



REGIONAL FORUM

ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FOR THE UNECE REGION

13 – 14 MARCH 2024 | HYBRID EVENT | GENEVA & ONLINE

SIDE EVENT CONCEPT NOTE

Event title

ConversArtion: Reimagining the transformation of education to achieve the SDGs through contemporary art.

Background and Rationale

In the side event **ConversArtion**, participants will engage in a profound and inclusive conversation exploring the purpose of education and its transformation to achieve the SDGs, and to build a more just, pacific and sustainable futures for all. To do so, we will employ contemporary art and collective artistic creation as catalysts for reflection and collective sense-making.

In an era marked by a highly polarized and divided society, we want to emphasize the significance of fostering a culture of dialogue as essential to the construction of democratic and peaceful societies.

ConversArtion appertains to the initiative #DiàlegsEducació2030 in Catalonia and is part of the broader movement The Big Education Conversation pioneered by Big Change and formally launched during the UN Transforming Education Summit.

Session objectives and expected outcomes

- Create a **multi-stakeholder** and **intergenerational dialogue** about the **purpose of education** and how it should be transformed in order to advance in the achievement of the SDGs.
- Adopt **contemporary art** as a tool to catalyze dialogue and a strategy to transform ideas and stimulate **collective sense-making**.
- **Inspire** new conversations on the **purpose of education** around the world led by the participants of this side event.

Organizers

Lead organizers: Catesco (Catalonia for Education, Science and Culture Organization)

Contributors: Big Change

Focal points: Geda Requena, International Projects Officer at Catesco

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Agenda and Structure

Welcome by Marina Gay, Director of Catesco

What is a Big Education Conversation? by Heena Goenka, Project Manager at Big Change

Ice breaker

Contemporary art and SDGs by Dimas Fàbregas.

- We will learn why art is a powerful tool to catalyse dialogue and collective sense-making.
- Let's practise! In breakout rooms we will analyse contemporary art works and identify what challenges the artists are talking about.

Let's transform education through art to achieve the SDGs by 3Art and Catesco

- In the same breakout rooms, we will answer 3 simple questions to reimagine what education should look like in order to face the previously identified challenges.
- Let's become *artist*! In the end, we will overcome the digital barrier so that all the participants become artists and portray the conversation they had in their own collective work of art.

What's next? The conversation continues.

List of Panellists

- Heena Goenka, Project Manager at Big Change
- Dimas Fàbregas, head teacher, artist and creator of 3Art.
- Marina Gay, Director of Catesco.

Sign-up / Registration Link

<https://forms.gle/7TZE2QVomPYmLPFH9>