

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 promote online 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. We are proud of our just concluded project focusing on supporting the use of inclusive ICTs in the education of learners with special needs. Currently, GESCI is embarking on a new initiative in education research and evidence-based policy making. We invite you to join us on this journey as we explore and collectively learn how to better support the utilization of learning assessment in education planning, reform and quality improving. This update gives details on GESCI activities, upcoming educational events, networking opportunities and some relevant documentation.

Content Highlights



GESCI Activities



Events – Past and Upcoming

Past Events

- UNESCO hosts the Global Education Coalition Annual Meeting.
- ADEA's 3rd High-Level Policy Dialogue Forum on Higher Education and Scientific Research

Upcoming Events

- UNESCO World Higher Education Conference (WHEC2022), Barcelona, Spain.



Vacancies, Awards and other Opportunities



Education Development News

- GPE welcomes \$20Million pledge from Education Above All Foundation
- T4 Education partners with HP and Intel to reward African Teachers

GESCI Activities

January

GESCI, University of Notre Dame and Makerere University to implement a 21st Century Skills Assessment Project – Nairobi, Kenya

GESCI is leading a consortium comprising of Makerere University's College of Education and External Studies (CEES) and The University of Notre Dame's Global Center for the Development of the Whole Child (GC-DWC) in implementing the initiative: *Adapting Assessment into Policy and Learning* and *Adolescent 21st Century Skills* (ADAPT) in Kenya. GESCI is being implemented in Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania under the Knowledge and Innovation Exchange initiative (KIX) of Global Partnership for Education, (GPE) and directly supported and administered by the International Research Development Centre (IDRC). *For further information contact: samuel.otieno@gesci.org*

ADSI Schools in Kiambu County Launch e-Learning Centres – Kiambu, Kenya

24th January 2022 / 31st January, 2022. Karuri High School and Muthiga Girls in Kiambu County, Kenya have launched e-learning centres having received ICT infrastructure donations from the Thika Alumni Trust. These two schools are among the 20 secondary schools in the county that implemented our African Digital Schools Initiative (ADSI) programme whose objective was creating digital schools of distinction through ICT integration in teaching and learning. The schools' e-readiness status, having achieved the e-Mature status in the GESCI Digital Schools of Distinction development pathway, has enabled them to set up a digital library (model developed during the ADSI Project implementation period) with content learners can access with or without a teacher. *For further information visit: <https://bit.ly/3rdEf37> /Contact : christine.akello@gesci.org*

Accessible Digital Textbooks (ADT) National knowledge Exchange and Feedback Workshop in Rwanda

27th January, 2022. GESCI and the Rwanda Basic Education Board organised and held a seminal workshop with teachers and policy makers in the important environment of inclusive education. This workshop is a follow up activity to the training of teachers on the use of assistive technologies and development of accessible digital textbooks under the Accessible Digital Textbooks Project implemented by UNESCO. The workshop attracted the participation of teachers as well as head teachers from 40 districts in Rwanda. *For further information visit: <https://bit.ly/3Kq3nLM> / Contact : samuel.otieno@gesci.org*

Accessible Digital Textbooks (ADT) National knowledge Exchange and Feedback Workshop in Kenya

28th January, 2022. GESCI and the Directorate of Special Needs Education (DSNE), Ministry of Education in Kenya held a workshop with teachers and policy makers in the inclusive education sector. This workshop is a follow up activity to the training of teachers on the use of assistive technologies and development of accessible digital textbooks under the Accessible Digital Textbooks Project being implemented by UNESCO. This workshop focused on providing an opportunity to participants in the teacher training institutions to share insights, experiences and perspectives and to relate promising practices, lessons learnt and opportunities for improving the adoption of ATs and ADTs in teaching and learning for learners with disabilities. Officials from the Ministry of Education, the National Centre for ICT integration (NI3C), Kenya National Examinations Council (KNEC), Kenya Institute of Special Education (KISE), The Action Foundation (TAF) and teachers from Kajiado, Nairobi, Machakos and Kiambu counties in Kenya participated in the workshop. *For further information visit: <https://bit.ly/38BTNaB> /Contact : samuel.otieno@gesci.org*

