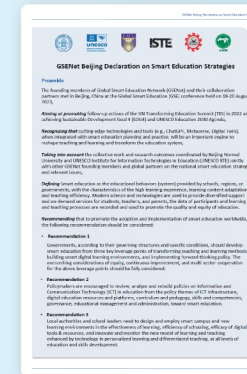
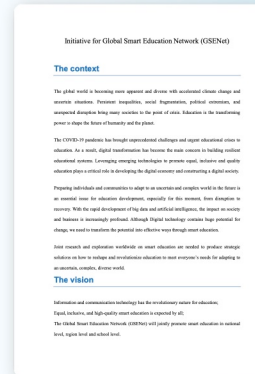
GSENet: Global Smart Education Network



Network with the Best for Promoting Smart Education for All.



- Consolidating Smart Education Strategies for SDG4: An Interdisciplinary Research Report on Digital Transformation of Education, 2023
- Global Understanding of Smart Education in the Context of Digital Transformation, 2024
- Smart Education in the Age of AI, 2025



- Initiative for Global Smart Education Network (GSENet), 2022
- GSENet Beijing Declaration on Smart Education Strategies, 2023
- GSENet Statement at the Conclusion of the Global Smart Education Conference, 2025



Representitives of GSENet, 2025



GSENet Partners' Meeting, 2024

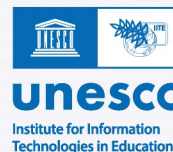


GSENet Partners' Meeting, 2025

Organizers



Beijing Normal University (BNU) grew out of the Education Department of Imperial University of Peking established in 1902, which initiated teacher training in China's higher education. After the development for over a century, BNU has become a comprehensive and research-intensive university with its main characteristics of basic disciplines in sciences and humanities, teacher education and educational science.



UNESCO Institute for Information Technologies in Education (UNESCO IITE) was established as an integral part of UNESCO by the General Conference of UNESCO at its 29th session (November 1997). IITE is the only UNESCO Category 1 Institute with a global mandate for ICT in education.

Hosts



Smart Learning Institute of
Beijing Normal University



Faculty of Education of Beijing
Normal University



Faculty of Psychology of Beijing
Normal University



China Institute of Education and
Social Development



National Engineering Research Center of
Cyberlearning and Intelligent Technology

Partners

- Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (ALECSO)
- Commonwealth of Learning (COL)
- International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE)
- Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO)
- UNESCO Global Education Monitoring Report Team
- UNESCO Global Alliance on the Science of Learning for Education
- UNESCO International Institute for Higher Education (UNESCO IESALC)
- UNESCO Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Education for Peace and Sustainable Development (UNESCO MGIEP)
- International Council for Open and Distance Education (ICDE)
- UNESCO Chair on AI in Education (UNESCO Chair on AIED)
- UNESCO International Research and Training Centre for Rural Education (UNESCO INRULED)
- Collaborative Innovation Center of Assessment for Basic Education Quality, China
- State Key Laboratory of Virtual Reality Technology and Systems, China
- Educational Informatization Strategy Research Bases (Beijing, Central China, and Northwest China), Ministry of Education, P.R. China
- NetDragon Websoft Inc., China
- iFlytek Co., Ltd., China
- China Information Technology Education Magazine
- New Reading Magazine, China

Co-Chairs of GSE



2020-2025

CHENG Jianping
Chairman of the University Council,
Beijing Normal University, China;
Chairman of CIT, China



2020-2024

ZHAO Qinqing
Academician of Chinese
Academy of Engineering



2025

TANG Qian
Former Assistant Director-General
for Education, UNESCO

Co-Chairs of Program Committee

2020-2024



ZHOU Zuoyu
Vice President,
Beijing Normal University, China

2025



CHEN Xing
Vice President,
Beijing Normal University, China

2020-2025



ZHAN Tao
Director of UNESCO Institute for
Information Technologies in Education

2020-2025



HUANG Ronghuai
Co-Dean of Smart Learning Institute of
Beijing Normal University, China;
Chairholder of the UNESCO Chair on
Artificial Intelligence in Education

*The titles and positions of guests listed in this album correspond to the posts they held in the year of their attendance.

