



 EduGrowth

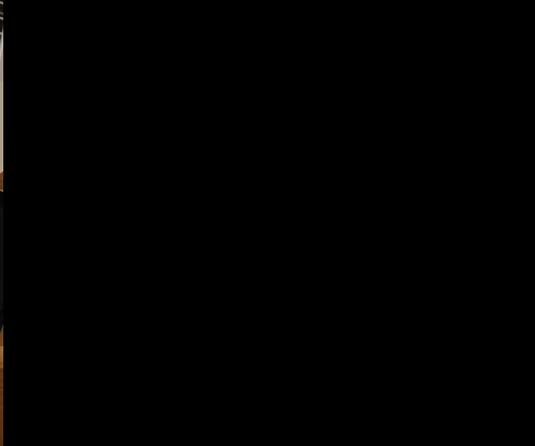
 GLOBAL VICTORIA



Global Victoria EdTech Innovation Alliance: Framework

Activating research-based testbeds in Victorian
and international education environments

March 2022





Victoria's EdTech capabilities are centred on global leadership in education, enhanced capabilities to deliver solutions, and a strong reputation in international education.

We are proud to partner with an exciting range of EdTech pioneers, helping them to make the most of rapidly emerging global opportunities.

Gönül Serbest
Chief Executive Officer
Global Victoria



Introduction

Initiatives such as the Global Victoria EdTech Innovation Alliance will see Australian education impact learners around the globe with quality solutions reimaged in a digital world.

Testbed activation is one of the key recommendations by EduGrowth, and EduGrowth members, to drive a new wave of education innovation. We know that high-functioning EdTech ecosystems around the world have advanced models of connecting EdTech companies and educators to drive real innovation.

Proudly supported by the Victorian Government's trade facilitation agency, Global Victoria, The Global Victoria EdTech Innovation Alliance is a one-of-a-kind program for the Victorian EdTech ecosystem. Through incorporating the key elements of the triple-helix innovation model, the Alliance will establish Victoria as Australia's education innovation hub. The Alliance will extend that model to exhibit how efficacy and showcasing of innovation in the education sector are prerequisites to large-scale education innovation.

This document provides an overview of the Alliance, the successful Innovation Sprint pilots, the types of EdTech solutions being trialled, the educational settings participating, and the key benefits of this type of program for EdTech companies, education institutions and the state of Victoria.



Global Victoria Innovation Alliance: Innovation Sprints by region

2021-2022

Region	Institution	EdTech Solutions	Segments
Asia & Oceania	Tanglin Trust School	Intellischool	K-12
	Tsinghua University	Genix Ventures	Higher Education / VOC
	Queen Margaret College	Verso Learning	K-12
	Port Vila International School	Maths Pathway	K-12
UK & Europe	Edgbarrow School	Verso Learning	K-12
	Foyle College	Ziplet	K-12
	University of Manchester	Cadmus	Higher Education
North America	University of Dayton	Edalex	Higher Education
	Education Design Lab	Edalex	VOC
	Acsenda School of Management	MentorMatch	Higher Education
South America	Universidad Anahuac	Cahoot Learning	Higher Education / Workforce



The Global Victoria EdTech Innovation Alliance

Program Overview

The Global Victoria EdTech Innovation Alliance (the Alliance), delivered by EduGrowth, is a program designed to support collaboration between Victorian EdTech companies, education providers, researchers, and international organisations.

The Alliance facilitates nine Innovation Sprints: individual pilot projects of Australian EdTech solutions being tested for efficacy in Victorian and international education settings over a 26-week period.

Each Innovation Sprint, with the support of an independent Victorian research partner, designs the pilot program with consideration for the education or learning environment, EdTech implementation and onboarding, evidence and data collection, success metrics, and interpretation of results.

At the conclusion of each Innovation Sprint, the EdTech solution will receive an evaluation report from Education Alliance Finland and the Victorian research partner. They will also participate in an Innovation Symposium to showcase the pilot in a case study format.

