

# **Technology and the Wisdom Exchange**

## **Transcript**

We live in an era with warp speed communications. When some of us became adults, we did not yet have fax machines. In the towns where we grew up, no one had a private telephone line. You would pick up the line and hear someone else talking.

When we first began to encourage schools to communicate, everything came in a cardboard box and took months to arrive.

Today, teachers and learners can exchange wisdom about agriculture or tribal unification movements or disease prevention or climate change impacts in a heartbeat.

When we have a pandemic, as much as each nation struggles through its challenges, we are also better prepared for it than we were a century ago, because now we can move students toward distance learning and seek ways to provide the socio-emotional and cognitive support they need. One country can share its ideas with the next, including its plan for parents to play a role in the learning process.

Learning leaders as well can communicate across borders. They can share best practices and talk about what has worked best to help their own schools address similar challenges. What a tremendous impact these communications have had on education since 2020.

The essential key is to help learners see communications tools as efficient means to inform, to inspire, and to uplift, not so much as social media platforms for debate, but as new opportunities for resolving dilemmas, regenerating life on the planet, and for embracing their human family.

Read the article, 'An Innovative Education Program's Response to Covid-19, Utilizing ICT in Six African Nations.'

Next, read the supporting document, 'Supporting Actions for Technology and the Wisdom Exchange.' Compare these ideas with projects you see featured in the annual reports and on the map at the website [www.fullcirclelearning.org](http://www.fullcirclelearning.org). Did the projects merely automate and speed up communications or did they enhance the quality of the projects?

After reading the materials, see if you can identify several positive ways to encourage your learners to use the technologies of the present and future. Then design a wisdom exchange idea of your own that includes both low-tech and high-tech components. See what happens when you help learners share their local and global perspectives by remembering to incorporate the best tools of the past along with current technologies.

Therein lies the wisdom.