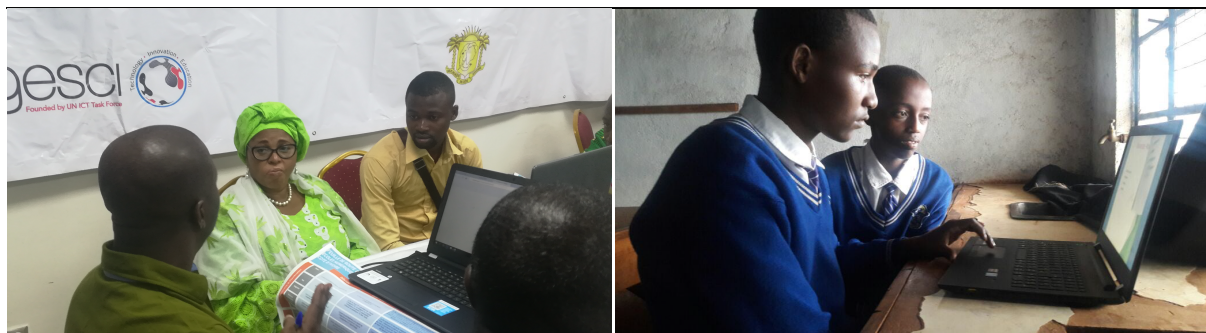


# Newsletter



Issue 4 : 2018



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Welcome to the 2018 Quarter 4 newsletter where GESCI seeks to keep you informed of its activities related to ICT Integration in Education, forthcoming events, training and research work related to Education Policy, Planning and Management on the continent. This newsletter is specifically addressed at education personnel in the Ministries of Education dealing with policy and planning, training institutions as well as development partners among others.

[www.gesci.org](http://www.gesci.org)

### June

#### ICT Teacher of the Year Award-Kenya

**June 2018.** eKitabu in collaboration with Teachers Service Commission (TSC), CEMASTEAM and Kenya Secondary Schools Heads Association (KESSHA) has come up with an award for the best innovative teachers in classroom practices in mathematics and sciences. This award is known as the **iTOYA Award; i for ICT Integration in Teaching and Learning and TOYA for Teacher of the Year Award** Maxwell Kayesi, a Physics teacher at Karuri High School in Kiambu County, one of the schools participating in the African Digital Schools Initiative (ADSI) Programme scooped the ICT Teacher of the year Award of the year. Mr Kayesi is a School Based Coordinator at the Karuri overseeing all (ADSI) project activities in terms of ICT Integration. *For further information contact [esther.wachira@gesci.org](mailto:esther.wachira@gesci.org)*

### July

#### International Conference on Private Higher Education in Africa, Addis, Ethiopia

**25-27 July 2018.** GESCI chaired a session of St. Mary's University 16th International Conference on Private Higher Education in Africa in partnership with the African Union Commission, Association of African Universities, IICBA/UNESCO, IGAD, the Ethiopian Federal Ministry of Education, International Network of Higher Education in Africa and the Ethiopian Airlines/Aviation Academy. The Conference created a platform for a wide-range of actors, educators, policy/decision-makers, higher education leaders, and partners engaged in the promotion of higher education to deliberate on issues pertinent to the enhancement of quality education in African institutions of higher learning. GESCI's CEO spoke on **"Incorporating Effective Entrepreneurialism and Employment Skills through a set of Coherent Higher Education Initiatives"** The Conference generated policy-relevant recommendations from various scientific research papers under different themes and sub-themes. It provided an opportunity for networking among researchers, educators and leaders in higher education institutions. *For further information contact: [jerome.morrissey@gesci.org](mailto:jerome.morrissey@gesci.org)*

### September

#### African Digital Schools Initiative (ADSI) Schools Knowledge Deepening Phase Catch-Up Training, Kenya

**September.** The Country Programme Manager ADSI and Kenya County Project Coordinators conducted catch-up trainings for teachers who were yet to reach the required levels to be certified for the Knowledge Deepening phase of training. *For further information contact: [esther.wachira@gesci.org](mailto:esther.wachira@gesci.org)*

