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OAS | ITEN



INTER-AMERICAN TEACHER EDUCATION NETWORK

April 2020

No. 4

Update Regarding COVID-19 Pandemic's Impact on ITEN's Activities!

Dear ITEN Community:

We hope this note finds you and your families safe and healthy. Circumstances are changing constantly, but we remain dedicated to our teachers and education professionals in Latin America & the Caribbean.

As you are all aware, the COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted all aspects of life as we know it. ITEN in particular has been impacted by having to postpone our Annual Seminar. **Originally planned for August 24-27, we intend to reschedule the ITEN Annual Seminar for late 2020 or early 2021, depending on the circumstances.** We will keep you posted as the new developments unravel.

Regarding grants, ITEN will not be accepting new proposals for Cooperation Exchanges in 2020 until we have received indication that international travel can be advised, but will be anticipating Seed Grant awards to provide additional financial support during this crisis. More information on Seed Grants is available within this Newsletter. Additionally, the ITEN Team is working diligently to identify alternative solutions to support the ITEN community during these times of crisis, and will adjust our mechanisms accordingly. Please stay tuned for future announcements.

That being said, we're excited to share many new developments within this edition of the ITEN Newsletter, so read on to learn more.

teachers teach STEM in the era of COVID-19, or would like to present your ideas for how the ITEN community can best support teachers during these challenging times, please reach out to any of the primary ITEN Team members: Rebecca Vieyra (rvieyra@oas.org), Patricia Moraes (pmoraes@oas.org), Alison Owens (aowens@oas.org), Pilar Suarez (csuarez@oas.org).

Stay safe,
The ITEN Team

ITEN is Modifying the 2020 Grants Cycle in Response to COVID-19

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the restrictions it's placed on travel and gatherings in the foreseeable future, ITEN will not be offering Cooperation Exchanges in 2020. Instead, we will be anticipating Seed Grant Call awards. Seed Grant Call for Proposals will be launched on **May 15, 2020** and institutions will have until **June 31, 2020** to submit their applications. To learn more about Seed Grants and how to apply, attend the informational webinars listed below:

Event: Seed Grant Informational Webinar

English: May 13 2020

4:00 PM Washington DC

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Spanish: May 14 2020

4:00 PM Washington DC

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Project Team Update

Project Team meetings are underway, and ITEN is currently reviewing your teams' submitted Vision and Goals statements!

Please note that while the Annual Seminar is being postponed, ITEN remains committed to offering 2020 Project Team cycle participants the opportunity to attend the Seminar when it is rescheduled.



On February 26, 2020, six members from ITEN's 2019 Project Teams traveled from the Dominican Republic, Jamaica, and Washington, D.C. to participate in a Cooperation Exchange at Stanford University in Stanford, California. The event consisted of two days of discussions and learning experiences from some of the top research professionals in teacher education, assessments, language acquisition and understanding, and education policy, all related to topics within STEM. The Cooperation Exchange hosts, Greses Pérez Jhönk and Daniel Alcazar Roman, organized six, in depth collegial conversation sessions, as well as visits to the Stanford Graduate School of Education Makery (a space for hands-on learning), local middle school science classes, and attendance to the Education Research to Practice Seminar. The density of knowledge, wisdom, and actionable best-practices that resulted from these two action-packed days is comparable to a weeklong seminar. To access the contributing resources of this event, and learn more about the participants' experiences, check out the full report here: [Stanford Cooperation Exchange 2020](#).

Upcoming Events

ITEN Webinar Series: Teaching STEM in Quarantine

ITEN is currently preparing a series of webinars beginning in the month of May that will address the effective use of online tools, including general-use platforms and STEM-specific digital resources. You can learn about upcoming webinars by clicking [HERE](#).

We are currently seeking ITEN partners and supporters who would be able to contribute to these sessions as guest presenters in May, June, and July. Interested individuals should contact Rebecca Vieyra at rvieyra@oas.org.

Webinars

Role of the Teacher in Distance Learning

Padres de Familia:
Una Oportunidad de Hacer Ciencia en la Primera InfanciaMilagritos Jaúregui de la Cruz
Inst. Educativo No. 090
Perú**Date:** 30 April 2020**Time:** 6:00 PM Washington D.C. time**Language:** SpanishLear more and [REGISTER HERE!](#)
Estrategias de Mediación Docente en Tiempos de PandemiaLucy Denia Graciano Pérez
Centro Educativo Padre Lamarche
República Dominicana**Teaching Strategies in Times of Pandemic****Presenter:** Lucy Denia Graciano Pérez - *ITEN Teacher Fellow Early Childhood - Dominican Republic***Date:** 5 May 2020**Time:** 5:00 PM Dominican Republic time**Language:** SpanishLear more and [REGISTER HERE!](#)
La Importancia de la Alimentación durante la Cuarentena por COVID-19

