



Welcome to our 2019 Quarter 4 newsletter where GESCI seeks to keep you informed of its activities related to ICT integration in education, forthcoming events, training and research related to Education Policy, Planning and Management across the African Continent as well as global.

This newsletter is specifically addressed at education personnel in the Ministries of Education, dealing with policy and planning, training institutions and development partners among others.

## GESCI Activities

### October

#### **2019 Mobiles for Education Alliance Symposium-Washington D.C, USA**

**9<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> October 2019.** GESCI as a member of the mEducation Alliance steering committee attended the 2019 symposium themed “**Digital Literacy and Skills for Education and Development**”. GESCI CEO moderated the session on **Equity, Inclusion, and Digital Literacy**. The Mobiles for Education Alliance is currently comprised of 24 steering committee organizations that are all committed to reducing barriers to access appropriate, scalable, and low-cost technologies in order to help improve learning outcomes in formal and non-formal education across all levels, especially in low-resource and developing country contexts. In this regard, the Alliance is committed to an ethical and holistic approach to understanding the impacts, accessibility, and inclusivity of a broad range of technologies in education. *For further information contact: [jerome.morrissey@gesci.org](mailto:jerome.morrissey@gesci.org)*

#### **Digital Schools of Distinction Graduation- Taita Taveta, Kenya**

**11<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> October.** 20 secondary schools in Taita Taveta County were awarded e-Confident status under the African Digital Schools Initiative (ADSI) programme being implemented in the County. The programme leads schools through 4 stages of whole school digitisation from e-Initial to e-Enabled to e-Confident and, finally, to e-Mature. When the participating schools reach e-Mature stage, they will be classified as **Digital Schools of Distinction**. The school principals received certification in recognition of their lead roles in supporting their teachers to utilise and integrate digital technologies in their teaching. The programme has the enthusiastic support of the county education authorities, the Teachers Service Commission as well as the schools’ boards of managements and parents’ associations. *For further information contact: [esther.wachira@gesci.org](mailto:esther.wachira@gesci.org)*

#### **RELI Life Skills Thematic Cluster Meeting- Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania**

**14<sup>th</sup> -15<sup>th</sup> October.** GESCI joined officials from various organisations including; OCODE, Afric Aid, STEM for success (Milele Zanzibar), Ubongo Learning, HakiElimu and Sazani Associates and RELI Management for a meeting on strategy review and developing a position paper. The meeting focused on consolidating the issues on Tanzania Life skills Strategies and developing a position paper for life skills cluster. *For further information contact: [ramadhani.matimbwa@gesci.org](mailto:ramadhani.matimbwa@gesci.org)*

#### **Training for Heads of Departments in Secondary Schools - Narok, Nyamira, Kiambu, Taita Taveta – Kenya**

**29<sup>th</sup> September – 12<sup>th</sup> October.** In a bid to build sustainability of the African Digital Schools Initiative (ADSI) Programme in Kenya, GESCI partnered with the Ministry of Education to have Heads of Departments trained on managing digitally developed learning resources. Over 300 Heads of Departments from 80 secondary schools drawn from 4 counties in Kenya were trained. *For further information contact: [esther.wachira@gesci.org](mailto:esther.wachira@gesci.org)*

#### **Advanced ICT Integration Training for teachers - Cotè d'Ivoire**

**7<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> October 2019.** 200 secondary school teachers from Abidjan and Yamoussoukro regions were trained on the second cycle on Knowledge Deepening under the African Digital Schools Initiative (ADSI) Programme. *For further information contact: [sylvie.tanflotien@gesci.org](mailto:sylvie.tanflotien@gesci.org)*

#### **Annual Planning Meeting**

**15<sup>th</sup> October- 18<sup>th</sup> October 2019.** In each fourth quarter of the year, GESCI staff meets for activity stock take and planning for the following year. During the three day meeting, the team lists activities to be undertaken the following year with budget allocations and timelines for implementation. *For further information contact: [jerome.morrissey@gesci.org](mailto:jerome.morrissey@gesci.org)*