#### African Union Refugee EMIS, Kampala, Uganda

GESCI was a core member in organizing the inaugural African Union Refugee EMIS meeting, in Kampala, Uganda in September. This brought together a small group of experts, partners, including UNHCR, and member states (Kenya and Uganda) to develop a concept note to expand a strategy of country engagement on this critical theme in preparation for the AU thematic year of the Refugee and Migrants. *For further information contact: [angela.arnott@gesci.org](mailto:angela.arnott@gesci.org)*

### October

#### Innovating Education in Africa Expo, Dakar, Senegal

**4-5 October.** The African Union Human Resources, Science and Technology co-hosted a conference, chaired by Minister of Higher Education and Research, Senegal, which brought together education innovators from all of Africa. GESCI participated on various panels on innovative practices as well as chaired the expert group that selected the final prizewinners. This exposure of GESCI practices brought on enquiries for engagement from the Minister of Education, Botswana; from Deputy PS of Education, Gambia and Special Education Director, Malawi, among others. *Visit <http://gesci.org/news-room/events/single/news/detail/News/innovating-education-in-africa-expo/>*

## **The Global Partnership in Education Proposal , Dodoma, Tanzania**

*7<sup>th</sup> October, 2018.* GESCI supported the development of GPE application and participated the meeting by government on the endorsement of the **full proposal report on the GPE Application for Tanzania for \$90m**. The overall objective of GPE grant is to enhance universal access and participation in quality Pre-primary, Primary and Non-Formal Education with particular attention to learners from vulnerable groups who need opportunities for primary education. GESCI is currently implementing an innovative ICT in Education programme in Tanzania in 40 secondary schools based in Morogoro and Pwani funded by Mastercard Foundation, Canada. *For further information contact: [joyce.msolla@gesci.org](mailto:joyce.msolla@gesci.org) and [angela.arnott@gesci.org](mailto:angela.arnott@gesci.org)*

## **African Digital Schools Initiative (ADSI) Expert Working Group Meeting – Tanzania**

*10-12<sup>th</sup> October.* Officials from Education Institutions forming the Expert Working Group (EWG) meet to review Modules on Knowledge Deepening before training commences in January 2019. *For further information contact: [joyce.msolla@gesci.org](mailto:joyce.msolla@gesci.org)*

## **Ecole Numérique d'Excellence Africaine (ENEA) Technology Literacy Phase Online Tutoring and School Leadership Training – Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire**

*15 October.* 200 teachers from Abidjan and Yamoussoukro were introduced to Module 1 of training on Technology Literacy. Heads of Schools were also taken through on whole-school ICT Implementation. ICT Integration roadmaps and guidebooks were issued to each of the 20 secondary schools. *For further information contact: [sylvie.tanflotien@gesci.org](mailto:sylvie.tanflotien@gesci.org)*

## **Exploratory Mission to Kakuma Refugee Camp and Kalobeyei Integrated Settlement Scheme , Turkana, Kenya**

*17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> October.* GESCI was invited by Ministry of Education through its participation in the IGAD Technical Working Group to work in Kakuma and Kalobeyei refugee schools given its expertise and resources in teacher development and whole school ICT integration. Staff supported by Ministry of Education personnel with the agreement of UNCHR , visited the schools met with key stakeholders and heads of Primary and Secondary Schools to consider a proposal. Additionally opportunities for TVET intervention were scoped. *For further information contact : [esther.wachira@gesci.org](mailto:esther.wachira@gesci.org)*

## **Regional Education and Learning (RELI) Convening , Zanzibar, Tanzania**

*22-23 October.* Under the umbrella of The Partnership to Strengthen Innovation and Practice in Secondary Education (PSIPSE), GESCI joined the RELI network of around 60 organizations, experts, academics and government officials from Tanzania working in education development sector. RELI network seeks to relate to cross-project learning through the development of thematic principles of good practice, policy influence, better coordination and alignment of participating organizations. GESCI has been selected to work within the initiative to enhance learning on the thematic areas of Learner Centered Teaching, ICT Integration in Education and Values and Life skills Education. GESCI contributed a significant chapter to the recent PSIPSE publication on best practices in secondary education. *For further information contact: [sam.otieno@gesci.org](mailto:sam.otieno@gesci.org)*

