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| |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Global Social & Financial Skills Conference: Pioneering a Brighter Educational Future for Youth Worldwide** |  |  | | --- | | **Amsterdam, November 1st, 2023 – The upcoming Global Social & Financial Skills Conference, positioned to build on the momentum of the 2022 Transforming Education Summit and the vision statement by the United Nations Secretary-General, is set to take center stage. This high-profile event shines a spotlight on the imperative role of social and financial skills in reshaping modern education systems. As we navigate the challenges of an ever-evolving world, these 21st-century skills emerge as linchpins for youth success and preparedness.** |  |  | | --- | | In a world marked by constantly evolving technology, increasing economic uncertainties, and a widening wealth gap, the importance of equipping our youth with 21st-century skills cannot be emphasized enough. Over 600 million young people worldwide currently lack the essential financial literacy skills required to actively contribute to their own well-being and the socioeconomic development of their nations. According to a 2023 study by [the World Economic Forum](https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2023/05/future-of-jobs-2023-skills/), social and emotional skills are now among the top 10 most in-demand skills in the workplace. However, a 2022 study by the [OECD](https://monitor.icef.com/2023/10/oecd-reports-that-international-student-flows-reached-a-record-high-in-2022/) found that only 40% of students worldwide have the social and emotional skills they need to succeed in life.  Coupled with the pressing issues of climate change, poverty, pervasive gender disparities, and the far-reaching impacts of conflict, the demand for innovative, practical solutions such as educating responsible resource management is more urgent than ever. The time for action is now.  Aflatoun’s network has been at the forefront of promoting social and financial education for over a decade, reaching millions of young people in more than 100 countries with the use of its unique social franchise model (the network of 350+ partners globally). By integrating knowledge on financial literacy, social and emotional learning, and entrepreneurship, Aflatoun equips young individuals with the skills and mindset necessary to navigate an increasingly complex and interconnected world, thus empowering them to become agents of change for their future.  **Only during 2022, we reached 3.8 million children and youth across the world through our NGO partner network and 29.5 through integrating social and financial education into national education systems.**  The conference is more than a gathering of minds; it is a catalyst for change. Social entrepreneurs, educators, sustainable development experts, the finance & banking sector, and global business leaders will convene to explore cutting-edge research and practices in social, financial, and entrepreneurship education. This event will ignite profound discussions and firsthand accounts, with over 300 participants from 80 countries, underscoring our collective commitment to the future of education.  The central mission of the summit is to translate a visionary ideal into actionable strategies. By providing recommendations and actionable plans, it aims to accelerate the widespread adoption of social and financial education, with a keen focus on young minds. These insights will be instrumental in shaping future policies, programs, and curricula, heralding a new era of education that empowers youth to thrive in an ever-changing world, fostering both local and global impact for sustainable development. During the event, there will be the latest financial and education program for adolescents, which has been built on the experience, gathered from 60 countries, and that is accompanied by the digital platform for teachers around the world - to build the capacity of educators. |  |  | | --- | | **- END OF PRESSRELEASE -** | | |

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