### **Meeting with Castalia- Nairobi, Kenya**

*17<sup>th</sup> October, 2019.* GESCI met with Castalia, a Japanese private sector company that is exploring developing coding programmes for primary schools in Kenya. Opportunities for collaboration with discussed. The meeting was facilitated by JICA. *For further information contact: [angela.arnott@gesci.org](mailto:angela.arnott@gesci.org)*

### **Training for new ADSI teachers – Pwani, Morogoro, Tanzania**

*24<sup>th</sup> October - 31<sup>st</sup> October 2019.* A catch-up training on the Knowledge Deepening Cycle of the African Digital Schools Initiative (ADSI) has been conducted for new teachers in Pwani and Morogoro regions in the United Republic of Tanzania. These teachers replaced those that have been transferred to other schools. *For further information contact: [joyce.msolla@gesci.org](mailto:joyce.msolla@gesci.org)*

## **November**

### **African Digital Colleges Initiative and Teacher Education Support Project (TESP)- Tanzania**

*2<sup>nd</sup> November 2019.* GESCI participated in a meeting with officials from the Ministry and partners on TESP to discuss potential collaboration on the African Digital Colleges Initiative and TESP programs as there is a joint synergy in upscaling teacher education. It was agreed that both programs will coordinate work with Teacher Training Colleges to synchronize the Models for teacher professional development and Leadership Capacity Building in Schools and Colleges according to national priorities, policies and programmes. *For further information contact: [joyce.msolla@gesci.org](mailto:joyce.msolla@gesci.org)*

### **GESCI facilitates Ministry of Sierra Leone Visit to South Africa's Higher Education Ministry and institutions – Pretoria, South Africa**

*4-8<sup>th</sup> November 2019.* The purpose of the study tour was for the Ministry of Technical and Higher Education (MTHE), Sierra Leone to learn from the experiences of the Department of Higher Education and Training, Science and Innovation (DHETSI), South Africa in establishing the HETMIS and Quality Assurance systems. Participants included MTHE, DHETSI, Quality Assurance Councils, Higher Education Institutions, NEPAD, Microsoft South Africa and Adapt IT. *For further information contact: [angela.arnott@gesci.org](mailto:angela.arnott@gesci.org)*

### **Meeting with Microsoft- Cape Town, South Africa**

*13<sup>th</sup> November 2019.* GESCI held a meeting with Microsoft to share learnings on the standards of functionality of EMIS systems for the UNESCO Institute of Statistics (UIS) and the Global Partnership of Education (GPE). UIS, in support for GPE's data initiative has contracted a South African consultant to lead the development of usability and capability specifications for educational management information systems. MicroSoft facilitated the meeting and shared its products on cloud hosting, interconnectivity and other tools which address the challenges faced by many African countries. Additionally, MicroSoft shared their online curriculum for Microsoft certification based on the ICT Competency framework (30 hours) plus an update on its support for KICD, Kenya. *For further information contact: [angela.arnott@gesci.org](mailto:angela.arnott@gesci.org)*

### **RELI Regional Values & Lifeskills Clusters Leadership and Donors meeting- Nairobi, Kenya**

*13<sup>th</sup> November, 2019.* The Regional Education Learning Initiative (RELI) leads of the Values and Life Skills clusters across East Africa met potential donors for the proposed collaborative project **Co-Creating Assessments of Life Skills in East Africa (CAL-EA)**. The purpose of this meeting was to firm up the project concept note, design a collaboration structure, develop an implementation plan and define how the donor consortium would work. *For further information contact: [samuel.otieno@gesci.org](mailto:samuel.otieno@gesci.org)*

### **RELI Tanzania LearnShare - Dar es Salaam Tanzania**

*18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> November, 2019.* GESCI participated in the 2019 RELI Tanzania LearnShare workshop. The Regional Education Learning Initiative (RELI) convened a workshop of all the member organisation in Tanzania. The objective of the workshop was to provide a platform for organizations and thematic clusters to update on their progress since the regional convening, showcase their work, share new learning and appraise one another on upcoming events and plans in the education space. *For further information contact: [ramadhani.matimbwa@gesci.org](mailto:ramadhani.matimbwa@gesci.org)*

