







5<sup>th</sup> UNESCO Forum on Transformative Education

for Sustainable Development, Global Citizenship,

Health and Well-being

The implementation of transformative education – where do we stand?

# **Assessing Social and Emotional Skills**

Concurrent sessions 2
Session 2.1

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# Assessing Social and Emotional Skills



# What is Social and Emotional Learning (SEL)?



understand and manage emotions,



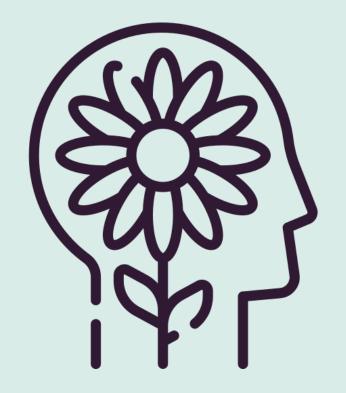
set and achieve positive goals,



feel and show empathy for others



maintain positive relationships





make responsible decisions.

## SEL Programs

#### Effective SEL programs must include:



a well-researched pedagogical approach



clear, measurable goals



tools for monitoring and assessing progress

Kaizen culture - methodology that pushes forward the continuous improvement based on the constant small positive changes that can result in major and more significant growth.

Thus, SEL assessment needs to be continuous and backed by data analytics.

# SELF REPORTS

#### Advantage:

easy to obtain and can be anonymized

#### **Challenges:**

- Stated versus revealed preferences Learners view of abilities but might not accurately reflect how they actually think and perform a skill.
- Time consuming, long and boring
- Difficult to find scales that measure all aspects of a specific skill

- Interpersonal Reactivity Index (Davis, 1980) for Empathy
- Cognitive and Affective Mindfulness Scale Revised (Feldman, et al., 2006), Fears of Compassion Scale (Gilbert, 2011) for Compassion

# 2. Scenario-Based Analysis



Participants are provided real-life like scenarios and are asked to make choices to evaluate their skill/competency of that skill.

**Advantage** 

Can be interesting, engaging and provide fairly reliable insights.

Challenge

Cannot be created for all SEL competencies

Might have cultural challenges in implementation

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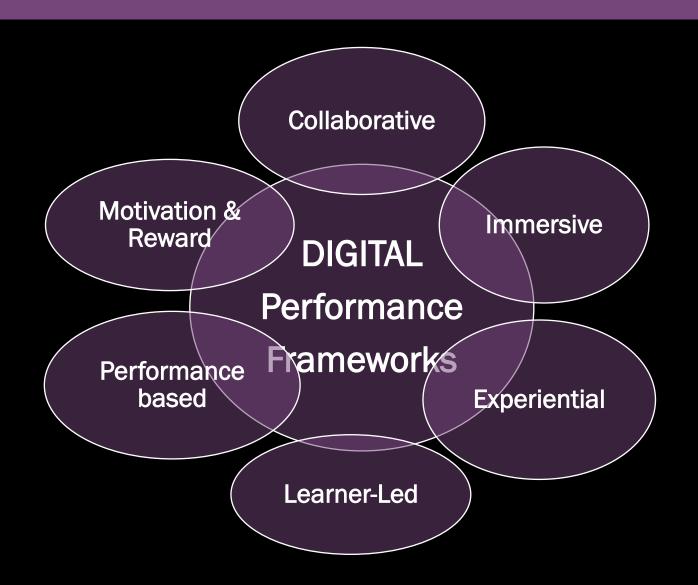
**Example:**Advantage: can be interesting, engaging and provide fairly reliable insights.

**Challenges:** 

**Cannot be created for all SEL competencies** 

Might have cultural challenges in implementation

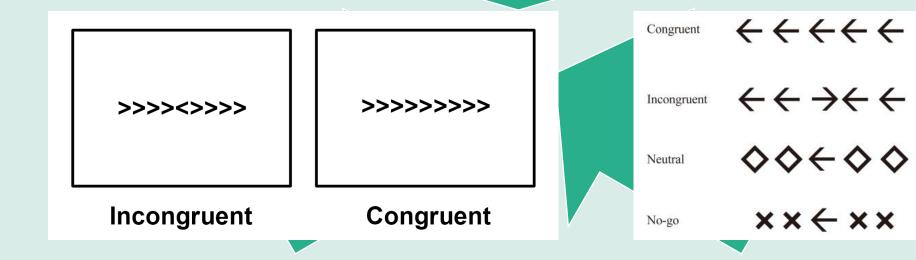
# Digital performance based Frameworks



# 3. Performance-based Digital Assessments



Rooted in empirical evidence and common sense, can be implemented digitally, and can explain the internal mechanisms of the mind and body through which such changes may occur.



## 4. Emotional Perspective-Taking



Participants are presented with scenes of two actors enacting various social interactions

Situations may be emotional and neutral situations.

The face of one actor is masked.