Deakin University and Monash University are the appointed research partners. They will provide guidance and mentoring for Innovation Sprint teams to accurately measure the impact of their EdTech solutions.

The Alliance is overseen by the Program Governance Group. The role of this group is to provide strategic direction and leadership over the duration of the Alliance. The group includes the following experienced EdTech and education leaders:



Beverley Oliver

Emeritus Professor and Founder of EduBrief



Caroline Harnett

Deputy Director of International Education at Global Victoria



David Linke

Managing Director of EduGrowth



Evan Clark

Co-Founder and Non-Executive Director of ClickView



Margaret Bearman

Research Professor within the Centre for Research in Assessment and Digital Learning at Deakin University



Michael Henderson

Professor of Digital Futures at Monash University

Successful Sprints

The Innovation Sprints involved a competitive grant application process. The successful Innovation Sprints met specific eligibility criteria and passed through multiple evaluation and approval stages. Selection criteria included:

- Connect Victorian and international institutions to co-pilot an innovative EdTech solution
- Improve market access for the EdTech solution in key international education markets and improve the international reputation of the Victorian education institution that pilots the solution
- Demonstrate a clear education problem being addressed
- Demonstrate a defined set of quantitative and qualitative metrics which documents product efficacy
- Enhance the reputation of the State of Victoria as a centre for education innovation

Successful Innovation Sprints in the 2021-2022 cohort are:



Cadmus

Transforming Online Assessment: An Evaluation of Cadmus

This Sprint will explore the impact of implementing Cadmus — an online assessment for learning platform — on student outcomes, experience, and academic integrity. This research will provide an example for improving teaching and learning outcomes through scalable, technology-enhanced assessment reform.

Education Partners: University of Melbourne, Swinburne University of Technology, and University of Manchester (UK)



Cahoot Learning

Personalisation in Workforce Reskilling: The Efficacy of Cahoot Learning in LATAM

This Sprint will explore how the Cahoot Learning platform can create a better learning experience and outcome for workforce reskilling and upskilling. Through a personalised learning experience, the Cahoot Learning solution aims to investigate how their approach can impact learners in Australian and LATAM settings.

Education Partners: Monash University, and Universidad Anahuac (Mexico)





Edalex

Showcasing Skills for the Workplace: Edalex's Credentialate Platform for Learner Employability

This Sprint will investigate the efficacy of personalised learner Evidence Records produced by the Credentialate platform from Edalex. The ultimate aim is to improve employability outcomes for learners while helping address a talent shortage for employers.

Education Partners: The University of Melbourne, University of Dayton (USA), and Education Design Lab (USA)



Genix Ventures

Exam Management across Cultural Contexts: Genix Ventures's EXAMINA+ Platform

This Sprint will deploy Genix Ventures's EXAMINA+ platform – an end-to-end exam management tool – in three target-market institutions to determine the feasibility of greater global scaling. Genix has redeveloped EXAMINA+ to support assessment-led learning which combines disciplinary, digital and institutional expertise.

Education Partners: Holmes Institute, International Marketing Corporation, and Tsinghua University (China)



Intellischool

Data Collation, Correlation and the Classroom: Big Performance Data through Intellischool

This Sprint will focus on collecting data based on large timeframes useful for daily teaching decisions, as well as the resulting impact on the ways in which teachers plan for the personalisation of the learner experience. Through utilising Intellischool's data ecosystem, they will examine how this solution can improve business efficiency and learner outcomes.

Education Partners: Parade College, and Tanglin Trust School (Singapore)



Maths Pathway

Personalised, Modular Learning: Assessing How Context Impacts the Delivery of Maths Pathway

This Sprint will pilot the deployment of Maths Pathway's Learning and Teaching model in an international context. The aim is to test the extent to which cultural, societal and demographic differences impact the ability to deliver mathematics in a digital, modular format.