### **Meeting of Experts for the PAVEU- Addis Abba, Ethiopia**

*20<sup>th</sup> -22<sup>nd</sup> November 2019.* The purpose of the meeting was to plan for launch of the Pan African Virtual and E-University, and in particular to offer GESCI's ALICT and Teacher Diploma in ICTs. Participants included the PAVEU team, Ministry of Higher Education, Cameroon, African Virtual University, ACDE, University of Dar Es Salaam, Namibia University of Technology, National Open University of Nigeria and GESCI. GESCI presented the African Leadership in ICTs and Knowledge Society (ALICT) and the Teachers in ICTs diplomas that GESCI has offered to the PAVEU for its delivery and accreditation. GESCI has developed a curriculum outline based on the current teacher ICT Competency Framework being used in the teacher professional development in ADSI. ALICT is a facilitated course with 8 modules and three f2f interventions (initial, mid and end). It is accredited by Dublin City University as a diploma and could be upgraded to a Masters. A call for applications will shared once developed. *For further information contact: [angela.arnott@gesci.org](mailto:angela.arnott@gesci.org)*

### **RELI Kenya LearnShare - Nairobi Kenya**

*25<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> November, 2019.* GESCI participated in the 2019 RELI Kenya Learn-Share workshop. The Regional Education Learning Initiative (RELI) convened a workshop of all the member organisation in Tanzania. The objective of the workshop was to provide a platform for organizations and thematic clusters to update on their progress since the regional convening, showcase their work, share new learning and appraise one another on upcoming events and plans in the education space. The second day of the meeting also included a CEOs breakfast for all the RELI organization to get to meet, greet and explore ways in which they could support and collaborate more with the RELI movement. *For further information contact: [samuel.otieno@gesci.org](mailto:samuel.otieno@gesci.org)*

### **Meeting with ProScola**

*28<sup>th</sup> November, 2019.* ProScola, a Swiss-based start-up organized a virtual meeting with GESCI to discuss Applications they develop. One is the **ProScola Teacher** administration app which has multiple functionality for managing their work. It has essentially four main points of intervention: Administration and Management, Teaching and Coaching, Informing and Communicating and Creating and sharing lessons. The App is UNIX based, uses PHP and MySQL it can be in French, English or German and open for translation to any other language. They also have **ProScola Safe Schools** which offers a platform at basic, intermediate and advanced levels of functionality and connectivity to support a learning station/classroom for learners with intermittent access to teachers. It's a reconditioned lockable safe box with laptop, WIFI and screen made from recycled parts. It has the ability to play on defined schedule educational videos and lessons. Anyone with mobile device access in vicinity can access lessons if registered. It also offers a messaging system to involve other teachers – if central internet access is available. GESCI is exploring ways of customising the applications to fit schools in Africa. *For further information contact: [angela.arnott@gesci.org](mailto:angela.arnott@gesci.org)*

### **ADSI Programme Partners Group Meeting Tanzania- Morogoro, Tanzania**

*29<sup>th</sup> November, 2019.* GESCI held a Project Partners Group meeting with education ministries, universities and other educational institutions in Tanzania. The meeting provided a platform for sharing updates on the implementation of the African Digital Schools Initiative (ADSI) Programme in 40 secondary schools drawn from Pwani and Morogoro regions of Tanzania. The participants also addressed the sustainability and scaling up aspects of the project. *For further information contact: [joyce.msolla@gesci.org](mailto:joyce.msolla@gesci.org)*

## **Teacher Futures Initiative Workshop - Nairobi Kenya**

*25<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> November, 2019.* Educationists convened at the Kenya Institute of Special Education to develop resources to support secondary schools' inclusive Education in Kenya. The workshop was attended by consultants from the Open University, UK, education officers and directors of education from the MOE, the Teacher's Service Commission (TSC), the Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development (KICD) and the Kenya National Examinations Council. The main focus was versioning resources to integrate Inclusive Education Pedagogies into secondary schools, a Teacher Futures program for the Commonwealth of Learning. It is envisaged that the resources will support teachers in making secondary schools in Kenya more inclusive through technology-enabled school-based learning. Participants developed a common understanding of the key principles of inclusive education in Kenya. They adapted OER's relevant to inclusive education, in order to develop micro-learning resources. The draft training handbook was reviewed and contextualized for Kenyan secondary schools. *For further information contact: [elizabeth.mbasu@gesci.org](mailto:elizabeth.mbasu@gesci.org)*

