



Dr. Sumitra is Senior Vice President & Head of Strategy and Policy at Malaysia Digital Economy Corporation (MDEC). She currently leads MDEC's corporate strategy, planning, policy advocacy, and ESG agenda. Sumitra's career spans a range of management domains such as Strategy Development, Project Management, Business Development and Partnerships, Government Relations, Public Affairs, Talent Development and ESG, primarily in digital economy-related sectors. In her previous roles at MDEC, Sumitra built and led several high-performing teams to initiate, establish and scale socio-economic development programmes that impacted more than 2 million Malaysians. Sumitra holds a PhD in Business & Economics from Monash University. Her most important role is being a mother to two digital natives.

Title of Keynote address: 'Technology in Education The Way Forward & Future Horizon'

Abstract:

“The widespread impact of the COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in the rapid use of digital technology in education. At the same time, students who do not have access to technology, be it devices or connectivity, have fallen further behind. Within the job market, automation is changing jobs and skills needed for future of work. These changes are expected to reduce many existing jobs, yet will create many more new jobs, mainly jobs that require digital tech skills. While technology may displace many, it can also help to accelerate re-skilling and up-skilling. Hence, technology can be a boon and a bane for the future of education and work. Whatever the case, it is now apparent that technology adoption and integration into education and talent development is no longer an option. Given the hyper connectedness of technology and fast changing nature of education and work, there is a need for agile and flexible education policies to ensure that education outcomes are consistent with the needs of the 4th industrial revolution. To this end, the keynote address will share some of the emerging trends and best practices of technology in education. “