# 2021 Final Year Project Definition Form

**Project Title:**

A framework for improved teacher productivity through disruptive technology

**Company details:**

Curro Holdings Ltd.
38 Oxford St, Durbanville, Cape Town, 7550
www.curro.co.za

**Company background:**

Curro's vision is to make independent school education accessible to more learners throughout southern Africa. Curro was established in 1998 and is the leading for-profit independent school provider in southern Africa. It develops, acquires and manages independent schools for learners from three months to Grade 12.

We believe the purpose of education is to empower every person with the opportunity to achieve their potential as individuals and members of society. We further believe that education is the cornerstone in the development of quality leaders and responsible citizens who will positively impact the economy, environment, and society.

**Project Description:**

Recent technological advancements have revolutionised the operations of various industries and professions. The development of these technologies brings the prospect of higher productivity, increased efficiencies, convenience and ultimately economic growth. The migration of jobs to become more technology focused, however, brings its own challenges, some of which are the digital literacy of workers and the possibility of many human-centred activities becoming obsolete. For business leaders, companies and employees, these shifts create significant uncertainty, but also incredible potential benefits.

There is now, more than ever, an increased need for companies to be informed about advancements in technology and to seek opportunities to apply them in pursuit of increasing worker productivity, eliminating redundant and trivial tasks, thereby freeing up people to focus on tasks that add the most value in their profession. Should a company become stagnant in this regard, it creates a significant risk of losing its ability to compete against others or pricing itself out of the market.

In the context of a technology-driven company, such as Curro Holdings Ltd, innovation through technology plays a pivotal role in the medium- and long-term strategy of the company. Not only is Curro searching for opportunities to improve the learning experience of the learner, but it is also searching ways to develop a convenient, productive and sustainable working environment for its teachers. Through achieving these objectives, Curro takes large strides in pursuit of its overarching goal, which is to make good quality education more accessible throughout southern Africa.

This problem holds significant value for Curro in terms of identifying opportunities for innovation within the education space. Furthermore, the student will be allowed the opportunity to work closely with a team of Industrial Engineers in practice, while gaining exposure to the innovative company culture at Curro. This project aims to provide the student with invaluable skills in the field of enterprise engineering, which will prove extremely helpful on their path towards a successful career.

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| **Industry mentor contact details:** | Ms. Lelani Snyman | *Lelani.j@curro.co.za* | *087 087 4723* |

**Project topic application process:**

*Please email all applications for the topic to the relevant Curro mentor for the project.*

**What does this project aim to develop/improve and in what way will this be achieved?**

The problem that should be addressed in this project, therefore, is to:

i) identify the tasks that encompass the typical workday of an educator,
ii) determine the non-core, non-value adding, and repetitive tasks included in the tasks identified in i),
iii) research and critically assess the readiness and relevance of automation or 4th industrial revolution (4IR) technologies against a pre-determined criterion,
iv) determine the feasibility of implementing these technologies identified in iii) to supplement or replace non-core tasks, so to streamline educator workdays and increase available time for core activities, such as teaching and learner development and finally, design the ideal to-be state after the implementation of these technologies.

***Specific* Industrial Engineering skills (tools/processes/procedures) used:**

- Research of literature
- Applying enterprise engineering innovation frameworks
- Implementing continuous improvement methodologies
- Time and motion studies
- 4th Industrial Revolution technologies