## **December**

### **Education Development Partners Coordination Group Meeting-Nairobi, Kenya**

*3<sup>rd</sup> December, 2019.* GESCI joined officials from UNESCO, WeWorld, WFP, VSO International, Windle Trust, WUSC, Dignitas, UNICEF, USAID, UNICEF, World Reader, Lutheran World Churches, Humanitarian Response, EU, Senseint-EA, World Bank, CISP and HIVOS at the meeting to discuss various pillars in terms of ICT In Education in Kenya. The following pillars are under focus: Capacity building of all staff in Ministry, Digital Content, Policy implementation - ICT integration policy for basic education and ICT infrastructure in schools. They are targeting to build 8000 smart classrooms in the 2019-2020 period. *For further information contact: [esther.wachira@gesci.org](mailto:esther.wachira@gesci.org)*

### **GESCI Set to Implement Teacher Futures Initiative in Tanzania**

GESCI has partnered with the Commonwealth of Learning to implement the Teacher Futures Programme in 20 secondary schools drawn from the Morogoro region in Tanzania. The programme is expected to kick off in January 2020. The goal is to provide an effective, sustainable and replicable model of School-based Teacher Development (SBTD) that can contribute to addressing the issues of pedagogical integration of ICTs, declining quality, inadequate teacher supply, and very limited or non-existent integration of ICT in secondary level education in Tanzania. Tanzania Teacher Futures is a PROGRAM aimed at improving TEACHER QUALITY through an innovative SCHOOL-BASED TEACHER DEVELOPMENT model for sustainable development that is SCALABLE. Implementation of ELEARNING and MICROLEARNING using INTERNET and MOBILE TECHNOLOGIES is considered critical to quality teacher learning, besides other technology-based training offerings. The PROGRAM supports approaches that expose teachers to short bursts of knowledge on a daily basis. *For further information contact: [elizabeth.mbasu@gesci.org](mailto:elizabeth.mbasu@gesci.org)*

### **GESCI develops web based interactive platform for schools**

GESCI has partnered with World Bank to develop the Total Cost Ownership which is a web based interactive platform to capture all the expenses associated with capital and recurring expenses for various options to provide a consolidated summary for the educational planners and policy implementers. *For further information contact: [senthil.kumar@gesci.org](mailto:senthil.kumar@gesci.org)*

## Events – Past and Upcoming

### October

#### **AU Continental Teacher Prize –Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**

**21-23 October 2019.** GESCI was invited to the first-ever continental teacher prize hosted by the African Union (AU) owing to its mandate on teacher professional development through the Digital Schools of Distinction (DSD) programme under implementation in 3 African countries. The AU Teacher Prize has been established as a means for demonstrating respect for teachers and the teaching profession, by encouraging and celebrating the committed teachers in Africa. Three distinguished Teachers on the African Continent were honored as a means of raising the status of the teaching profession and facilitate sharing of best practices in teacher excellence in Africa. *For further information contact:* [StephensC@africa-union.org](mailto:StephensC@africa-union.org)

### November

#### **Ministerial meeting on inclusion and mobility in higher education- Paris**

**13<sup>th</sup> November 2019.** The general objective of the meeting was to support decision-making in favour of inclusion, mobility and improved recognition of qualifications within and across-regions through informed debate. The Ministerial Meeting aims to increase understanding among Member States on how the ratification and implementation of the Global Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications concerning Higher Education can facilitate this process. Ministers in charge of higher education and university rectors from different regions shared their views and experiences on ensuring inclusive, quality higher education for diverse populations, including migrants, refugees and internally displaced persons, and how to spearhead the spirit of a truly inclusive global campus through international student and faculty mobility, innovative study programmes and delivery modalities. *For further information contact:* [p.portales@unesco.org](mailto:p.portales@unesco.org)

#### **2019 World Innovation Summit for Education (WISE) – Doha, Qatar**

**19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> November 2019.** This year, WISE explored the theme of “UnLearn, ReLearn: What it means to be human. The Education Above All Foundation chaired by Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser hosted the “Zero Out of School Children Strategy” high-level plenary session. WISE is the premier biannual education summit that gathers more than 2,000 educators, innovators, thought leaders and policy makers to discuss the challenges and opportunities of education in our times of political, economic and technological disruption. *For further details about the 2019 WISE Summit visit:* <https://www.wise-qatar.org/>

