LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE LAUNCH OF THE LEARNING PASSPORT (SHKOLLAT.ORG) IN KOSOVO

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On 1 February 2021, the Minister of Education and Science together with UNICEF and partner, Microsoft, launched the Learning Passport in Kosovo. Named Shkollat (School) its aim, said the Minister of Education and Science, is to facilitate “distance learning for all students, whoever they are and wherever.” Lessons from this successful nationwide launch include:

One stop shop for students and teachers: Shkollat.org provides a one-stop shop for students and teachers. The digital library contains 14,000 video lessons covering all subjects in Grades 1 to 9. It also offers instant messaging and video conferencing so that teachers and students can stay in close contact.

Global initiative, local partnership: UNICEF’s ability to provide highly qualified locally based human resources was critical to success. Equally important was Government engagement. Government partners used their existing Microsoft licenses to integrate the Shkollat platform as an app within the Microsoft Teams console. This allows every learner and teacher in to use their unique Ministry of Education email account to log in.

Unique digital ID: Having a unique digital ID enables teachers and schools to track student participation and learning, allowing them to offer tailored follow up. This balances the ability to offer the digital tool to 345,000 students and at the same time individualized attention.

Reimagine education: The launch of Shkollat.org not only provides platform to keep children learning during COVID-19, it is the first step in a much bigger transformation. The platform can remove barriers to learning by offering accessible learning resources for children with disabilities. It can also improve the quality of the educational offer, including more skills development courses. As a first step, UNICEF has included its 21st century skills based programmes, UPSHIFT, Ponder, and Podium into Shkollat’s digital library.

More resources: To learn more, please watch these brief videos on What is Shkollat.org; How to access Shkollat.org; and What are the benefits of Shkollat.org, and check out the recording of the launch.