February

Launch of the Adapting assessment into policy and learning (ADAPT) : Adolescent 21st Century Skills Project in Uganda – Makerere, Uganda

17th February, 2022. The College of Education and External Studies (CEES), Makerere University, in collaboration with the Global e-Schools and Communities Initiative (GESCI) and the University of Notre Dame's Global Centre for the Development of the Whole Child (GC-DWC) is conducting a study to internalize and translate the existing learning assessment into policy and practice in Uganda through the ADAPT project. CEES organized the launch of the project which brought together stakeholders from relevant government ministries and the private sector. *For further information visit: <https://bit.ly/38raTaY> /Contact : j.mitana@jmerc.org*

Assessment of Life Skills and Values in East Africa (ALiVE) project Item writers Graduation

GESCI joined other education stakeholders in ALiVE project Item writers Graduation. The event was a culmination of the ALiVE tool development training and co-creation process over a ten months's period with 47 participants drawn from Ministries of Education, curriculum development institutes, university departments, primary and secondary school teachers, artists and members of the ALiVE secretariat in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania. GESCI's Tanzania Project Coordinator was

among the graduands. ALiVE is an initiative of the Values and Life Skills (VaLi) Thematic Group of the Regional Education and Learning Initiative (RELI). The 5-year project seeks to contribute to increased education systems focus and capacities to assess and nurture values and life skills. *For further information contact:* ramadhani.matimbwa@gesci.org

Accessible Digital Textbooks (ADT) National knowledge Exchange and Feedback Workshop in Uganda

18th February, 2022. GESCI and the Ministry of Education and Sports (MOES), Uganda, organised and held a workshop with teachers and policy makers working in inclusive education sectors. This workshop is a follow up activity to the training of teachers on the use of assistive technologies and development of accessible digital textbooks as part of the Accessible Digital Textbooks Project being implemented by UNESCO. Teachers and head teachers from 30 districts in Uganda participated in the workshop. *For further information visit:* <https://bit.ly/3Jlnb1y> *Contact :* samuel.otieno@gesci.org

March

Launch of the Adapting assessment into policy and learning (ADAPT) : Adolescent 21st Century Skills Project in the United Republic of Tanzania – Unguja, Zanzibar

24th March, 2022. GESCI, in cooperation with the Ministry of Education Science and Technology Tanzania, the Ministry of Education and Vocational Training, (MOEVT), Zanzibar, launched the Adapting assessment into policy and learning (ADAPT): Adolescent 21st Century Skills Project in the United Republic of Tanzania. *For further information contact :* maryam.ismail@suza.ac.tz

Events – Past & Upcoming

Past

ADEA's 3rd High-Level Policy Dialogue Forum on Higher Education and Scientific Research

ADEA hosted its 3rd High-Level Policy Dialogue Forum on "Higher Education and Scientific Research in light of Digitalization and the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR)" which was organised in collaboration with the African Development Bank (AfDB) and other partners. The event attracted more than 200 participants including government ministers and senior officials, development partners, civil society organizations and the academia. This was the last of the three consecutive forums under the overall theme "Rethinking the Role of Skills Development in Future Work and Lifelong Learning in Light of Digitalization and the 4th Industrial Revolution (4IR)". *For further information visit:* <https://bit.ly/3Kp36bU>

UNESCO hosts the Global Education Coalition Annual Meeting

The Global Education Coalition brought together more than 150 partner organizations to exchange ideas, identify potential collaborations and discuss future actions around the Coalition's missions. *For further information visit:* <https://bit.ly/3v5i9lO>

Upcoming

Webinar of the KIX Observatory on "Strengthening Learning Assessment Practices and Policies in Africa during & beyond COVID-19"

17th May, 2022. This webinar has been organized by The Association for the Development of Education in Africa (ADEA), in close collaboration with the African Union's International Center for Girls' and Women's Education in Africa (AU/CIEFFA), the African Population and Health Research Center (APHRC), the Knowledge and Innovation Exchange (KIX) Africa 19 and the KIX Africa 21 Hubs. *To register visit:* <https://bit.ly/37rvH7G>