### December

#### **Launch of PAVEU- Yaoundé, Cameroon**

**21<sup>st</sup> December, 2019.** Under the auspices of the President Biya of Cameroon, the Pan-African Virtual and E-University will be launched at Yaounde with the expected presence of senior Ministers, the Commissioner of the African Union’s Human Resources, Science and Technology Division, as well as key partners, including GESCI. *For further information contact:* [ogolc@african-union.org](mailto:ogolc@african-union.org)

#### **Special Technical Committee On Education Science and Technology (STC-EST) Ordinary Session-Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**

**10<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> December 2019.** The African Union has organized the 3<sup>rd</sup> session of the STC-EST. This forum brings together partners in charge of initiatives and programs on Education, Science, Technology and Innovation of AU Member States. The overall objective is to ensure that the continent, through policies, programmes, institutions and partnerships, is endowed with sound educational systems for human capital development, and strong capacity for

developing and harnessing STI for its socio-economic development and directly contribute to the Agenda 2063 aspirations and the global sustainable development goals.

*Visit:* <https://au.int/en/newsevents/20191210/3rd-ordinary-session-stc-education-science-and-technology>

## **17<sup>th</sup> Conference on Mathematics, Science and Technology Education in Africa (COMSTEDA 17)- Nairobi Kenya**

**16<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> December 2019.** COMSTEDA is a continental platform for educators to share innovative ideas, best practice, and interrogate issues relating to teaching and learning mathematics and science. The aim is to strengthen the capability of youth in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) subjects for 21st century living. It brings together educators, policy makers, researchers, teachers, NGOs, and public / private sector stakeholders to present papers, posters, exhibitions and workshop concepts. This year's theme is on ***“Teacher professional development in Africa in STEM learning areas.”*** The conference, organized by Strengthening Mathematics and Science Education (SMASE) in Africa in partnership with the Ministry of Education Kenya will be held at the Centre for Mathematics Science and Technology in Africa (CEMASTEa). *Visit:* <https://www.cemastea.ac.ke/index.php/component/dpcalendar/event/54>

## **2020**

### **March**

## **6<sup>th</sup> African Council for Distance Education (ACDE) Conference - Accra, Ghana**

**24<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> March 2020.** The ACDE, Associations for African Universities and the Laweh Open University in Ghana will host the 2020 will host an education conference focusing on “Open and Distance Learning, the Continental education Strategy for Africa and SDG4: Quality Education. *For further information contact:* [acdeconference2020@gmail.com](mailto:acdeconference2020@gmail.com)

## **2nd International Conference on New Approaches in Education- Oxford, UK**

**27 - 29 March, 2020.** aims to bring together researchers, scientists and scholar students to exchange and share their experiences, new ideas, and research results about all aspects of Education discuss the practical challenges encountered and the solutions adopted. The scientific and executive committees of the Conference invites all professors, researchers and executive officials to submit, individually or in partnership with other researchers, their valuable articles comprising the latest scientific and research findings on the main or related themes and topics of the elementary education conference to the Conference Secretariat.

*Visit:* [https://www.icnaeducation.org/education-conference/?gclid=Cj0KCQiAoIPvBRDgARIsAHsCw0\\_HAkibug9bimg3W3E32eTfkFUhxgf3akW7uzcbnK3mDgnHdwh1iCkaAuGVEALw\\_wcB](https://www.icnaeducation.org/education-conference/?gclid=Cj0KCQiAoIPvBRDgARIsAHsCw0_HAkibug9bimg3W3E32eTfkFUhxgf3akW7uzcbnK3mDgnHdwh1iCkaAuGVEALw_wcB)

### **April**

## **Education Conference 2020- Bangkok, Thailand**

**03<sup>rd</sup> - 05<sup>th</sup> April 2020.** The 6th International Conference on Education – (ICEDU 2020) is organized by The International Institute of Knowledge Management (TIKM).The aim of the conference is to bring together researchers, practitioners, and policy-makers to discuss issues, tackle challenges, develop professionally, share opinions, find solutions and explore opportunities in the areas of education. The conference serves the purpose of promoting a tight link between theory and practice and explores different perspectives on the application of research findings into practice.