Opening the Door to Smart Education, Co-creating the Future of Education

At this critical juncture following the inaugural year of smart education, education is undergoing a major digital transformation, signalling a new phase in the intelligent age. The deep integration of artificial intelligence (AI) and education offers significant potential to accelerate progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals, while also raising global challenges related to technological adaptation, ethical boundaries and educational equity.

How can we uphold the human-centred essence of education and ensure that AI serves educational purposes rather than contributing to new imbalances or distortions? How can innovation in AI be aligned with educational principles so as to support the holistic development of learners? And how can the international community foster consensus and strengthen cross-sectoral and cross-regional collaboration to promote mutual learning and shared progress in harnessing AI for the sustainable development of education? These questions have become central to the global education agenda.

As a new educational paradigm in the intelligent age, smart education is both a critical

pathway for addressing these challenges and an essential strategy for promoting inclusive, equitable and high-quality education, as well as lifelong learning opportunities for all. It is increasingly recognised as a shared strategic vision for countries seeking to respond to the challenges of the digital era and advance progress towards SDG 4.

Since 2020, the Global Smart Education Conference has served as an important platform for international dialogue, exchange and cooperation on smart education. As the annual conference of the Global Smart Education Network (GSENet), the Global Smart Education Conference 2026 will be held under the theme **“Reimagining Education in the Age of AI: Equity, Quality and Sustainability.”** Through plenary sessions, parallel sessions, high-level dialogues, roundtables, workshops, seminars and design competitions, the Conference will provide a platform for exploring policy, technology, theory and practice in smart education, sharing innovative cases and solutions, and fostering international collaboration towards more equitable, quality and sustainable education in the age of AI.



Towards a Shared Global Vision for Smart Education

2017

DU Zhanyuan
Vice-Minister
Ministry of Education, P.R. China



“Increasing efforts to promote the deep integration of information technologies and education and reforming the education system under the framework of traditional industrial society are the necessary ways to achieve the development goal of the Education Modernization 2030 Plan.”

2023

CHEN Jie
Vice-Minister
Ministry of Education, P.R. China



“As a new form of education in the digital age, smart education is an inevitable choice for advancing high-quality, inclusive education and ensuring lifelong learning opportunities for all. Guided by the vision of building a community with a shared future for mankind, China stands ready to work closely with the international community to develop smart education and advance the digital transformation of education.”

2024

WANG Jiayi
Vice-Minister
Ministry of Education, P.R. China



“The Chinese government places great emphasis on the critical role of digitalization in driving educational reform. For three consecutive years, it has implemented the national digital education strategy, prioritizing practical applications. Adhering to the principles of integration, intelligence, and internationalization, the government is fully committed to building a national smart education platform to effectively support the modernization of education.”

2025

WU Yan
Vice-Minister
Ministry of Education, P.R. China



“China has put forward the ‘Three New and Four Futures’ framework for the development of smart education. The ‘Three New’ refer to: moving from digitalization to a new stage of smart education, establishing a new competence-oriented standard for talent cultivation, and opening up new pathways for future educational transformation. The ‘Four Futures’ focus on: preparing future-ready teachers, building future classrooms, developing future schools, and creating future learning centers.”



Branko Ruzic

First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education, Science, and Technological Development, Serbia



Leela Devi Dookun-Luchoomun

Vice Prime Minister and Minister of Education, Tertiary Education, Science and Technology, Mauritius



Susil Premajayantha

Minister of Education, Sri Lanka



Amal El Fallah Seghrouchni

Minister of Digital Transition and Administration Reform, Morocco



Justin Valentin

Minister of Education, Seychelles



Lucas Dawa Dekena

Minister for Education, Papua New Guinea



Ali Haidar Ahmed

Minister of Higher Education, Labour and Skills Development, Maldives



Douglas Munsaka Syakalima

Minister of Education, Zambia



Dubravka Bošnjak

Minister of Civil Affairs, Bosnia and Herzegovina



Azat Atayev
Vice Minister of Education, Turkmenistan



Mark Boris Andrižanič
Former Minister of Digital Transformation,
Slovenia



Monserrat Creamer
Former Minister of Education, Ecuador



Randa Shaheen
First Under Secretary, Ministry of Education, Egypt



KILO Vivian ASHERI
Secretary of State, Minister of Basic Education,
Cameroon



BO Chankoulika
Under Secretary of State, Ministry of Education,
Youth and Sport, Cambodia