Education Partner: Mill Park Secondary College, and Port Vila International School (Vanuatu)



MentorMatch

MentorMatch

Mentorship for International Student Success: An Investigation of MentorMatch

This Sprint seeks to test the hypothesis that providing experienced, qualified, mentors to international students, through an EdTech platform, will fill the void of not having social and professional networks in the foreign country. In order to test this, the MentorMatch platform will be deployed in two different university settings.

Education Partners: La Trobe University, and Acsenda School of Management (Canada)



Verso Learning

Collecting Feedback to Better Support Teachers: Responding to K-12 Student Needs with Verso Learning

This Sprint will focus on how to use Verso Learning's Learning from Students platform to address two significant challenges in K-12 education: how to collect timely, actionable feedback and evidence of impact from the classroom; and how to better support teachers to use that evidence to respond to student needs and make changes to their classroom practice.

Education Partners: Brighton Secondary College, Pascoe Vale Girls' College, Heathmont College, Surf Coast Secondary College, Queen Margaret College (New Zealand), and Edgbarrow School (UK)



Ziplot

Loop Platform's Ziplot Solution: How Regular Feedback Can Benefit Teachers and Learners

This Sprint will explore how Loop Platform's Ziplot solution can provide teachers with the tools and support to regularly gather student feedback for a data-informed approach. The aim, through obtaining actionable feedback, is to improve student experience, learning outcomes and teacher practice.

Education Partners: Kingsley Park Primary School, and Foyle College (UK)



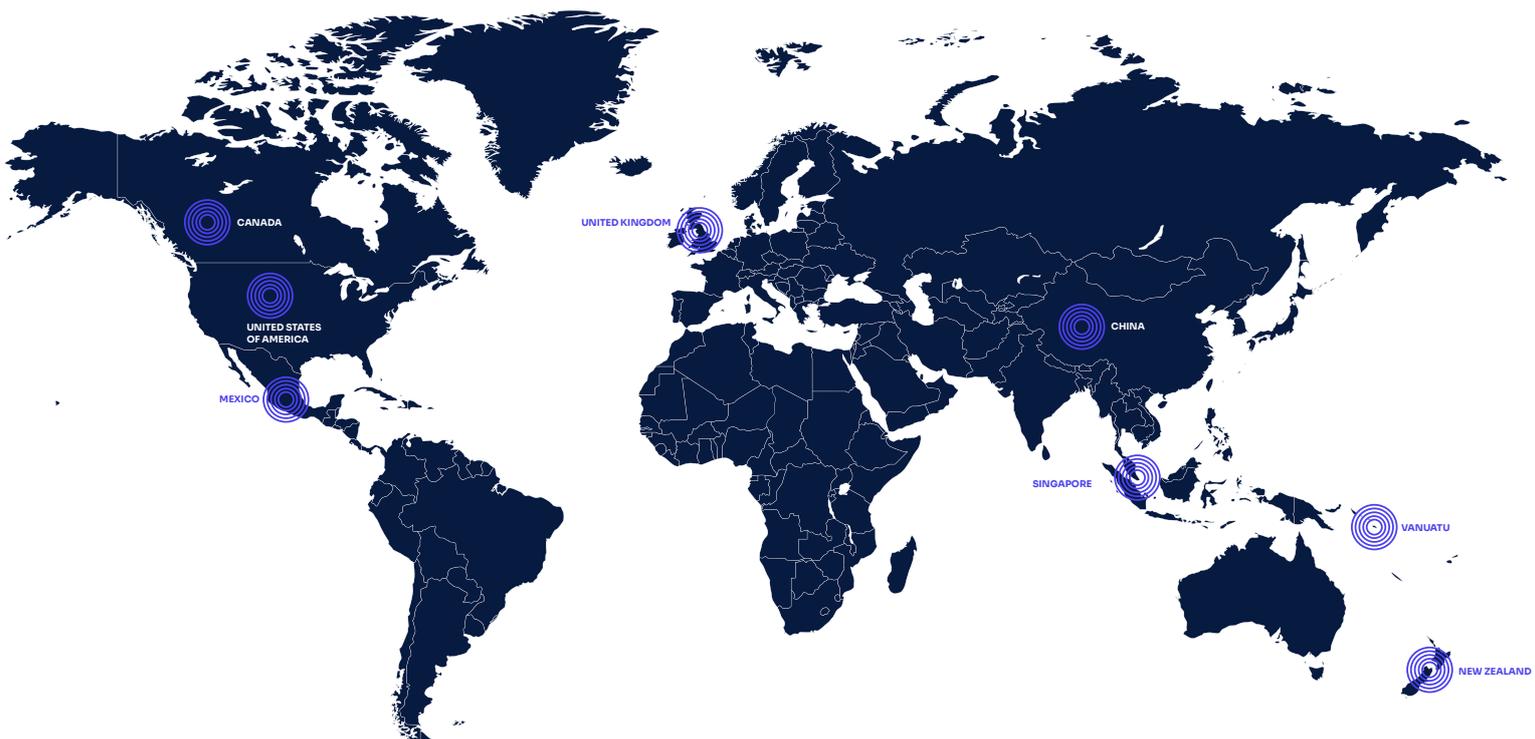
Solution focus, educational settings and geographic reach