*Visit:* [https://educationconference.co/?gclid=Cj0KCQiAoIPvBRDgARIsAHsCw09uJgw5dbY0QCCsmxMypppZfqTMfDkiFCOW3M-WH9ZYjw9t2TcKRUaArnEEALw\\_wcB](https://educationconference.co/?gclid=Cj0KCQiAoIPvBRDgARIsAHsCw09uJgw5dbY0QCCsmxMypppZfqTMfDkiFCOW3M-WH9ZYjw9t2TcKRUaArnEEALw_wcB)

## **Global Education Conference - Washington D.C, USA**

**6<sup>th</sup> -10<sup>th</sup> April 2020.** With the theme *“Education Today, Opportunity tomorrow”* this event will provide a unique opportunity to gather with individuals from across the international education sector, including representatives from USAID, other U.S. government departments and agencies, implementing partners, the private sector, and partner country governments. During the conference, we will examine the scale and sustainability of education systems and programs through the lens of: The journey to self-reliance, Effective collaboration and coordination, Evidence-based decision making, Systems strengthening. Join other partners to help shape the future of international education, including continued conversations on technology for education. For updates, including a call for proposals and registration, please visit: [www.edu-links.org/events/usaaid-2020-global-education-conference](http://www.edu-links.org/events/usaaid-2020-global-education-conference)

## **May**

## **International Conference on Computer Supported Education - Prague, Czech Republic**

**2<sup>nd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> May, 2020.** The International Conference on Computer Supported Education (CSEDU 2020), is a yearly meeting place for presenting and discussing new educational tools and environments, best practices and case studies on innovative technology-based learning strategies, and institutional policies on computer supported education including open and distance education. This conference will provide an overview of current technologies as well as upcoming trends, and promote discussion about the pedagogical potential of new educational technologies in the academic and corporate world. CSEDU seeks papers and posters describing educational technology research; academic or business case-studies; or advanced prototypes, systems, tools, and techniques. Aspects to be covered include: Artificial Intelligence in Education, Domain Applications and Case Studies, Information Technologies Supporting Learning, Learning/Teaching Methodologies and Assessment, Social Context and Learning Environments and Ubiquitous Learning.

Visit: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/12th-international-conference-on-computer-supported-education-ins-as-tickets-72179503839>

## **African Curriculum Association (ACA) Conference- Banjul, The Gambia**

**27<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> May 2020.** ACA, in collaboration with the Curriculum Research, Evaluation and Development Directorates (CREDD) of the Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education (MoBSE) The Gambia, and the Curriculum Cluster at African Union will host the ACA Conference. The subthemes are under the following areas a.) *The school curriculum* b.) *Teacher Education and Training* and c.) *Learning assessment*. Visit: [www.acuass.org](http://www.acuass.org)

## **Education Development News**

## **Global**

## **What Nobel Prize Winners Say about Education**

The [2019 Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences](#) was just awarded to Abhijit Banerjee and Esther Duflo of M.I.T. and Michael Kremer of Harvard, three economists who have “transformed development economics” by pioneering new ways to study, and alleviate, global poverty. Banerjee, Duflo and Kremer emphasize the use of field experiments to apply the benefits of laboratory trials to their field of research. Their work includes founding the [Abdul Lateef Jameel Poverty Action Lab](#) (J PAL), a research center working to reduce poverty by ensuring that policy is informed by scientific evidence. *For the insights, visit:* <https://www.povertyactionlab.org/policy-insights/education>

## **2019 UN Person of the Year: Peter Tabichi**

Globally celebrated teacher Peter Tabichi is the winner of the 2019 United Nations in Kenya Person of the Year award. Early this year, Brother Tabichi became the first teacher from Africa to win the fifth edition of the World Teacher of the Year award, which came with a Sh100 million cash prize. With the latest recognition, he now joins the list of other 16 select individuals who have been named UN Persons of the Year since 2002.. *Visit:* <https://www.unicnairobi.org/news-and-events/peter-tabichi-crowned-2019-un-person-of-the-year-award/>

