

## **Igniting young minds through equity and excellence in STEM education**

**Arnab Bhattacharya**

Homi Bhabha Centre for Science Education

Igniting young minds is central to building a scientifically literate, innovative, and equitable society. Sustained investments in science education, grounded in equity and excellence, are essential to nurture curiosity and talent across the educational spectrum. Drawing on five decades of experience at the Homi Bhabha Centre for Science Education (HBCSE), it highlights complementary pathways spanning experiential classroom learning, teacher development, undergraduate nurture, and high-school talent identification. Initiatives that democratize access for under-served communities, leverage low-cost technologies and new media, and create informal spaces for scientific dialogue illustrate how long-term, coherent engagement can transform classrooms and communities, empowering young minds to explore science as a way of understanding the world.