

DEPED'S INITIATIVES TO ENHANCE DIGITAL LEARNING AND EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY THROUGH EDUCATION 4.0 AND ICT

by:

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In the context of Education 4.0, the Department of Education (DepEd) is committed to addressing the challenges and opportunities of digital learning and education technology. To improve student learning and better prepare students for the future, education 4.0 refers to integrating emerging technologies like artificial intelligence, big data, cloud computing, and the Internet of Things into the educational system. (Abanil, 2021).

DepEd's Digital Rise Program, which seeks to provide digital literacy, ICT-assisted teaching, and ICT-assisted learning for students and teachers, is one of its most important initiatives. In addition, the initiative includes updating the K-12 curriculum to include productivity tools, programming skills, multimedia concepts, and technology-related vocational skills. DepEd Commons, Learning Resources Portal, and DepEd Learning Management System (DLMS) are online platforms that provide learning resources and support for students and teachers. (DepEd, 2022a).

Education 4.0 and the DepEd Digital Rise Program are both about using technology in school. Education 4.0 means using new technologies like computers and the internet to learn and teach. The DepEd Digital Rise Program is a plan that gives technology tools and skills to students and teachers. It has three parts: Digital Literacy, ICT Assisted Teaching, and ICT Assisted Learning. These parts help students and teachers learn how to use technology and do things with it. The program also helps with the K to 12 curricula, which teaches students how to use information, media, and technology.

The COVID-19 pandemic has posed unprecedented challenges and opportunities for education. It has also highlighted the need for innovation and adaptation in the use of technology in school. To address these issues, DepEd has launched another initiative: the Educ Futures project. This project is a series of webinars that offer insights and perspectives on the changing education landscape in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond. The project seeks to engage education stakeholders in discussions on reimagining and transforming education in response to learners' and society's changing needs and demands (DepEd, 2021).

These initiatives demonstrate DepEd's efforts to incorporate technology and innovation to provide all Filipino students with quality education. By adopting the principles and practices of Education 4.0, DepEd intends to equip students with the knowledge, skills, attitudes, and values necessary for the 21st century.

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