## **Africa**

### **African Union's Africa Coding Week 2019 launched**

Highlighting the essential role that women teachers play in education, Africa Code Week 2019 was officially launched on 4 October 2019 in Rabat, Morocco, following a workshop for the empowerment of women ICT teachers. Twenty-eight female ICT teachers from fifteen African countries attended the workshop addressing the importance of women's role in shaping the digital world and the future of work. The workshop was the result of a collaboration between SAP, UNESCO, the Ministry of National Education, Vocational Training, Higher Education and Scientific Research of the Kingdom of Morocco and BMZ (Germany). Through seminars and interactive sessions, the women teachers were introduced to newest tech trends as well as pedagogical methodologies and approaches linked to the teaching of "computer science". *Visit:* [https://en.unesco.org/news/empowering-women-teachers-africa-code-week-2019-officially-launched?utm\\_source=UNESCO&utm\\_campaign=5e3c25bc89-RSS\\_CI\\_weekly\\_headlines&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_898ed31396-5e3c25bc89-442585047&ct=t\(RSS\\_CI\\_weekly\\_headlines\)&mc\\_cid=5e3c25bc89&mc\\_eid=7f0b32beda](https://en.unesco.org/news/empowering-women-teachers-africa-code-week-2019-officially-launched?utm_source=UNESCO&utm_campaign=5e3c25bc89-RSS_CI_weekly_headlines&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_898ed31396-5e3c25bc89-442585047&ct=t(RSS_CI_weekly_headlines)&mc_cid=5e3c25bc89&mc_eid=7f0b32beda)

## **Countries**

### **Ghana: World Bank approves \$150 Million to improve Quality Education for Children in the country**

The World Bank has approved \$150 million in financing to support the Government of Ghana to improve the quality of education for over two million children in low performing basic education schools, and to strengthen Ghana's education system. The Ghana Accountability for Learning Outcomes Project (GALOP) will support teaching and learning through modern in-service teacher training, and provision of learning materials. School-level support and resources will be strengthened, combined with improved community engagement. Improvements in teaching and learning assessments and accountability will enhance education outcomes to build Ghana's human capital. *Visit:* <https://news.fundsfornegos.org/education/world-bank-approves-150-million-to-improve-quality-education-for-children-in-ghana/>

### **Kenya: Launch of the National Education Sector Strategic Plan**

The Government of Kenya launched National Education Sector Strategic Plan (NESSP) 2018-2022, an all-inclusive, sector wide plan that spells out policy priorities, programmes and strategies for the education sector over the next five years. NESSP (2018-2022) aims at achieving four important strategic objectives for education, training and research, which are: to enhance access and equity; to provide quality and competency based education, training and research; to strengthen management, governance and accountability; and enhance relevance and capacities for Science, Technology and Innovation (ST&I) in education, training and research for labour markets. *Visit:* <http://www.education.go.ke/images/NESSP/NESSP-2018-2022.pdf>

## Networking and Resources

### Private sector takes action to address the education data challenge in developing countries

The Global Partnership for Education (GPE) and two companies announced new partnerships to collect and use data to improve education quality in developing countries: **Econet** will focus on boosting capacity in information technology and data science with interested ministries in multiple countries. They will train Ministry of Education staff in data science; second data scientists to support Ministries' work in gaining meaningful insights from data in remote areas where Econet provides satellite coverage. **Tableau** will partner with education officials in the Gambia to develop pilot data visualization and analysis tools. They will provide company volunteers to work together with Ministry of Education staff.

GPE also announced two other major initiatives: **UNESCO's Institute for Statistics (UIS)** will lead the development of usability and capability specifications for educational management information systems. **The University of Oslo** will work with the Gambia's Ministry of Education to pilot an education management information system (EMIS) in targeted districts to support data collection, analysis and decision making. The pilot is funded by the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation- NORAD. <https://www.globalpartnership.org/news-and-media/news/private-sector-takes-action-address-education-data-challenge-developing-countries>

