

**26 January 2022  
13:30-15:00 CET**

stockphoto mania/Shutterstock.com

**In partnership with:**

## Background and rationale

---

The COVID-19 crisis has had significant repercussions on well-being worldwide. While the pandemic caused unprecedented learning disruptions, it also presents an opportunity for a paradigm shift in schooling to position collective well-being and school happiness as an entry point to reimagining the future of education and learning. On the occasion of the 2022 International Day of Education (IDE), UNESCO's Section of Education Policy of the Division of Policies and Lifelong Learning Systems (PLS/EDP) and Asia and Pacific Regional Bureau for Education (UNESCO Bangkok) are jointly organizing a webinar on learning and well-being to raise awareness among policymakers and education stakeholders about the positive correlation between happiness and better learning.

## Objective

The webinar serves as a kick-off event for scaling up the regional [Happy School Framework](#) to the global context. The event will open with findings and lessons learnt from the pilot implementation of the regional Happy School Framework (HSF) in the Asia-Pacific region,

followed by a panel discussion on the relationship between well-being and improved learning, and concluding with plans for renewing HSF to focus on improved learning globally. The launch of the [Happy Schools Guide and Toolkit](#), as well as findings of the joint UNESCO and IEA recent survey: [Responses to Education Disruption Study \(REDS\)](#) will be shared.

The panel session aims to bring together voices of policymakers, school leaders, teachers, and students to share experiences and lessons learnt from (1) the pilot implementation of the regional Happy School Framework (HSF) in the Asia-Pacific region and (2) the impact of the pandemic on happiness in schools. The discussion will explore the link between happiness and learning, discussing the benefits and implications of both the HSF pilot study and the pandemic on the global scale-up of the Happy School Framework. Participants from the three Asia-Pacific pilot countries (Japan, Lao PDR and Thailand) will join participants from other regions of the world in a panel discussion about happiness and learning during and beyond the pandemic.

### Target audience

The target audience will be Member States education policymakers, school leaders, teachers, parents, and other relevant education stakeholders, partners, and researchers.

### Format & logistics

The 90-minute interactive webinar will take place virtually via Zoom platform on Wednesday, 26 January 2022, as part of the International Day of Education Learning Planet Festival.

Please use the following link to register:

[https://unesco-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_GDp079OZT2u9tmqGOKLXMw](https://unesco-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_GDp079OZT2u9tmqGOKLXMw)

### Proposed Agenda

13:30-13:40	Opening remarks	<b>Borhene Chakroun</b> , Director, Division for Policies and Lifelong Learning Systems, UNESCO <b>Shigeru Aoyagi</b> , Director, Asia and Pacific Regional Bureau for Education (UNESCO Bangkok)
13:40-13:55	The Happy Schools Framework (HSF): its origin, developments and launch of Happy Schools Guide and Toolkit	<b>Margaret Sachs-Israel</b> , Chief, Section for Inclusive Quality Education, UNESCO Bangkok <b>Faryal Khan</b> , Programme Specialist, UNESCO Bangkok
13:55-14:35	Panel discussion: Experiences in prioritizing well-being and happiness to improve learning: HSF: Japan/Lao PDR/Thailand Other: TBC	Moderators: <b>Sara Bin Mahfooz</b> , Programme Specialist, Section of Education Policy, & <b>Juliette Norrmen Smith</b> , UNESCO Consultant
14:35-14:50	Going global with HSF and Q&A from audience	<b>Satoko Yano</b> and <b>Huong Thu LE</b> , Programme Specialists, Section of Education Policy, UNESCO
14:50-15:00	Next steps and closing	<b>Gwang-Chol Chang</b> , Chief, Section of Education Policy, UNESCO