

## **Lemann Foundation and Omidyar Network Announce Co-investment in Digital Tools Aligned with National Learning Standards**

May 17, 2017 - The Lemann Foundation and Omidyar Network today announce a new collaboration to promote the work of entrepreneurs who are committed to education and to the development of technological solutions and innovative tools to facilitate the implementation of the National Learning Standards (BNCC, Base Nacional Curricular Comum).

Announced by the Ministry of Education on April 6, the Standards set forth what every student has the right to learn. The results from PISA (Program for International Student Assessment), carried out by OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development), show that the best-performing countries rely on learning standards. This is an approach that, when complemented with other measures—such as teachers' instruction and aligned textbooks—has proven to enhance students' learning.

The implementation process will require a lot of work from teachers in their classrooms and the cooperation among states, cities, and civil society to turn the Standards into reality and help promote real breakthroughs and improved learning outcomes.

“The Standards pave the way to ensure that all Brazilian students have the same right to learn, but we are aware of the challenges that educators, school administrators, parents, and guardians are to face to make it happen,” said Denis Mizne, executive director, Lemann Foundation. “We believe the investment in BNCC-centered technologies will help guarantee the access to quality education to all students,” he added.

Together, the Lemann Foundation and Omidyar Network will invest a multi-million dollar initiative over the next two years to identify and support entrepreneurs and projects that facilitate the Standards' implementation through technology. These solutions could include innovative ways to assess students' learning levels and personalize learning plans to their needs. The tools are expected to have a direct impact in classrooms on student learning. The target audience consists of teachers and students, but the tools can also be used by school administrators to help devise syllabuses, to support activities performed by secretaries of education, and to engage parents and guardians, among others.

“We see tremendous opportunity to invest in innovative tools that promise to improve learning outcomes in Brazil,” said Eliza Erikson, venture partner, Omidyar Network. “Supporting solutions that align with the new BNCC standards and that are tailored to the needs of Brazilian students, teachers, and school leaders will enable their adoption and ultimate success.”

This is the second partnership with this intent announced by the Lemann Foundation. Founder and Executive Secretary of the Movement for the National Learning Standards, the Lemann Foundation announced last March a co-investment partnership with Google.org. Their objective is to have Nova Escola and the best teachers in the country develop a digital platform for quality teaching resources that are aligned with BNCC.

### **About the National Learning Standards**

BNCC set forth basic knowledge and skills that every Basic Education student must learn each year. This is the first national document that clearly defines what students are expected to learn in each subject in primary and secondary education, and also in early childhood stages.

Education networks are to redefine their syllabuses to incorporate the guidance brought about by the BNCC. Teachers are also to receive instruction, and the textbooks and external assessments will be aligned with the document.

Planned at the National Plan for Education, the BNCC was devised by the Ministry of Education through a collaborative process that began in 2015 and received over 12 million inputs. It is currently being analyzed by the National Council of Education and is expected to be approved by the end of 2017.

### **About the Lemann Foundation**

Founded in 2002 by Jorge Paulo Lemann, the Lemann Foundation is a nonprofit family organization. The Foundation seeks to ensure high-quality, public education for all Brazilian children and to build a network of talents who are committed to resolving the country's major social issues. In order to achieve this goal, the Lemann Foundation develops programs that impact millions of students in public schools across the country, as well as institutions of excellence that strive for a more just, advanced nation.

### **About Omidyar Network**

Omidyar Network is dedicated to creating opportunity for people to improve their lives. Established in 2004 by eBay founder Pierre Omidyar and his wife Pam, the organization invests in and helps scale innovative organizations to catalyze economic and social change. Omidyar Network has committed more than \$1 billion to foster economic advancement and encourage individual participation across multiple initiatives, including Education, Emerging Tech, Financial Inclusion, Governance & Citizen Engagement, and Property Rights. To learn more, visit [www.omidyar.com](http://www.omidyar.com), and follow on Twitter @omidyarnetwork #PositiveReturns.

### **More information**

Lemann Foundation

[assessoriaimprensa@fundacaolemann.org.br](mailto:assessoriaimprensa@fundacaolemann.org.br)

+ 55 11 3897-9566