Kaviraj Sukon
Minister of Tertiary Education, Science and
Research, Mauritius



Marie-Thérèse SOMBO AYANE
Minister of Higher Education and Universities, DRC



Moustapha Mamba Guirassy
Minister of National Education, Senegal

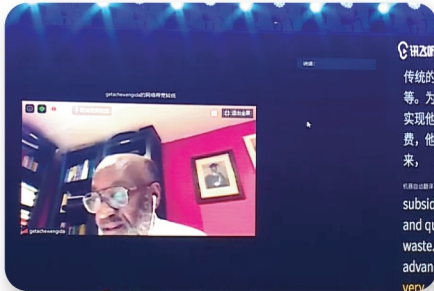


UNESCO is the United Nations organization that promotes cooperation in education, science, culture and communication to foster peace worldwide.

Stefania Giannini

UNESCO Assistant Director-General for Education

“The design and use of technology should be in the service of people - to enhance human capacity, protect human rights, and ensure sustainable development. Going forward, inclusion must be the yardstick of every policy.”



Getachew Engida

Former Deputy Director-General, UNESCO



Sobhi Tawil

Director, Future of Learning and Innovation Team, UNESCO



Omar Baig

Chief Information and Technology Officer (CITO), UNESCO



Manos Antoninis

Director, UNESCO Global Education Monitoring (GEM) Report



Gwang Chol Chang

Chief of Section of Education Policy, UNESCO Division for Policies and Lifelong Learning Systems



Shafika Isaacs

Chief of Section for Technology and AI in Education, UNESCO Future of Learning and Innovation Team



Institute for Lifelong Learning

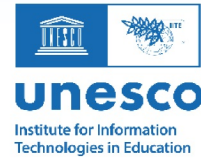
Isabell Kempf
Director, UNESCO
Institute for Lifelong Learning



Svein Oesttveit
A.I. Director, UNESCO
International Bureau of Education



Martin Benavides
Director, UNESCO
International Institute for Educational Planning



ZHAN Tao
Director, UNESCO
Institute for Information Technologies in Education



Francesc Pedró
Director, UNESCO
International Institute for Higher Education



Obijiofor Aginam
Director, UNESCO
Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Education for Peace and Sustainable Development



Quentin Wodon
Director, UNESCO
International Institute for Capacity Building in Africa





ZHAO Qinping
Academician of Chinese Academy of Engineering



PAN Yunhe
Academician of Chinese Academy of Engineering



WU Hequan
Academician of Chinese Academy of Engineering



ZHANG Jun
Academician of Chinese Academy of Engineering



WANG Yaonan
Academician of Chinese Academy of Engineering



Wushouer Silamu
Academician of Chinese Academy of Engineering



ZHANG Jingzhong
Academician of Chinese Academy of Sciences



CHEN Xiaohong
Academician of Chinese Academy of Engineering



LV Jian
Academician of Chinese Academy of Sciences



GAO Xiang
Academician of Chinese Academy of Engineering



ZHENG Qinghua
Academician of Chinese Academy of Engineering



WANG Xiaoyun
Academician of Chinese Academy of Sciences



MO Yan
Nobel Laureate



Mammo Muchie
Fellow of South African Academy
of Sciences



Worsak Kanok-Nukulchai
Fellow of Royal Thai Academy
of Sciences



Hannele Niemi
Professor at University of Helsinki;
Member of Finnish Academy of
Science and Letters



Muhammad Yunus
Nobel Laureate



Jari Lavonen
Professor at University of Helsinki;
Member of Finnish Academy of
Science and Letters



GONG Ke
Former President of World Federation
of Engineering Organizations (WFEO);
Foreign Member of Russian Academy
of Cosmonautics



SUN Maosong
Professor at Tsinghua University;
Foreign Member of Academia
Europaea



YU Jihong

President of Beijing Normal University;
Academician of Chinese Academy of Sciences



