



CGHE Annual Conference 22-23 May 2023 **Session Details**

CGHE PROJECT 2 (DIGITAL) SESSION - Democratising Collaborative Professional Development on UN SDGs: From MOOC to CoMOOC

23 May 2023, 2:45pm – 3:45pm (UK)

Chair: Ka Ho Mok

Speakers: Diana Laurillard, Eileen Kennedy, Preeti Shroff (discussant)

Tertiary education has a broad remit to educate the future professional workforce. It also carries out the R&D that informs the development of their knowledge and practice. All professionals have some role to play in helping the world achieve the UN SDGs. Few can escape completely, and no-one is exempt at the level of individual lifestyle. The task is massive. But we do have the technology. Massive open online courses (MOOCs) can reach most professionals now, as 64% of the world's population now has access to digital devices and connectivity¹. As a potential solution, at least it is commensurate with the scale of the global education challenge we face. And yet, even though many tertiary institutions express ambitious mission statements on these lines, we have not yet begun to embrace this opportunity as a strategic educational goal. Professionals working in the field are our most overlooked collaborators for addressing these goals.

This session will report on experimentation with how MOOCs can be co-designed, and adapted to orchestrate professional collaboration on the many developing solutions to the UN goals. These derive from ground-breaking academic research findings, international NGOs, charitable and independent foundations, and national, regional and local bodies able to fund local, short-term but effective improvement projects. Can we democratise this knowledge development in the form of a co-designed global online collaboration of relevant professionals, to disseminate, critique, adapt and implement their ideas? CGHE Project 2 works with these kinds of partners to co-design professional development on the large scale in the education and energy sectors. The model is feasible at scale, but needs the engagement of these actors at the strategic level we need, working across all tertiary institutions and sectors. In this session, participants will explore how we can make this work.