The EdTech solutions in the Innovation Sprints include Learning Management Systems, Learning Analytics, Data Management Systems, Student Management Systems, Assessment Systems, Content Management Systems and Content, and Feedback Systems.

These Innovation Sprints will activate pilots across the education continuum, specifically in K-12 schools, higher education, vocational and workforce learning environments.

The Alliance will facilitate collaboration among nine Victorian EdTech companies, five Victorian and five international K-12 schools, four Victorian and five international universities, and two Victorian and one international vocational and skills training organisations.

Victorian EdTech will be trialed in education settings in Canada, China, Mexico, New Zealand, Singapore, United Kingdom, United States of America, and Vanuatu.



Alliance benefits for different stakeholders



EdTech Companies

Participating in EdTech testbed trials is an invaluable opportunity for an EdTech company. Having committed partners in a structured framework focussed on product efficacy can provide the following benefits:

Product design

- Incorporate end-user feedback into product design

Implementation and adoption

- Better understanding of education settings and their use of technology
- Understand product-use cases and hone go-to-market strategies
- Best practice for finding product-market fit
- Decrease barriers to EdTech adoption

Product credibility

- Able to test products in real academic environments
- Prove value of solution
- Evidence of effectiveness
- Increase product credibility
- Remove barriers for EdTech funding

Marketing and customers

- Evidence for marketing, brand awareness and product adoption
- Gain valuable insights on how to sell to schools or education providers
- Opens communication with educators and education providers
- Helps EdTech companies build relationships with potential customers





Education Providers

Participating in EdTech testbed trials is a great way to bring educators and education providers into the innovation ecosystem. Having committed partners in a structured framework focussed on product efficacy can provide the following benefits:

Innovation agenda

- Provides a clear framework for trialling EdTech solutions
- Alignment with education provider innovation agenda
- Builds evidence to inform decision making
- Supports decision-makers to choose, use and implement EdTech more effectively
- Ability to move from trial to adoption of new technologies and solutions as they are proven

Co-design & collaboration

- Opens communication with EdTech companies and provides the opportunity to co-develop
- Removes barriers for educators to cooperate with EdTech companies
- Reduces barriers to co-design
- Ease of access for procurement

Product design

- Enables student and educator feedback in product design

Educator experience

- Greater efficiencies for educators and education providers
- Encourages educator EdTech capacity and skills building
- Better teaching and learning outcomes

Student experience

- Improvements in student experience, success, academic integrity and student retention
- Empowers learners to make more effective use of technology
- Enhances the experience for digital native students and learners