MA Jun

President of Beijing Normal University



DONG Qi

President of Beijing Normal University



ZHONG Binglin

Former President of Beijing Normal University;
President of Chinese Society of Education



ZHOU Zuoyu

Vice President of
Beijing Normal University



CHEN Xing

Vice President of
Beijing Normal University



CHEN Li

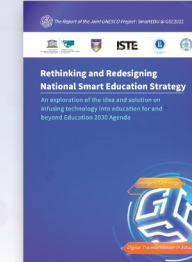
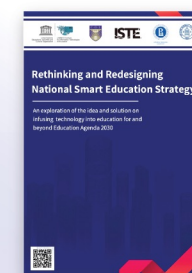
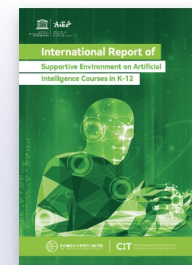
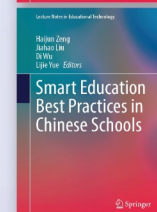
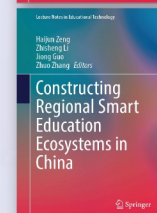
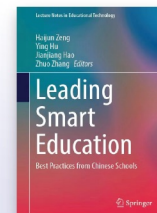
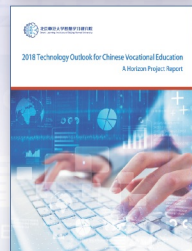
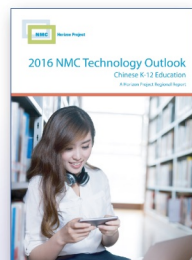
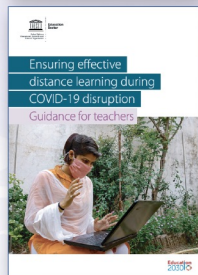
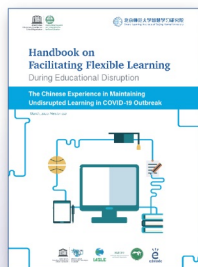
Vice President of
Beijing Normal University



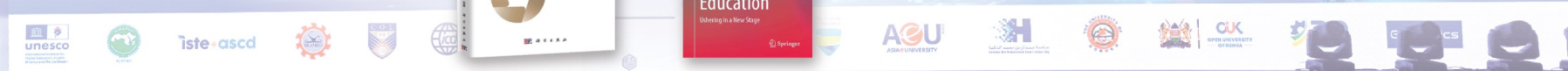
CHEN Guangju

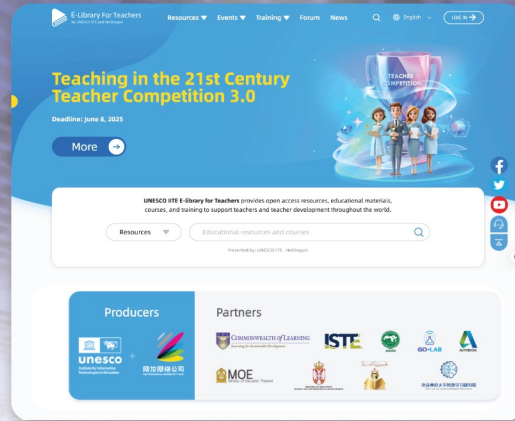
Vice President of
Beijing Normal University

Conference Outcomes: Sharing Smart Education Innovations Worldwide



2025
Global Smart Education Conference
人机协同催生教育
Human-AI Collaboration: Reshaping the Educational Future
08.18 - 08.20 中国·北京 Beijing·China





Shaping the Future Together: Exploring New Pathways for Educational Transformation



Ministerial Roundtable



Roundtable on Women's Leadership in AI



Roundtable on China-Africa-SIDS Cooperation in Smart Education



ASEAN-China TVET Management Benchmarking Programme



Student Forum on Innovative Design in Human-AI Collaboration



Regional Leadership Roundtable on the Development of the Educational Technology Industry



Work Conference for the Construction and Application of Intelligent Learning Environment in Alliance Schools (Districts)