## **Pan-African Virtual e-University Memorandum of Agreement**

*In October,* GESCI developed a **Memorandum of Agreement with the Pan African Virtual e-University (PAVEU)** to further develop post-graduate virtual diplomas in African Leadership in ICTs and Knowledge Society (successfully run by GESCI in 16 countries with over 500 graduates in 2017); in Women Leadership in Science, Technology and Innovation (drafted with FAWE and finalized this year, it will involve all 5 African Pan-African Universities contributing curriculum related to their specialist domains); as well as accrediting the GESCI post-graduate diploma for Teacher Competency in ICTs in Teaching and Learning (developed from the African Digital Schools Initiative experiences). Additionally, a post graduate diploma in Transformative Leadership in Agriculture, Fisheries and Livestock is proposed and will be developed with partners. The MOA will be formalized in early 2019. *For further information contact: [angela.arnott@gesci.org](mailto:angela.arnott@gesci.org)*

## **November**

## **International Task Force on Teachers for Education 2030 Annual Meeting and 11<sup>th</sup> Policy Dialogue Forum, Montego Bay, Jamaica**

*5-9<sup>th</sup> November.* GESCI, co- chair of the sub-committee on “Teacher education: Digital learning and continuing professional development” helped organize the sub-theme of the International



Task Force on teachers for Education Policy dialogue Forum. GESCI's African Digital Schools Initiative (ADSI) Country Programme Manager, attended and contributed by sharing Insights on **"Strengthening Teacher Education: A prerequisite for quality teaching, training and learning."** The meeting was attended by education policy makers from over 60 countries in the world. The taskforce on Teachers for Education for All (TTF) is an alliance of committed partners driven by a steering committee composed of countries, intergovernmental organizations, international non-profit organizations, private organisations and actors interested in issues on teachers and teaching. Visit: <http://gesci.org/news-room/news/single/news/detail/News/21st-century-teaching-in-full-implementation/> For further information contact: [esther.wachira@gesci.org](mailto:esther.wachira@gesci.org)

### **GESCI signs EU contract to support Sierra Leone with EMIS**

**12-23<sup>rd</sup> November.** GESCI has been contracted to provide technical support under the **EU's 11th Education Development Fund** to the government, in providing expertise for the design of systems and development of capacity in establishing sector-wide ICT-enabled planning and monitoring for Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education as well as Ministry of Technical and Higher Education. This will be on-going into 2019. For further information contact: [angela.arnott@gesci.org](mailto:angela.arnott@gesci.org)

### **GESCI at mEducation Alliance Symposium , Washington,USA**

**5-9 November.** GESCI's as member of the m Education Alliance Steering Committee, attended both this meeting and the Symposium held in Washington USA, in November 2018. Mobiles for Education Alliance Steering Committee members, include selected Ministry of Education officials and other invited guest representatives from other organizations investing in global, regional and national technology in education initiatives. The Symposium focused on **Using Technology to Scale Support for Teachers and Community Educators in Low-Resource Environments**. GESCI's CEO moderated two sessions including one on Real-Time Classroom and Community Data Collection and Monitoring as well as presenting GESCI's programmes. For further information contact: [jerome.morrissey@gesci.org](mailto:jerome.morrissey@gesci.org)

## **December**

### **Implementation of the Djibouti Declaration on Education for Refugees, Addis Ababa,Ethiopia**

**2-5<sup>th</sup> December.** GESCI was invited to the Second Conference of IGAD Ministers in charge of Education. The meeting's focus was to adopt a costed action plan for implementation of the Djibouti Declaration (DD) and Plan of Action in the next 2-5 years; validate and regional policy framework on qualifications are adopted. GESCI made a presentation at the most recent partners meeting which attracted the attention of Education Cannot Wait, among others. The meeting provided an avenue for partners to assess specific country needs and mapping out funds/support provided to IGAD members on education for refugees. For further information contact; [angela.arnott@gesci.org](mailto:angela.arnott@gesci.org)

### **African Digital Schools Initiative (ADSI) Leadership Training- Kenya**

**3-4<sup>th</sup> December.** GESCI, in partnership with The Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MoEST) and the Teachers Service Commission, met with the heads of 80 secondary schools implementing the African Digital Schools Initiative (ADSI) in Kenya. Main activities of the 2 day event included taking stock of progress made on transforming the 80 schools to become Digital Schools of Distinction (DSD). Visit: <http://gesci.org/news-room/news/single/news/detail/News/80-school-heads-attend-leadership-training-in-kenya/> For further information contact: [esther.wachira@gesci.org](mailto:esther.wachira@gesci.org)

