

The 7th International STEM Education Conference

September 19-20, 2026, Istanbul, Türkiye

Call for proposals

Dear Colleague,

The 7th International STEM Education Conference will be held in Istanbul on September 19-20, 2026. The theme of the conference is “**Emerging Technologies and STEM Education.**” The following sub-themes will also be covered:

- Digital tools and resources
- Computational thinking
- Virtual learning environments
- Personalized learning and assessment
- Teacher professional development
- STEM Education and 21st Century Skills
- Problem-solving in STEM education
- Creativity and Innovation in STEM Education
- Analytical Thinking in STEM Education
- Collaboration and Communication in STEM Education

Participants will engage in discussions, workshops, and presentations that address the evolving role of STEM education in shaping a sustainable and technologically advanced future.

We want to hear what you have to say! We are looking forward to seeing you in Istanbul.

Please help us spread the word on the conference by circulating the call for proposals in your networks. We look forward to your contributions and will happily welcome you to the beautiful city of Istanbul.

The **deadline for** submission of proposals (paper presentations, workshop, materials market) is **01 June 2026.**

To submit your proposal and for regularly updated information about the conference, please visit www.stempd.net

Kind regards,

STEM PD Community of Practice

www.stempd.net

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1. Conference overview

1.1 Aims and dimensions

The International STEM Education Conference is a global event focused on professional development in STEM education, uniting teacher educators, policymakers, teachers, and various other stakeholders involved in the field.

The conference will examine contemporary issues in STEM education, focusing on how emerging technologies, innovations, and sustainable practices can be effectively integrated into teaching and learning. Participants will have the chance to engage in discussions, workshops, and presentations that address the evolving role of STEM education in shaping a sustainable, technologically advanced future.

The conference will provide a platform for sharing innovative approaches, research findings, and best practices related to STEM education, focusing on the “**Emerging Technologies and STEM Education.**”

1.2 Target groups

Teachers, teacher educators and researchers, course leaders and relevant networks, teacher professional development (PD) centers, science and STEM education support centers, presidents and representatives of PD institutions, teacher associations, EU-funded projects, and policy makers in the field of STEM Education.

1.3 Conference formats

The conference will use both traditional and innovative formats to help bring out the specific benefit of gathering a circle of participants from research, practice and policy. Vivid exchange and collaborative work will be ensured by spaces for co-creation and for sharing ideas and results:

- **Single Oral Presentation:** this format allows for 20-minute presentations followed by questions and discussion. For the oral presentation, you must submit an extended abstract (200-500 words), including the title and references.
- **Workshops:** This format allows presenters to display, explain, and familiarize users with an innovative approach, a teaching or research tool, a teaching-learning sequence, or some other aspect of research or teaching practice. Workshops are scheduled for 60 minutes.
- **Planery events:** including key lectures and a round table on STEM education issues that involve various stakeholders and perspectives.
- **STEM Expo & Materials Market** strives to give educational companies a place to showcase their products, services, and knowledge, including STEM-based activities and interactive exhibits. Besides that, allowing participants to exhibit interesting professional development materials, classroom materials, and co-creation templates and learn about other materials.

2. Organisational structure of the conference

2.1 Conference chairs

Gultekin Cakmakci, Hacettepe University, Türkiye

Ben Akpan, The Executive Director of the Science Teacher Association of Nigeria

(STAN) Gokhan Kaya, Kastamonu University, Türkiye

2.2 Program committee

The program committee will support the conference chairs with scientific and conceptual advice when selecting proposals to assure a high relevance and scientific quality of the conference and possible subsequent publication(s).

2.3 Organisation committee

Gokhan Kaya, Metin Sardag, Mehmet Sogut, Mustafa Altunel, Tuba Ecevit, Gultekin Cakmakci.

2.4 Venue and accommodation

The 7th International STEM Education Conference will take place at Ibn Haldun University in Istanbul, Türkiye.