UNESCO Chairs Conversation Salon

Smart Education Exhibition



Global Smart Education Innovation Prize

LIU Dejian

Initiator of the Global Smart Education Innovation Prize and Chair of its Selection Committee

“ In pursuit of ‘ideal education’, we initiated the Global Smart Education Innovation Prize, which recognises innovation in research, practice and technology, gathers global wisdom, and helps shape the future of education. ”



2025 Global Smart Education Innovation Prize

- 3 Research Innovation Prize
- 4 Practice Innovation Prize
- 3 Technology Innovation Prize

2024 Global Smart Education Innovation Prize

- 2 Research Innovation Prize
- 4 Practice Innovation Prize
- 2 Technology Innovation Prize



Partnership Dialogues





Partners & Collaborating Institutions

Acknowledgement



香港赛马会慈善信托基金



网龙网络公司
NETDRAGON WEBSOFT INC.



科大讯飞
IFLYTEK



国新文化



奥威亚
AWEI ELECTRONICS

Premier Partners



经时睿道



睿辅 AI
References-AI.cn



Pearson



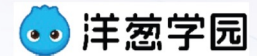
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BEIJING NORMAL UNIVERSITY PUBLISHING GROUP



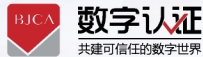
一起



师大合创
HECHUANG TECHNOLOGY



洋葱学园



数字认证
共建可信任的数字世界



HUAWEI



中国联通
China unicom



师大合创
HECHUANG TECHNOLOGY



猿编程



紫光摩度科技



阿里云

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腾讯教育
Tencent Education



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Smart Conference Venues



Global Smart Education Conference 2023

教育转型 数据治理









Smart Education: Pathways Toward Education 2050



“ As the target form of educational digital transformation, smart education aims, on the basis of deep integration between technology and education, to promote a comprehensive transformation of educational philosophy, pedagogical processes, infrastructural environments, assessment methods and governance models, in order to drive profound and systemic change in education and to lead education systems toward overall renewal. ”

教育之光

李维福 词
刘 强 曲

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Be in awe of education, for it shapes the soul of human,
Be cautious to technologies, for its adoption has to be effective.
Be entangled with Smart, for the uncertainty tends to be increasing,
Be serious to academies, for the true research needs evidence.

---Ronghuai Huang March 20th, 2017



*Global Intellectual
Convergence*

*Premiere of Major Achievements
Showcase of Best Practices*

*Academic Exchange, Science-Technology-Education
Synergy, Industry-Education Connection*

*Director's Forum, Principal's Forum, Teacher's Forum,
Student's Forum, Corporate Forum*

Partner with the Global Smart Education Conference & GSENet

Over the past decade, the Global Smart Education Conference (GSE) and the Global Smart Education Network (GSENet) have grown into an open platform for dialogue, cooperation, and innovation in smart education. Looking ahead, we warmly invite partners from around the world to join us in this shared endeavor.

We welcome the participation of government departments, international organizations, universities and schools, research institutes, enterprises, foundations, and media organizations who are committed to the digital transformation of education.

Together, we hope to:

- **Share ideas and experiences**
by inviting ministers, policymakers, scholars, educators, students, and industry leaders to contribute keynotes, panels, and thematic discussions;
- **Co-create forums and activities**
by jointly designing and hosting plenary sessions, parallel forums, workshops, roundtables, competitions, and other events under the GSE framework;
- **Showcase exemplary practices**
by presenting best practice, policy pilots, and implementation models in smart education for wider exchange and learning;
- **Present technologies and solutions**
by exhibiting intelligent learning environments, educational equipment, platforms, tools, and digital resources at the GSE smart education expo;
- **Develop long-term partnerships**
by carrying out joint research, capacity-building programmes, and regional projects through GSENet and related cooperation mechanisms.

We look forward to working with you to build a more open, inclusive, and future-oriented smart education ecosystem that benefits learners everywhere.

**Global Smart Education Network (GSENet)
Organizing Committee of the Global Smart Education Conference**



Web: <https://gse.bnu.edu.cn>

E-mail: gse@bnu.edu.cn

Add: 12F, Block A, Jingshi Technology Building,
No.12 Xueyuan South Road, Haidian
District, Beijing, 100082, P.R.China