

## SYNOPSIS OF A LEARNING TOOL

Every nation is reforming education as a vehicle to build the strategic workforce that will engender future prosperity.

As globalisation and outsourcing wrest lucrative high-tech jobs from geographic boundaries, unsophisticated workers will turn to the slave labour force of the emerging global village.

Barrack Obama, President of the U.S.A. captured this clearly when he said, "In the 21st century, when countries that outeducate us today will out-compete us tomorrow, there is nothing that will determine the quality of our future as a nation and the lives our children will lead more than the kind of education that we provide them. Nothing is more important." The strategic goal of education today should be to impart in kids, the knowledge and skills that will be demanded by the economy of the future, though we cannot tell what that economy will look like. Sir Ken Robinson illustrated this when he "How do we wondered. educate our children to take their place in the economies of the 21st century, though we can't anticipate what the economy will look like next week."

It's thus pertinent that today's pupils, who are the core of tomorrow's workforce, should be equipped with knowledge and skills that are adaptable to the dynamism and unpredictability of 21st Century economy.

As we linger on innovating curriculum to prepare our children for pioneering roles, our education system churns out an illprepared workforce, empowered only to consume the products and services their peers create, just like ours.

Curriculum needs to be restructured to impart knowledge plus the crucial skills of critical/analytical thinking, lifelong learning/research, collaboration and digital nativity. Systems that fail to instil these central aptitudes will produce schooled individuals who are not skilled in the knowledge required by the 21st century (effectively 21st century illiterates).

Trilling & Fadel, 2009, p16, concur: **"To be** productive contributors to society in our 21st century, you need to be able to quickly learn the core content of a field of knowledge while also mastering a broad portfolio of essentials in learning, innovation, technology, and careers skills needed for work and life"

We note that every child has unique potentials, gifts and talents that distinguish him or her. The focus of government and educational administrators must shift from dispensing an outmoded rote and didactic curriculum to providing tools that advance experiential learning so that kids can unlock their God-given potentials and prosper through their talents.

Information & Communications Technology (ICT) bring the most modern learning resources home to each child, and mitigate obstacles created by economic, social, cultural or geographical factors.

ICT has become an indispensable element of the K-12 curriculum worldwide because it offers an appealing and fun platform for kids, delivers consistent learning experiences, cuts time & costs and builds up-to-date skills. We leverage the power of ICT, the natural seminal aptitude of children to explore, and an innovative learner-mediated curriculum, to efficiently deliver functional education in underserved city or rural schools. We take cognisance of the peculiar challenges to education and human capital development in these areas, and transform those challenges into opportunities.

Rexador is an Information and Communication Technology for Education business, formed to research innovative learning technologies to bring Functional Education to children in developing regions everywhere they live under the sun.

