

Education and Training activities, events, research and resources.

Welcome to our quarterly update on ICT integration in Education and Training, activities, events, research and resources. As coordinator of the African Union's ICT integration in Education Cluster for the Continental Education Strategy for Africa (CESA), we seek to promote catalytic and innovative approaches in this sector. We continue to work with schools, ministries of education and partners to develop, implement and promote ICT-based teacher professional development, aligning open educational resources to national curricular standards and supporting the development of applications that allow for independent and autonomous learning among youth. GESCI carries out a range of research initiatives and pilot studies in digitally-enabled curricular resources for schools in topics such as the climate change, remote learning for out-of-school children, special needs education and youth skills for entrepreneurship to inform policy making and scaling. This edition outlines some current GESCI initiatives and activities and upcoming education activities and networking opportunities.

Content Highlights



ADAPT Project Lead Samuel Otieno
at the values and life skills workshop in Tanzania



ADAPT Project Lead Samuel Otieno
and Knowledge Champion, Tanzania
Dr. Maryam Ismail at the Schools 2030 Forum

Upcoming Events

- ☐ Launching the ADAPT formative study reports
- ☐ ADEA's 2022 Triennale
- ☐ mEducation Alliance Symposium

Education Development News

- ☐ Inaugural Schools 2030 Global Forum
- ☐ eLearning Africa Conference



ADAPT Project Manager Uganda, Dr. John Mitana
presents ADAPT Formative Study Findings to the
RELI Uganda values and life skills cluster

GESCI Updates Vol.2 2022

GESCI Activities

GESCI recognized as a core implementing partner in the African Union's Institute of Education for Development.

The Continental Education Strategy for Africa (CESA) ICT in Education and Education Planning have been recognized as key implementing partners of the 2023-2025 Strategic Plan in implementing the African Union's Digital Transformation Strategy for Education. GESCI chairs the CESA ICT in Education Cluster.

GESCI and the AU Pan African Virtual & e-University (PAVEU) a Mini-Grid Entrepreneurship and Digitalization Course

GESCI partnered with AU PAVEU to develop an online post graduate program on Minigrad Entrepreneurship and Digitalization that is scheduled to be launched this year with the University of Buea Cameroon. The course content was developed by a team of experts from GESCI and Universities in Tanzania, Kenya, Namibia and Algeria.

Capacity Building for the Regional Education Learning Initiative (RELI) Values and life Skills Cluster Member organizations

GESCI, through the Adapting assessment into policy and learning initiative (ADAPT) organised a workshop with the objective of exploring ways of capacity building for the members in the Regional Education Learning Initiative (RELI) Values and Life Skills (VaLi) Cluster. ADAPT seeks to build capacity of national education systems in Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda to integrate Assessment of Life Skills and Values -ALiVE (and its data) into the curriculum and decision-making processes; to achieve the following outcomes and outputs; a) Knowledge and learnings about how education systems in East Africa can better integrate summative assessment results (like ALiVE) to improve curriculum design and delivery consolidated. b) A learning community focused on developing and transferring capacity to measure and utilize assessments of 21st Century Skills across the three Global Partnership for Education countries established and strengthened. Read more here: <https://bit.ly/3ORUhc2>

Commemorating the 2022 International Day of African Child

GESCI joined other civil society organisations under the Regional Education Learning Initiative (RELI) network in marking the 2022 International Day of the African Child. To mark this day whose theme is 'eliminating harmful practices affecting children' GESCI, Kakenya's Dream, Zizi Afrique and Population Council co-organised a 3-day learning trip with child-led conversations with school going children in Transmara, Narok County. The main objective was to learn through child-led conversations with women, men, and youth about life skills and culture. The three-day learning event was concluded by a celebration with learners from primary and secondary schools, government officials, parents, teachers and stakeholders in education. The main event was presided over by the Deputy Chief Justice – Lady Justice Philomena Mbete Mwilu. In her keynote speech, the Deputy Chief Justice told the fathers who were marrying off their daughters for 11 cows with a solution which was to educate that daughter and she would buy him 1000 cows and do much more when she is educated. She said this while reacting to the presentations made by children on the challenges they face. She went on to tell parents to allow children to be children and not poison their minds with bad advice. She concluded by saying the judiciary is committed to protecting the children of our nation from the harmful practices and forge a nation where our children can be children and thrive in their own creative ways. Read more here: <https://bit.ly/3zpZa6p>

Kenya Education in Emergencies (EiE) Working Group Coordination Meeting

GESCI participated in this meeting where the National Ministry of Education Drought Response Plan was presented and endorsed. During the meeting, the Ministry of Education called organisations to extend support in the implementation of the drought response plan by coordinating interventions in the affected counties. The meeting was presided over by the Director General, State Department of Early Learning and Basic Education, Dr. Elyas Abdi.