State of Victoria

Facilitating EdTech testbed trials is an opportunity to establish Victoria as Australia's education innovation hub. The Alliance will become a pilot that will be replicated across the country to support the entire Australian EdTech ecosystem. A program — in a structured framework focussed on product efficacy — can provide the following benefits for the state of Victoria:

Global Victoria

- The Global Victoria EdTech Innovation Alliance utilises Australia's reputation in education to trial and exhibit Australian EdTech capability internationally
- Cross-sectoral support will strengthen Australian innovation and education capability, enabling Australia to compete more successfully in a rapidly changing global market
- With Victoria testing this space, the Alliance provides an increased presence of Australian EdTech in international education settings. This keeps Australian education innovation front-of-mind for both educators and learners

Framework

- Facilitate a national culture where government, education institutions and EdTech entrepreneurs collaborate
- A structured framework enables committed partners to work together quickly
- Focusses partners on the process of testing, evaluating and interpreting with research guidance
- The Alliance offers a tangible example of this testbed model for other states. This program will encourage other state governments to invest in similar opportunities in future years, fostering the broader Australian EdTech ecosystem

EdTech ecosystem

- Removes the barriers to collaboration between EdTech companies and education institutions
- Builds dynamic cooperation between EdTech, educators and education institutions
- EdTech products can be proven then scaled for global markets quicker

Education

- EdTech products can be proven then adopted by education institutions with confidence
- Greater collaboration enables EdTech entrepreneurs to develop solutions to the challenges faced in learning environments
- Strengthens educators' competence to choose and evaluate EdTech learning resources
- Narrows the gap between learning and digital development
- Enables better evidence in EdTech for education
- Enables the gathering and sharing of evidence on EdTech to improve educator understanding
- Incentivises education institutions to incorporate EdTech trials as part of their innovation agenda
- Opportunity to use technology to close the equity gaps in schools across Victoria

Research and literature

- The Alliance supports strategic international research partnerships in areas of mutual interest and specifically facilitates Victorian academics' access to markets with high-quality research and research funding
- Research contributes to the body of EdTech evidence and literature authored in Victoria
- Victoria will lead the trend to efficacy research in EdTech solution development

What the key contributors are saying

“We are excited to be delivering this important program for the Victorian Government to connect EdTech companies, education providers and researchers to document the impact of EdTech tools on learners. This is a great opportunity for EdTech entrepreneurs and educators alike to build real and lasting connections.

Having the support of the Victorian Government in such an important program further reinforces the central role that Victoria plays in the Australian EdTech ecosystem.”

David Linke, Managing Director of EduGrowth

“This came from a grass-roots effort. Back in 2018, EduGrowth hosted roundtables in all major states across Australia. They sought from those roundtables: What is required to make the EdTech ecosystem really start to hum? It came out of that there were six key steps, several of which are included in this program: the testbeds, the research, and the connection.

The most important thing is connecting the testbeds with the entrepreneurs and investors.”

Beverley Oliver, Alfred Deakin Professor

“I can't wait to see the results of the better connections between educators, researchers and industry that the EdTech Innovation Alliance will develop. I'm especially excited by the prospect of research evidence demonstrating the impacts of Australian educational technology innovations. We have a great EdTech scene in Australia dispersed across industry, research and educational institutions, and the EdTech Innovation Alliance will help connect the dots.”

Prof Phillip Dawson, Deakin University

“I am excited at the prospect of helping EdTech innovations find new and critical ways to identify, collect and report on their efficacy. This is a lovely example of how business and educational research can become partners to inspire greater trustworthiness of EdTech products and services.”

Prof Michael Henderson, Monash University

“I'm really excited by the opportunity to work on a program that focuses on a partnership between technology developers and educators — it's a unique opportunity to understand how to integrate EdTech into diverse education contexts.”

Prof Margaret Bearman, Deakin University

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The Global Victoria EdTech Innovation Alliance forms an integral part of the Victorian Government's \$33.4 million International Education Short-Term Recovery Plan. This plan aims to support the short-term economic recovery of the international education sector, and to continue to support international students, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.