UNESCO World Higher Education Conference (WHEC2022) , Barcelona, Spain

18th – 20th May, 2022. This conference aims at reshaping ideas and practices in higher education to ensure sustainable development for the planet and humanity. *For further information visit:* <https://bit.ly/3v3MYHs>

2022 mEducation Alliance Symposium

17th – 20th October, 2022. Organizational representatives from Ministries of Education and other government policymakers, multilateral and bilateral agencies, non- and for-profit institutions, foundations, researchers, teachers, and youth will attend. This year's event will take place at the United States Institute of Peace in Washington, D.C. *For further information visit:* <https://bit.ly/3kcE6ct>

Global

The Global Partnership for Education (GPE) to receive \$20 million pledge from the Education Above All Foundation

Education Above All (EAA) and the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) have joined forces to help provide equitable, inclusive and quality education for millions of out-of-school children around the world. *For further information visit:* <https://bit.ly/3Ou41u8>

Denmark and the LEGO Foundation pledge over US\$15 million in matched contributions to GPE's Girls' Education Accelerator

The Global Partnership for Education (GPE) welcomed 100 million Danish Kroner (approximately US\$15 million) from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark and the LEGO Foundation. The new funding will go to GPE's Girls' Education Accelerator, a specialized fund dedicated to getting more girls into school and learning. The Girls' Education Accelerator is part of GPE's new strategic plan, GPE 2025, which seeks to transform education systems and advance gender equality. *For further information visit:* <https://bit.ly/3Ewd60Z>

Africa

T4 Education Partners with HP and Intel to reward African teachers

T4 Education has partnered with HP and Intel to reward African Teachers in the inaugural Africa Education Medal. The medal seeks to recognise the tireless work of those who are transforming education across the continent - to celebrate the stories of those who have lit the spark of change so others will be inspired to take up the torch. *For further information visit:* <https://bit.ly/3vwPRzy>

Countries

Kenya

Government to Continue Investing in TVETs

The government has spent a whopping KES 55.4bn (USD 842.6m) in equipping and revamping Technical and Vocational Education and Training Institutes (TVET) across the country since taking power in 2013. State Department for TVETs PS Dr. Margaret Mwakima, while highlighting the nine-year progress by the government in improving the higher education sector said that the government is still investing more resources in modernizing and expanding technical and vocational institutions throughout the country to ensure that the training offered by TVETs aligns with the demands of the job market. *For further information visit:* <https://bit.ly/3xduOo8>

Rwanda

Government Injects Rwf5 Billion in TVET Schools Subsidies

The Rwanda Government targets to enroll 60% of ordinary level graduates into TVETs. School fees for Technical, Vocational Education and Training (TVET) schools have dropped by 30 per cent following the government's hefty subsidies. The new funding will take effect in the third term--set to begin on April 18--of this academic year. *For further information visit:* <https://bit.ly/3Om4pe5>

Ghana

Stakeholders Discuss Inclusive Education

A policy dialogue workshop to make education inclusive, engaging and adaptive for all stakeholders was held in Accra, Ghana. The 2-day policy dialogue aimed at deliberating on the Innovative Pedagogies Project, an educational plan, and soliciting ideas and information on the gaps and barriers in the country's educational system. It is an initiative by the Ministry of Education in collaboration with the Institute of Educational Planning and Administration (IEPA) with support from the Education Commission, United States. *For further information visit:* <https://bit.ly/3EwgNno>

Ethiopia

Empowering girls for a brighter future through a GPE funded Program

The Comprehensive Home-grown, Inclusive, Learning and Development School Feeding Project (CHILD SFP) aims to increase access and retention for students in 499 preprimary and primary schools, including girls, children with disabilities and internally displaced children. Among other things, the program focuses on gender and girls' empowerment to increase retention. *For further information visit:* <https://bit.ly/38uPJbV>

Vacancies, Awards and other Opportunities

IIEP UNESCO Global Campus

IIEP is a global leader in training on educational planning and management. The Global Campus builds on a 60-year history in which more than 11,000 professionals from 198 countries have been trained to help improve their education systems. Now, the Global Campus brings all IIEP courses and programmes together, allowing participants to access training organized by the three IIEP offices in one single space. *For further information visit:* <https://bit.ly/3O0mJcn>

