

## A dialogue on **Empowering Millions...with digital learning**

“Empowering Millions with Digital Learning”, an dialogue hosted by Empower School of Health (ESH) at Ambassador Hotel, Khan Market, New Delhi on 27th May 2022 yielded a physical and virtual space for global thought leaders, Government officials, donors, multilateral agencies, private sector, NGO’s and academia to catalyze meaningful dialogues, share ideas and envisage emerging trends in digital learning. The principal objective of the event was to leverage government systems and private sector capacity to reach across India, with a special focus on promoting access and equity.

### Key Highlights



**Prof. Paul S. Lalvani**

Executive Director of Empower School of Health launched the event by accentuating important aspects of digital learning and the emerging transformation of the mode of information sharing. He argued how India is among the top countries in digital adoption.



**Shri Sunil Kumar**

Deputy Director-General, National Informatics Centre, Ministry of Electronic & Information Technology, Government of India maintained his discourse on the framework for continuous learning, emphasizing the need for organizations like Empower School of Health.



**Dr. K. Madan Gopal**

Sr. Consultant at NITI Aayog, Government of India – discussed digital empowerment in India and accelerating digital transformation in healthcare in terms of health records, alignment of IDs, etc. for better analytics.

The event was followed by a panel discussion on the investment for scale and impact in digital learning. The dialogue was carried out between Dr. Sanjiv Kumar (Chairperson & Managing Trustee at Three Domain Health Leadership Foundation and Governing board member, NIHF, MoHFW, GoI); Dr. Reuben Swamickan (Chief, Infectious Disease Division, USAID), Dr. Mahesh Srinivas (Program Director-Public Health, American India Foundation), Dr. Bulbul Sood (Senior Strategic Advisor, Jhpiego), Dr. Kuldeep Singh Sachdeva (Regional Director, The Union South East Asia) and Mr. Sameer Kanwar, (Director, Digital Health, Path). Executive Director of K4DP, Prof. Dr. Andreas Brandner, and CEO of India Health Fund, Mr. Madhav Joshi contributed to the event virtually extending their approach to co-creating and building productive partnerships, respectively.



**Madhav Joshi** majorly focused on the embedding of qualitative and quantitative technologies in primary care. The emphasis was laid upon productive partnerships, facilitation of training programs, and last-mile connectivity with healthcare workers.



**Dr. Sanjiv Kumar** in his address, accentuated the important aspect of HRH. He highlighted the vitality of digital learning in terms of support for skill-based and continuous training and, concluded by emphasizing the need for digital learning platforms in their true essence.



**Dr. Bulbul Sood** accentuated the pre and post covid learning patterns, the increase in the utilization of learning platforms, and the facilitation of decision making due to faster processing of data enabling action



**Dr. Kuldeep Singh Sachdeva** enlightened the need for adaptation of the capacity-building aspect of digital learning by taking various factors such as an audience, the complexity of the message, and the requirement into consideration and highlights that the hybrid model is the way forward.



**Dr. Mahesh Srinivas** shared insights about the increased need for content development infrastructure & end to end solutions, amelioration of employee and donor engagement, and overall improvement in monitoring and sharing opportunities owing to digital learning.



**Mr. Sameer Kanwar** underlined the increase in scalability since COVID and the current adaptation of the role/competency-based model, thanks to digital learning. He also stated the importance of digital capacity building and partnerships as a way forward.



**Dr. Reuben Swamickan** spoke about outcome-driven digital learning and its utilization. He also shared the current challenges involving repositories and their accessibility, community change using digital learning, and the need for excellent AI for the filtration of information.



**Dr. Andreas Brandner** talked about knowledge being a central resource and the need for the creation of sustainable learning systems wherein it’s not just limited to learning but also, sharing, co-creating, and building partnerships as well. Hence, he highlighted the need for a new approach in the knowledge ecosystem wherein digital learning will be the key element.

The panel discussion was dominated by the focus on the capacity-building aspect of digital learning, pre and post covid learning patterns, increased need for infrastructure for content development, and the requirement for excellent AI in the world of digital learning.

### Conclusion

The need for the creation of sustainable learning systems; the eminence of sharing, co-creating, and building partnerships, and devising new policies and strategies to accelerate digital learning served as the driving idea behind the discussion in the digital learning event by Empower School of Health.