### **GESCI trained Teacher receives Presidential Award –Kenya.**

**14th December.** Maxwell Vincent Kayesi, one of the teachers undergoing training through the African Digital Schools Initiative (ADSI) Programme at Karuri High School, Kiambu County, Kenya takes The Presidential Jamhuri Day Award. Visit: <http://gesci.org/news-room/news/single/news/detail/News/adsi-teacher-receives-presidential-award/>

### **Teachers Union awards high performing teachers**

**14<sup>th</sup> December.** The Kenya National Union of Teachers (KNUT) awarded the Secondary Head Teacher of The Year, Teacher of The Year and the ICT Teacher of the Year with trophies and a car each. The trio received the awards during the 61st Annual Delegates Conference of KNUT held at the Bomas of Kenya in Nairobi. The Union works closely with the Teachers' Employer Teachers Service Commission and The Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MoEST) to ensure teachers have ample conditions to work in. Maxwell Kayesi, a GESCI trained teacher was among those feted by the union. Visit: <http://gesci.org/news-room/news/single/news/detail/News/kenya-national-union-of-teachers-knut-fetes-outstanding-teachers/>



### September

#### Launch of the UN Youth Strategy in 2018, New York, USA

*24<sup>th</sup> September, 2018.* The first comprehensive UN Youth Strategy was adopted at the UN General Assembly (UNGA) High Level week in September 2018. UM MGCY had played an active role in the process and designing the strategy. This included providing inputs to the drafts of the Strategy during the different phases of its formation - both through virtual and in person participation at different meetings. In addition, the UN MGCY had a plenary speaker in the launch event of the strategy at the UNGA. Visit: <https://www.un.org/development/desa/youth/what-we-do/un-inter-agency-network-on-youth-development.html>

### October

#### The Africa Youth Conference, Nairobi, Kenya

*23- 25<sup>th</sup> October, 2018.* The Africa Youth Conference with the theme ‘Unleashing the Potential of Youth in Africa through Prioritizing Investment within the Post-2015 Agenda on Sustainable Development’ was held at the United Nation Complex in Gigiri, Nairobi Kenya. This convening was facilitated through a collaboration with UN Women working with Fawe, Africa Alliance of YMCA, UNDP, UN Environment, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNIC, UNICEF and Youth Agenda. African Youth have for a long time been misjudged as being disengaged, passive and that they lacked the capacity to positively contribute to the continent’s development. It was therefore deemed necessary that an appropriate platform is given to these youth, in particular the young women, to share different interventions and initiatives they are involved in that seek to address the challenges facing their respective communities. Visit: <http://fawe.org/home/2019/01/21/fawe-un-agencies-and-partners-hold-inaugural-youth-led-convening-in-efforts-to-unleash-the-potential-of-youth-in-africa/>

#### Continental Experts and Practitioners’ Dialogue on Youth Entrepreneurship Promotion in Africa , Addis Abba, Ethiopia

*30-31<sup>st</sup> October, 2018.* The goal of the dialogue event was to collect expertise on the youth entrepreneurship promotion process from skills development to start up promotion and to map out good practices and success factors. German Cooperation, specifically the programme supporting the Pan African University, supports the expert and practitioners’ dialogue. Contributions from the Skills Initiative for Africa and the Continental Africa Agriculture Programme (CAADP) will be planned. For further information contact: [jerome.morrissey@gesci.org](mailto:jerome.morrissey@gesci.org)

### November

#### Launch of the CESA Curriculum Development Thematic Cluster Coordination Meeting , Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

*12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> November, 2018.* This meeting brought together experts from member States and major stakeholders and organisations in the field of Curriculum Development to review and adopt a joint work plan, as well as operational modalities of the CESA Curriculum Development. GESCI Co-chairs the CESA ICT in Education Cluster. For further information contact: [jerome.morrissey@gesci.org](mailto:jerome.morrissey@gesci.org)