Inaugural Schools 2030 Global Forum – Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

The forum's theme was Reimagining the Role(s) of Schools, Systems and Societies for the Future of Learning. Schools2030 is a ten-year participatory learning improvement programme based in 1,000 government schools across ten countries. The first ever global conference was held in Dar es Salaam in Tanzania brought together approximately 200 delegates from more than 25 countries – drawn from a range of experts from key educational constituencies including, but not limited to: Youth, Teachers, School Networks, Government Leaders, Education System Leaders, Funders, Researchers, and Civil Society. This year's was co-hosted with UNICEF Tanzania and the Regional Education Initiative (RELI), a collaborative network of over 70 organizations working on improving learning outcomes in East Africa among other supporters. GESCI participated in a roundtable on measuring what youth need to succeed and how might we assess the knowledge, skills, attitude and values young people need and co-facilitated another round table on designing with youth and how we might increase youth voices to catalyse change in the education ecosystem. The engagements from the forum helped in generating new insights, partnerships, and actionable steps about how best schools, systems and societies can work better together to achieve SDG4 by 2030.

GPE KIX Africa 19 Hub Workshops: Developing and Implementing Competency-Based Education and Curricula in Basic Education Systems in Africa

June & July. GESCI joined a community of practice for policymakers and experts to exchange critical knowledge about regional innovations, evidence, and good practices in implementing and monitoring competency-based education. The GPE KIX Africa 19 Hub Secretariat at the UNESCO International Institute for Capacity Building in Africa (IICBA), in coordination with UNICEF Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office (ESARO) and the African Union (AU) organized) interactive virtual workshops based on topics of interest recently identified by KIX Africa 19 country representatives in ministries of education and local education groups.

Regional Education Learning Initiative (RELI) Country Convening, Kenya

GESCI joined over 25 civil society organisations at the convening organised by the RELI. This year's theme focused on taking stock to inform the future of education. The 3-day convening brought together learners, education stakeholders from the government and private sector.

African Union Digital Transformation Strategy (DTS) Consultations with Member States

GESCI, a member of the DTS Task Team participated in a meeting of member states on a presentation of the final draft of the DTS strategy for feedback and discussion on the implementation. This meeting was attended by representatives from the African Union (AU), European Union (EU) and the Policy and Regulation Initiative for Digital Africa (A joint initiative of the AU and EU).

Formative Study Report on Utilisation of Learning Assessments in East Africa- Validation Meetings

GESCI held in-country meetings with education stakeholders and the national advisory group of the Adapting assessment into policy and learning (ADAPT): Adolescent 21st Century Skills Project in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania.

Upcoming Activities

Launch of the formative study report on utilization of learning assessments in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania.

Tanzania: 20th October, 2022

Uganda: 27th October, 2022

Kenya: 2nd November 2022.

Click here to register and participate in the Tanzania Launch: <https://bit.ly/3ETCPmf>

Education Development News and Events

Global

mEducation Alliance 2022 Symposium moved to November 1 - 4, 2022.

This year's theme, **"Wondrous Learning is ...!"**, is intended to attract and re-energize a global community of changemakers designing and/or advancing aspects of tech or non-tech infused learning that have left positive indelible moments in a learner's educational journey. The Symposium is being organized by the mEducation Alliance, a consortium of the world's largest development and donor agencies focused on education, particularly in low-resource context. The Symposium attracts a dynamic line-up of policymakers, activists, thinkers, and implementers in global education who come together to share their best and brightest tech and non-tech interventions. GESCI is a member of the mEducation Alliance steering committee and will be participating in the symposium. Read more here: <https://bit.ly/3QcGT3l>

Transforming Education Summit – September 2022

The Summit, a key initiative of **Our Common Agenda**, spotlights the urgency to act fast to transform education. The preparations build on the **UNESCO report on a "new social contract"** for education. The Summit is a milestone in the Global Education Cooperation Mechanism's roadmap for achieving Sustainable Development Goal 4 (Quality Education). The Summit's follow-up actions will be steered by the SDG 4 Education 2030 High-Level Steering Committee. Read more here: <https://bit.ly/3zQaWZd>

Africa

15th edition of eLearning_Africa, International Conference & Exhibition on ICT for Education, Training & Skills Development - Kigali, Rwanda

eLearning Africa is a network of leading experts, professionals and investors, committed to the future of education & training in Africa. Read more about the eLearning Africa 2022 theme **"A New Purpose for Education"** here : <https://bit.ly/3zOyLAv>

Education World Forum (EFW) 2022-London, United Kingdom

The 2022 EFW looked at what countries learnt during the COVID19 pandemic and how it can be shared. It examined how we each are finding, or have found, ways to build resilience and well-being for our people and sustainability for our planet. The conference provided a platform for participants to learn how education might help us embrace peace, partnership and prosperity and lead to successful economies. Read more here: <https://bit.ly/3OTCAcb>