para Mantener una Salud Física y Mental

Yadira Rivera Espinoza
Escuela Nacional de Ciencias Biológicas del Inst. Politécnico Nacional
México**The Importance of Good Nutrition During Quarantine****Presenter:** Yadira Rivera Espinoza - *Escuela Nacional de Ciencias Biológicas del Inst. Politécnico Nacional - México***Date:** 7 May 2020**Time:** 11:00 AM Washington D.C. time**Language:** SpanishLear more and [REGISTER HERE!](#)
Adaptación de Metodologías de Aprendizaje Activo a Escenarios Virtuales para Educación STEMDra. Carla Hernández
Universidad de Santiago de Chile
Chile**Adapting Active Learning Methodologies to Virtual Scenarios for STEM Education****Presenter:** Dr. Carla Hernández - *STEM Teacher Educator - Chile***Date:** 14 May 2020**Time:** 11:30 PM Washington D.C. time**Language:** SpanishLear more and [REGISTER HERE!](#)
Experiences and Strategies to Create a "New Normal":

a Webinar Discussion for Educators of Young Children

Shaffina Ahamad-Hamid
Debe ASJA ECCE Centre
Trinidad and Tobago**Experiences and Strategies to Create a "New Normal"****Presenter:** Shaffina Ahamad-Hamid - *ITEN Teacher Fellow - Early Childhood Teacher - Trinidad and Tobago***Date:** 27 May 2020**Time:** 4:00 PM Washington D.C. time**Language:** EnglishLear more and [REGISTER HERE!](#)



Learn more about [PhET Interactive Simulations](#) and its free teacher resources for math and science teaching available in 80+ languages.

[Recording](#) / [Slides](#)



Additional Free Resources

Access hundreds of free online resources for teaching STEM.

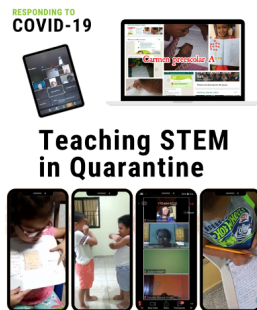
[STEM resources in English](#)

[STEM resources in Spanish](#)

[ITEN Virtual Community of Practice](#)

[Additional general resources](#)

Teacher Focus



Leaders in Times of Crisis

In the 2019-2020 year, ITEN's Teacher Fellows have been focusing on their own instructional practice by participating in an analysis of learning sequences that incorporate evidence-based, gender-equitable practices for teaching STEM. Moving into the 2020-2021 year, Teacher Fellows will begin working on their leadership plans to expand their impact beyond their own classrooms and schools.

However, educators within ITEN across the region are already taking significant leadership to respond to the educational impact of COVID-19. ITEN partners [Sandra Guerrero](#) (Dominican Republic), [Bhagya Malladi and Conroy Hall](#) (Jamaica) have held impromptu training sessions for 140+ science teachers.

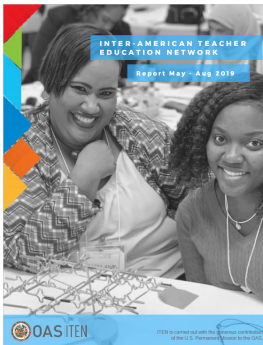
Early childhood teachers have additional struggles, and many teachers are turning to WhatsApp groups to maintain contact with the parents of young children. The platform has led to multiple opportunities for sharing multimedia documentation of student engagement. ITEN Teacher Fellow [Shaffina Ahamad-Hamid](#) (Trinidad) shares how she is using WhatsApp to maintain some semblance of normalcy for her students.

General Resources



2020 ITEN General Timeline

- **January 31:** Project Team Application (**Closed**)
- **March 1:** Letter of Commitment for Project Team participation due
- **March 1 - 31:** Interactive Webinars between suggested teams or groups who express similar interest
- **March 31:** Project Teams are formed
- **May 1:** Project Teams work virtually
- **May 15:** Launch of 2020 Seed Grant Call for Proposals
- **June 31:** Seed Grant applications due
- **November 27:** Call for Proposal for 2021 Project Teams launched
- **November 31:** Project Team share-out due



ITEN Resources

- [ITEN Website](#): Visit the ITEN website to learn about our work in STEM Teacher Education in the Americas and stay up to date on upcoming opportunities to get involved.
- [2019 ITEN Annual Report](#): Check out our Annual Report to learn about ITEN's impact in the region during its first year of Phase 4 of the program
- [Community Guide](#): The ITEN Community Guide will provide you step-by-step instructions on requirements for participation in Project Teams, Cooperation Exchanges and Seed Grants

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