Istanbul is well connected by international flights and offers easy access through two major airports: Istanbul Airport (IST) and Sabiha Gökçen Airport (SAW). The conference venue can be reached by taxi, airport shuttles, or public transportation from both airports. Travel time to the university campus varies between 30 to 90 minutes, depending on the airport and traffic conditions.

The conference organizing committee will provide hotel and accommodation recommendations close to the university as well as in central parts of the city. A full list of accommodation options and transportation details will be made available on the conference website at the time of the registration deadline. Please note participants are responsible for making and paying for their own travel and accommodation arrangements.

2.5 Registration & fees

You must register to attend the conference. The registration form will be available on May 2025 on the conference website <https://www.stempd.net/registration-page/>

2.6 Important dates

- **Submission timeline:** March 15 - June 01, 2026
- **Feedbacks/Decisions for Submissions:** Until July 2026 (continuously)
- **Registration Start:** May 01, 2026
- **Early Bird Registration Deadline:** June 15, 2026
- **Late Registration Deadline:** 01 July 2026
- **Publishing the Conference program:** August 2026
- **Conference Dates:** September 19-20, 20256

3. Proposal submission information

3.1 Overview on formats with call for submissions

The conference will offer a platform for sharing innovative approaches, research findings, and best practices related to STEM education, focusing on “**Emerging Technologies and STEM Education.**”

Participants will have the chance to engage in discussions, workshops, and presentations that focus on the changing role of STEM education in shaping a sustainable and technologically advanced future.

3.2 Submissions for oral presentations

We welcome oral presentations of research-based papers, as well as practical reports or demonstrations (e.g. a simulation of a professional development situation, demonstration of materials, demonstration of e-learning support platforms).

Proposals should be precise and include sufficient details and references for a critical review. Please keep in mind when planning/writing your proposal that it should also address the purpose of promoting innovative STEM learning and connections with open schooling and conference themes.

The length of the proposal must be **two pages**, including some references. A template is provided at the website <https://www.stempd.net/submission/>

3.3 Submissions for workshops

We welcome proposals for workshops or co-creation spaces which actively involve participants. Workshops provide opportunities for participants to experience already designed classroom or PD materials for teachers or teacher educators.

Emphasize in your proposal the question or problem that participants will work on and the way of working that they will experience. We will try to create much time in the program for these co-creation sessions. Please be aware that during such a session of 60 minutes you will not have time for an extensive presentation.

Proposals should be precise and include sufficient details and references for a critical review. Please keep in mind when planning/writing your proposal that it should also address the purpose of promoting innovative STEM learning and connections with open schooling and conference themes.

The length of the proposal must be **two pages**, including some references. A template is provided at the website <https://www.stempd.net/submission/>

3.5 Submissions for the STEM Expo & Materials Market

STEM Expo & Materials Market strives to give STEM centers, institutions and educational companies a place to showcase their products, services and knowledge including STEM based activities and interactive exhibits. Join us to share your best practices and products: www.stempd.net/submission/

A materials market will allow attendees to investigate a broad range of PD materials and classroom materials supporting PD in the area of STEM, Open Schooling and Conference Themes exhibited by European projects, educators and PD course participants.

The materials market will continue as an open exhibition and forum for all conference participants. An accompanying poster exhibition will display current developments in teacher professional development in STEM education.

If you want to participate in this market as an exhibitor, please send in the following information:

- What kind of materials (PD materials and classroom materials supporting PD) you will present (focus, subjects, background, specific features or aims, designer/owner, languages available, etc.) (materials must be primarily in English).

Please also let us know:

- The amount of materials (would you need one or two tables of 100 cm x 60 cm)?

You must prepare a poster (using at minimum 23" x 33"= 59cm x 84cm and at maximum 33" x 47" = 84cm x 119cm) to accompany your exhibit that includes an abstract of the materials (max. of 500 words) and possibly some relevant visuals.

A template will be available on the conference <https://www.stempd.net/submission/>