KIX Observatory Webinar: Strengthening Learning Assessment Practices and Policies in Africa during the COVID-19 Pandemic

This webinar was hosted by the Association for Development of Education in Africa (ADEA) in collaboration with the African Union's International Center for Girls' and Women's Education in Africa, the African Population and Health Research Center, the [Knowledge and Innovation Exchange](#) (KIX) Africa 19 and the KIX Africa 21 hubs, aimed at: a) Taking stock of the current state of national learning assessment systems in order to have an overview of changes in selected GPE countries. b) Sharing ideas on emerging trends in evidence and best practices to improve learning assessments and outcomes and c) Exchanging on policies, programs and innovative actions to support education decision makers and practitioners in leading learning recovery initiatives.

Inclusive Africa 2022 – Nairobi, Kenya

This year's Inclusive Africa Conference was organized by inABLE and sponsored by Google. The conference brought together a variety of actors who are advancing digital accessibility and creating assistive technology in Africa for individuals with disabilities. Program highlights included the launch of the first-ever ICT Accessibility Standard in Africa and the Digital Accessibility Innovations Award.

AfriLabs launches knowledge repository for hubs across Africa

For over 10 years, AfriLabs has made significant impacts in the African innovation ecosystem through a network of 347 hubs across 52 African countries. The AfriLabs Academy is one of the interventions to improve the quality of support startups in Africa receive. The e-learning platform was born out the outcome of a Needs Assessment of Enterprise Support Organisations (ESOs) on the continent.

Webinar: The Status of STEM Education in Secondary Schools in Africa & Introduction to interactive simulations in teaching and learning.

The Association for the Development of Education in Africa (ADEA), through its Inter-Country Quality Node on Mathematics and Science Education (ICQN-MSE), in partnership with PhET Interactive Simulations of the University of Colorado Boulder organized this webinar. The ICQN-MSE focuses on promoting policies and practices among African Ministries of Education and strategic partners for advancing quality Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education in the African continent. This webinar was partnership project to discuss the status of STEM education in secondary schools in Africa and demonstrate innovative teaching and learning resources using PhET Interactive Simulations.

Webinar: Gender inequality in Education

NORRAG, the KIX Europe | Asia | Pacific Hub and the Gender Centre at the Geneva Graduate Institute organised the 14th webinar in the KIX EAP Webinar series to explore the problem of gender inequality in education, an enduring issue that needs to be solved urgently. The webinar showcased the Accountability for Gender Equality in Education (AGEE) and the Gender Equality Monitoring frameworks, designed for use at national and global levels to support local and global commitments to equality, social justice and sustainable development. The frameworks are designed to be both robust and flexible; this means they are responsive to changing local, national and international contexts and issues, and sensitive to pressing contemporary issues including COVID-19 and the climate crisis. The AGEE project is an equal partnership between universities in Malawi, South Africa and the UK, working with selected UN agencies, bilateral donors and a range of civil society organisations; and has been funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) and the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO).

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The Association for the Development of Education in Africa (ADEA) 2022 Triennale

19th – 21st October, 2022. Website to the 2022 Triennale accessible at: <https://lnkd.in/dmFugSgg>

Countries

Niger: Online digital platform facilitates the organization of school exams

Niger is a very large and populated country. One of the major challenges facing the education sector has been how to ensure that candidates from all regions of the country can easily complete the necessary formalities for taking a national examination. Find out how, through the digitalization of processes related to national exams and competitions, an innovative digital platform is helping to solve many of the problems inherent in the organization of official exams. Read more here: <https://bit.ly/3d2WTGQ>

Mauritania: Civil society actions push reforms in schools

Citizens and civil society organizations are working together to ensure that the policies meant to address the country's learning crisis are implemented effectively and produce results. Parent-teacher associations—supported by the World Bank's Global Partnership for Social Accountability (GPSA), the Global Partnership for Education (GPE), and *Eco-Développement* (Ecodev)—are collaborating with the Ministry of Education to ensure it is accountable in providing quality education for the most vulnerable children. Read more here: <https://bit.ly/3cRxf7K>

Networking and Resources

UNESCO International Institute for Educational Planning Research Brief: How to understand the functioning of your education administration

"[It's not me, it's the system](#)" is a new Research Brief from IIEP. With a helpful framework to analyse capacities for education transformation, ministries of education can diagnose the internal functioning of their administration to support the implementation of sector plans.

Reflections from the African Digital Schools Initiative -ADSI Project Schools

Featuring: Moi Secondary School Naikarra, Narok County, Kenya.

Video : https://youtu.be/3VAWU5zP_wk

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