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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Future of Education: Global Leaders Meet in Cartagena, Colombia

Cartagena, Colombia, February 5, 2020–Eisenhower Fellowships will convene thought leaders from around world in Cartagena, Colombia next week to explore the Future of Education, a critical issue in every corner of the planet. This three-day global conference will look at how educational systems prepare young people for the future and how well they have adapted to the explosion in technology that has disrupted life, work and the status quo in every society.

From February 13 to 16, leaders from all fields in the diverse and influential global network of Eisenhower Fellows will join leading educational thinkers, high-tech innovators, business leaders, government officials and other prominent experts to address the challenges and opportunities ahead as governments and educators struggle to navigate the continuous rapid change that has transformed the very concept of learning and the future of work.

More than 50 experts, educators and entrepreneurs in the field of education will participate in big-picture plenary panel discussions and short, tightly focused talks that will take conference participants around the world with snapshots of current education trends from a cross-section of the 56 countries on six continents where Eisenhower Fellowships is active.

Set against the backdrop of Cartagena, a breathtaking UNESCO World Heritage site on the Colombian Caribbean coast, EF will present the findings of a new global poll on the future of education in more than 20 countries. A new class of Eisenhower Fellowships Youth Leaders, 17 diverse, exceptional leaders from 15 countries between the ages of 18 and 25, will also attend.

Conference attendees will participate in the organization's new eLabs, interactive platforms for Fellows, sponsors and friends of the organization from around the world to present innovative projects advancing the Future of Education.

"With a rapidly changing landscape and increased access to a diversity of online platforms, we've seen a transformation in traditional approaches to education," said George de Lama, president of Eisenhower Fellowships. "I'm looking forward to hearing from experts in the field share their insights into the knowledge and skills the students of today and tomorrow will need to thrive and shape the world."

WHEN: FEBRUARY 13-16, 2020



WHERE: CARTAGENA, COLOMBIA

WHO: More than 200 experts and leaders in the private, public and nonprofit sectors, including:

- Wendell Pritchett, the 30th provost of the University of Pennsylvania
- Freddy Vega, co-founder and CEO of online learning platform Platzi
- María Lourdes Dieck-Assad, vice president for hemispheric and global affairs at the University of Miami
- Arvind Gupta, founder of the Digital India Foundation
- Emiliana Vegas, co-director of the Center for Universal Education at the Brookings Institution
- Rana Dajani, associate professor of biology & biotechnology at Hashemite University and the founder of We Love Reading
- Juan Luis Cebrián, president emeritus of El Pais
- Kathleen Kennedy, executive director of the Center for Collective Intelligence at Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- Juan Carlos Pinzón, president of ProBogota and former Colombian defense minister and ambassador to the United States
- Mark S. Wrighton, professor and chancellor emeritus of Washington University in St. Louis
- Pilvi Torsti, state secretary for Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment of Finland
- Gus Schmedlen, former vice president of Education Worldwide, Hewlett Packard

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Now in its 66th year and named for America's 34th president, Eisenhower Fellowships brings together innovative leaders from all fields from around the globe who tackle big challenges to better the world around them. Since 1953, more than 2,400 mid-career leaders from 115 countries have benefited from the unique, customized experience of an Eisenhower Fellowship.

<u>Eisenhower Fellowships</u> identifies, empowers and connects innovative leaders through a transformative fellowship experience and lifelong engagement in a global network of dynamic change agents committed to creating a world more peaceful, prosperous and just.

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