### Globe Management Training (GMT)

This is a leading training institution based in Cape Town, South Africa, focused on training and capacity building for clients across the African continent. As an Africa-focused institution, targets a wide range of study fields, all of which are rigorously developed and measured to international standards, remaining relevant to government delegates from around the continent. All courses offered by GMT, are open to delegates with grants, organisational support, or their own sources of funding. Their top specialized courses are: **Education Management Information System (EMIS) Workshop, Monitoring & Evaluation Of Development Projects, Geographic Information Systems Application (GIS) and Financial Modelling, Reporting and Auditing of Donor Funded Projects**. To apply visit: <https://www.gmtraining.co.za/request-course> For further information contact: Dwayne Call: +21 556 3767 Email: [dwayne@gmtraining.co.za](mailto:dwayne@gmtraining.co.za)

### Africa Education Innovators Network (AEIN) Platform

This is an initiative of the African Union Commission, Department of Human Resources, Science and Technology bringing together innovators in education. **Visit:** <https://www.aein.edu-au.org/>

### The eLearning Africa 2019 Report

The eLearning Africa Report looks at the state of education, training, development and technology at this moment of unparalleled change. With contributions from experts, practitioners, advisers, entrepreneurs and even students and artists, it provides a fascinating insight into how technology assisted learning and training are leading change and development throughout Africa. To download visit:

### Calls for Promising Entrepreneurs to Raise Start-up Funding for their Business

Find a compiled a list of latest open funding/award opportunities for NGOs, individuals, and entrepreneurs to empower their business. **Visit:** <https://www2.fundsforngos.org/listing/latest-calls-for-promising-entrepreneurs-to-raise-startup-funding-for-their-business/>

### Funding Calls on Education to achieve better Knowledge for Everyone

Here is a list of various open opportunities on education for NGOs and Individuals. **Visit:** <https://www2.fundsforngos.org/listing/most-inspiring-funding-calls-on-education-to-achieve-better-knowledge-for-everyone/>

## **Funding Opportunities for the Empowerment of Women and Girls**

See latest grant opportunities for the empowerment of women and girls around the world.

*Visit:* <https://www2.fundsforngos.org/listing/stop-your-hunt-apply-now-for-the-most-promising-funding-opportunities-to-empower-women/>

## **Grant to progress Initiative with Business Training and Start-Up Grants in Greece, Jordan, Nigeria, Cameroon, Lebanon and Germany**

A \$3.5 million grant by the Citi Foundation's Pathways to Progress initiative will provide refugees and vulnerable young people with business training and start-up grants. A renewed partnership launched by the International Rescue Committee (IRC) and the Citi Foundation will support 1,300 refugees and vulnerable young people to rebuild their livelihoods, and kick start their economic futures. *Visit:* <https://news.fundsforngos.org/business/3-5-million-grant-to-progress-initiative-with-business-training-and-start-up-grants-in-greece-jordan-nigeria-cameroon-lebanon-and-germany/>

## **Futures of Education- UNESCO**

This initiative aims to rethink education and shape the future. It is catalysing a global debate on how knowledge, education and learning need to be reimagined in a world of increasing complexity, uncertainty and precarity. *For further information contact:* [futuresofeducation@unesco.org](mailto:futuresofeducation@unesco.org) *or visit:* <http://unesco.org/futuresofeducation>

## **“The Start-ups Africa” Initiative for Young and Vibrant African Youths Launched**

The Felix King Foundation recently announced a new initiative, “**The Start-ups Africa**” that will groom and reward young and vibrant African youths with great entrepreneurial ideas with \$10,000 start-up grant. This initiative was launched in partnership with Trinity International University of Ambassadors, Georgia, is part of the already existing programmes launched to alleviate poverty, empower trade and provide employment. *Visit:* <https://news.fundsforngos.org/africa/launch-of-the-startups-africa-initiative-for-young-and-vibrant-african-youths/>

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**Newsletter information sources include:**

*African Countries and Ministry of Education websites, University World News, SADC, UNESCO, GPE, Funds for NGOs, RUFORUM Newsletter, ELA News portal, ADEA, CESA Journal, UIS, IRIN News, World Bank, All Africa Global Media, Southern African Regional Universities Association (SARUA), Association of African Universities(AAU), IIEP, IICBA, OSISA, African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF), SciDev.net, Pambazuka Newsletter, WISE, FAWE and general sources.*

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