Online Courses for teachers

Enroll to access free online courses from PDST (Professional Development Service for Teachers) Technology in Education. *For further information visit:* <https://www.pdsttechnologyineducation.ie/onlinecourses/>

Seed Grant for New African Principal Investigators (SG-NAPI)

With the support of the German Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS) guides a programme to strengthen the capacity of African countries lagging in science and technology. The new programme is aimed at young scientists who are getting established in their country or about to return home to an academic position. *For further information visit:* <https://bit.ly/37C3nu3>

ProFuturo Online Teacher Training

ProFuturo is a digital education programme that aims to ensure inclusive equitable quality education for boys and girls in vulnerable environments through promoting lifelong learning opportunities and developing 21st century skills and digital tools. To do this, ProFuturo improves teacher training at a techno-pedagogical level and provides students significant learning through digital learning experiences. *For further information visit:* <https://bit.ly/3vkHLLH>

Networking and Resources

KIX Observatory Report on Learning assessment during the COVID-19 Pandemic in Africa

This report is produced by the Association for the Development of Education in Africa (ADEA) • African Union's International Center for Girls' and Women's Education in Africa (AU/CIEFFA) • African Population and Health Research Center (APHRC). Download the report here: <https://bit.ly/3M7Jk5l>

UNESCO Global Education Monitoring (GEM) Report

The most recent GEM report analyses non-state actors across all education systems, ranging from schools run by faith-based organizations, NGOs, philanthropies and for-profit commercial entities, to all those involved in the provision of services to the education sector. Many countries allow these schools, many unregistered, operate without any oversight. The report reveals that only 27% of countries explicitly prohibit profit making in primary and secondary education provision. This runs counter to the vision of 12 years of free education for all. Over half of the countries prevent student admission procedures in schools. Only 7% of countries have quotas that enhance access to schools for disadvantaged students through various initiatives. Only half have regulations on private tuition. Download the report here: <https://bit.ly/37uu2Zl>

The International Science and Evidence based Education (ISEE) Assessment

Download the materials here: <https://mqiep.unesco.org/iseeaweb>

Report of the 2021 UNESCO Forum on AI and Education: Ensuring AI as a Common Good to Transform Education

Download the report here: <https://lnkd.in/exXkBGt>

World Bank Group Education Factsheet

Download the factsheet here: <https://bit.ly/3MiSIs1>

Leave no child behind: global report on boys' disengagement from education

To leave no child behind, UNESCO developed the first global report of this scope on boys' disengagement from education, bringing together qualitative and quantitative evidence from over 140 countries. This report provides an overview on the global situation on boys' disengagement from and disadvantage in education. Download the report here: <https://bit.ly/3MmVg2Z>

What's in the media?

In the first quarter of 2022, our programmes have been highlighted by 9 media channels.

See the press review below:

New Vision Uganda

<https://newvisionapp.page.link/CfsWcETxGMTvVnus5>

Daily Monitor Uganda

<https://www.monitor.co.ug/uganda/news/national/experts-ask-govt-to-take-over-nursery-education--3721586>

Cable News Uganda

<https://cablenews.ug/2022/02/integrate-21st-century-life-skills-and-values-in-the-curriculum-and-assessment-of-learners-experts/>

Graha Details- Government Citizen Interaction Centre

<https://grahadetails.com/2022/02/educationists-advise-govt-to-consider-learning-assessments-in-curriculum-design-adaptation-and-delivery/>

Bukedde Television

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1x0YyzbboB28rY2L5TF1QTsh0kORF2nQq/view?usp=sharing>

Uganda Media Centre

<https://bit.ly/3LoezZO>

<https://bit.ly/3OI8Csu>

Tanzania Broadcasting Cooperation - TBC

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e9wPJRPUwrQ>

Zanzibar Leo

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1MA3RNNpp-mVdn2GB2cIUM3WkKTDLaxlZ/view?usp=sharing>

HITS FM Zanzibar

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pfNWOkHzEPY0QwgHnpZyslpPjPQUu3R/view?usp=sharing>

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