### January 2019

#### PAUWES Curricula Review Validation Workshop, Tiemcen, Algeria

*23-25<sup>th</sup> January, 2019.* The Pan African University of Waters and Energy Sciences (PAUWES), one of the five African Union Institutes of Excellence, based in Algeria held a workshop with key stakeholders. The expected outcomes from the workshop included identifying gaps needs and the process of updating the PAUWES Curriculum. For Further information contact: [NjengaB@africanunion.org](mailto:NjengaB@africanunion.org)

#### International Day of Education- marked by various education actors globally

*24<sup>th</sup> January, 2019.* Following the Global Education Meeting in Brussels (December 2018), the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed January 24 as the [International Day of Education](#) to celebrate

the role of education for peace and development. UNESCO will ensure the annual observance of the event in partnership with other major education actors.

## February

### **African Union Summit on Protecting Education for Children and Women on the move in Africa- Addis Abba, Ethiopia**

*5<sup>th</sup> February 2019.* Organized by the African Union Commission in partnership with the embassies of Nigeria and Liberia as well as Save the Children International and the Norwegian Embassy all based in Addis Ababa, holds this summit. It will include the endorsement of the Safe Schools Declaration and Guidelines, as well as sharing of experiences on how member states are ensuring safe schools and campuses enabling Continuous education for Children and Women affected by humanitarian situations in Africa. *For further information contact :* [NjengaB@africanunion.org](mailto:NjengaB@africanunion.org)

### **Hands on the Future Skills Show and TVET Conference-Nairobi, Kenya**

*8-10<sup>th</sup> February, 2019 .* The Permanent Working Group on TVET (PWG) cooperation with Technical Vocational Education and Training Authority (TVETA) under the Patronage of State Department of Vocational and Technical Training in the Ministry of Education will host the Hands on The Future – Kenya Skills Show in 2019. The conference seeks to sensitize youth and their guardians on the varied opportunities in TVET, improve public perception of TVET in Kenya, as well as provide a collaborative forum for TVET stakeholders.

### **National Teacher ICT Competition Advisory Council Meeting- Nairobi Kenya**

*1<sup>st</sup> February, 2019.* GESCI has been selected as member of the ICT Teacher Advisory Council by the ICT Authority in Kenya. The ICT Authority is leading a government multi-agency implementation of the Digital Literacy Programme in Kenya which targets about 24,000 primary schools in all the 47 counties with various digital devices to enhance teaching and learning. Other members in the council are Ministry of Education, Kenya, ICTA, Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development (KICD), Teachers Service Commission (TSC), Kenya Institute of Special Education (KISE), Microsoft, Intel and UNESCO. *For further information contact:* [jerome.morrissey@gesci.org](mailto:jerome.morrissey@gesci.org)

### **Aid and International Development Forum Africa Summit 2019**

*26-27<sup>th</sup> February 2019.* The Summit is focused on development and humanitarian relief in Africa, aiming to unite humanitarian and development leaders from NGOs, governments, donors and UN agencies to increase resilience, preparedness, innovation and collaboration amongst humanitarian actors in the region. GESCI has been invited to give a presentation. *For further information Contact:* [bmehmetcik@aidforum.org](mailto:bmehmetcik@aidforum.org)

## March

### **UNESCO Mobile Learning Week- Paris, France**

*4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> March.* Mobile Learning Week is UNESCO's flagship ICT in education conference. Held annually since 2011, the event convenes experts from around the world to share how affordable and powerful advanced technology can accelerate learning for all. A wide range of participants, including officials from Ministries of Education and ICT, international experts, representatives from major partners in the field and private companies will be present to share innovative ways of learning with new technologies. The Week will include a symposium, a policy forum, workshops, strategy labs and side events. *visit:* <https://en.unesco.org/events/mobile-learning-week-2019>

### **Innovating Education in Africa Expo 2019 Planning Meeting , Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania**

*7<sup>th</sup> March, 2019.* The Innovating Education in Africa Expo is a flagship event of the African Union Commission which is intended to showcase practical social and technological innovations aimed at enhancing access ,quality, relevance and inclusion in education in order to release the potential for empowerment, employability and inventiveness. The purpose is to identify innovations that can be replicated and rescaled. *For further information contact :* [owusum@africa-union.org](mailto:owusum@africa-union.org)