Each scene is
followed by a
response screen in
which the
participants need to
reflect on and select
how the masked
actor would feel in
each situation



#### 5. Digital Games for SEL Assessment

"Hall of Heroes", is a game based social skills assessment system. It assesses children's social problem-solving strategies and aptitudes across six domains.

#### **Competencies Assessed**

| Impulse Control      | Degree to which the child can stay focused and on task while problem solving   |
|----------------------|--|
| Emotional Regulation | Degree to which the child can control what he or she does and says in an emotionally charged situation   |
| Communication        | Degree to which the child is able to communicate clearly and respectfully, as well as listen accurately in conversation with another character |
| Empathy              | Degree to which the child demonstrates caring for and understanding of another character.  |
| Co-operation         | Degree to which child demonstrates teamwork with another child in order to solve the problem.  |
| Social Initiation    | Degree to which the child initiates social play appropriately with others  |

#### **Game Administration**

"Today you get to play an online game for 45 minutes. You'll get to create an avatar to represent you in the game and customize how it looks. Your avatar will be a student at Hall of Heroes, a virtual school where the students are learning to be super heroes. In each scene there will be a problem: maybe you can't find your class, or there might be students who are bothering you. Try your best to solve these problems just like you would if they happened at your real school."

Based on performance students were assigned to one of three categories:

- Low (Emerging),
- Medium (Improving)
- High (Proficient)

Article

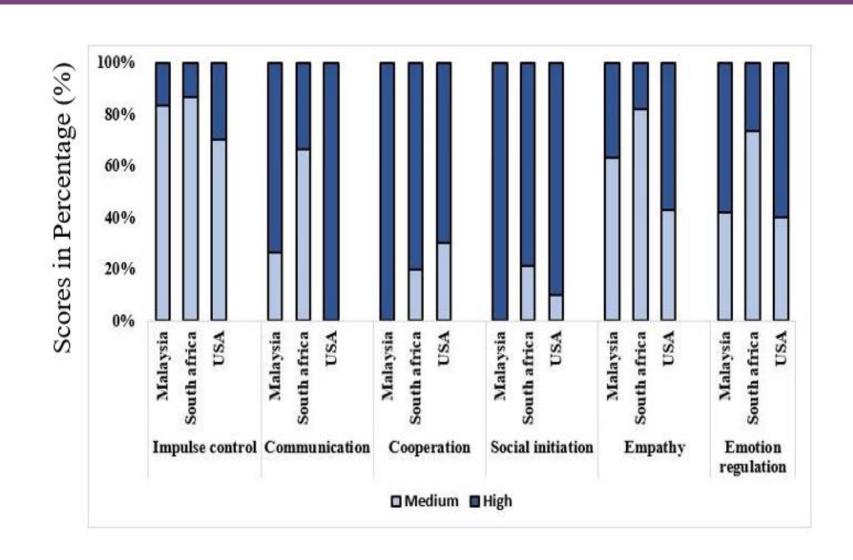
Game-Based
Socio-Emotional
Skills Assessment:
A Comparison Across
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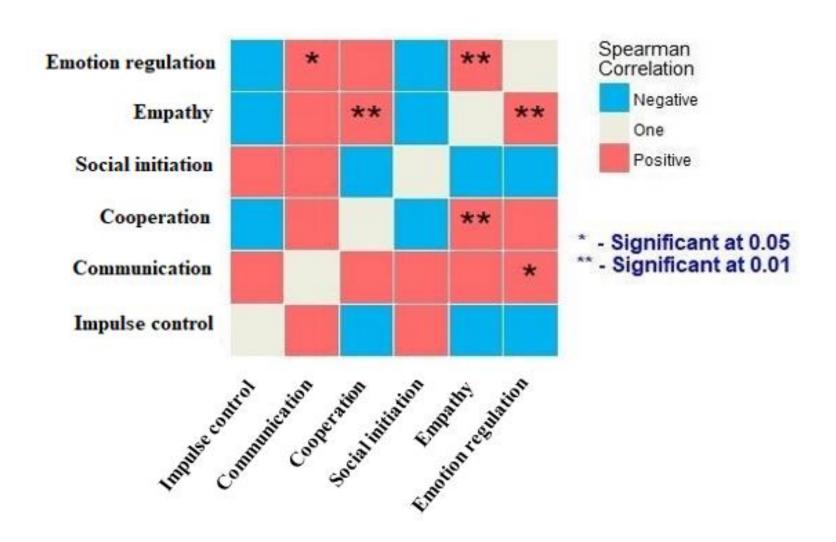


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### Cultural differences in SE skills



#### Correlation between SE skills



### SEL Assessment

- Assessment for learning rather than of learning
- Important to use a strengths versus difficulties approach
- Growth mindset
- Digital pedagogies offer promise in both cultivation and assessment.
- Fertile ground for research

# **THANK YOU!**

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