

UNESCO 4th World Forum on Lifelong Education.

As ISPA representatives, Méline Descamps and Jean-Claude Guillemard attended the 4th World Forum on Lifelong Learning (5-6 February 2015). The Forum was organized at the UNESCO Headquarters in Paris by the World Council for Lifelong Learning in cooperation with the International Council for Adult Education and the UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning.

The Forum was opened by Ms Irena Bokova, Director General of UNESCO.

The first day was dedicated to a survey of the current situation of Lifelong Learning worldwide and was followed by a round table of international experts on the future of education.

On the following days, four international themes were discussed:

Conference 1: How to improve the accessibility to basic knowledge for all from early childhood to the end of life.

Conference 2: How to act, to teach, to train people for sustainable health.

Conference 3: The role of companies in developing lifelong learning.

Conference 4: How to meet and support intercultural skills.

On Friday afternoon a round table proposed several tracks for the future of literacy: for whom? and when?

The closing lecture by Mr. Arne Carlsen, Director of the UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning, summarized the deliberations of these two days:

- Learning is a concern for the planet.
- Learning is a concern for cities: more than one half of the world population is going to live in towns.
- Learning is a concern for individuals.
- Pedagogical methods of learning have to be questioned:

The availability of E-learning 24hours a day, 365 days a year has changed our concept of teaching. Teachers are going to become facilitators rather than transmitters.