### **IGAD Livelihoods Meeting , Kampala, Uganda**

*11-12<sup>th</sup> March, 2019.* Ministers of Labour from IGAD member countries will have a convening to discuss TVET and employment among member states of IGAD. *For further information contact:* [fathia.alwan@igad.int](mailto:fathia.alwan@igad.int)

## Global Education Skills Forum , Dubai, United Arab Emirates

22<sup>nd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> March. The Global Education & Skills Forum is an initiative of the Varkey Foundation bringing together leaders from the public, private and social sectors, to demonstrate that education is the key to solving global issues. At the Forum delegates ask what education should be, and how we can get there together, taking a multi-stakeholder, innovative approach.

visit: <https://www.educationandskillsforum.org/news-blogs/gesf-2019-who-is-changing-the-world/>

## Education Development News

### Global

#### The State of Global Education

In the second half of 2017, two major reports were released by the [World Bank](#) and the [Global Education Monitoring Report](#) to take the pulse of global education, in particular in the world's poorest countries. The [Learning Generation](#) by the Education Commission, and GPE's [Results Report 2015/2016](#) also have major statistics. These findings have various take aways as highlighted here:

<https://www.globalpartnership.org/blog/state-global-education-8-charts>

### Africa

#### SADC Technical Committee on Certification and Accreditation (TCCA) Johannesburg, South Africa.

27-28 September. The SADC Technical Committee on Certification and Accreditation (TCCA) held a meeting that was attended by Chief Executive Officers and Directors of national institutions responsible for certification and accreditation of education and skills training, from the following Member States: Angola, Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe and the SADC Secretariat. [www.sadc.int](http://www.sadc.int)

### Countries

#### Rwanda: Distribution of Laptops to Students on Scholarship Loans launched

In a bid to enhance teaching and learning using ICT as a driving tool, the Minister of Education Dr. Eugene Mutimura presided over event to officially launch an ongoing exercise to distribute Laptops to Students on Scholarship Loans at University of Rwanda and Rwanda Polytechnic. Visit:

[http://mineduc.gov.rw/media/news/details/news/?tx\\_ttnews%5Btt\\_news%5D=854&cHash=4ef1d25628de6eab345219109da736ad](http://mineduc.gov.rw/media/news/details/news/?tx_ttnews%5Btt_news%5D=854&cHash=4ef1d25628de6eab345219109da736ad)

#### Ethiopia: Policy Workshop on Developing a National ICT in Education Policy

The Ministry of Education of Ethiopia, UNESCO Headquarters, UNESCO-IICBA and UNESCO Liaison Office launched the policy workshop on developing a national ICT in education policy and master plan for Ethiopia with the financial support of WeiDong Cloud Education Group in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. National participants of the workshop were ICT specialists from different Universities in Ethiopia, the Federal TVET Agency, the Ministry of Education and the Oromia Education Bureau. The main objectives of the workshop were to develop the national ICT in education policy and master plan by incorporating open educational resources, enhancing the capacity of the Government and planning next steps through to completion, which include a wider consultation, finalization, adoption and launch. Visit: <http://www.iicba.unesco.org/node/320> Accessed on 3rd October 2018

#### Niger: Realizing the joy of learning maths

Through the “School for All” project, children in Niger made impressive gains in math thanks to extra hours of class and support to teachers and communities, proving that tackling the learning crisis is possible even in difficult contexts. Like many other African countries, Niger is severely affected by the learning crisis and the scale of the problem becomes larger due to the continuous increase in the population size. The factors behind the crisis are complex and include: motivation and skills of teachers, readiness of learners, school management and school inputs such as textbooks, technology and infrastructure (The World Bank, 2018). In 2018, over 3,500 schools and communities in the Tillaberi region collaborated to organize remedial extracurricular activities in basic mathematics by voluntary contribution of teacher, parents and community members under the “School for All” project. So far, about 300,000 students from 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> grades have been able to catch up in number recognition and basic math operations. Visit: [www.globalpartnership.org](http://www.globalpartnership.org) Accessed on October 12, 2018



### **2019 Erasmus+ call; Ugandan academics, students and professionals targeted**

Ugandan academics, students and professionals in the field of education, training, youth and sport stand a chance to benefit from the prestigious Erasmus+ programme following publication of the 2019 call for proposals. The Erasmus+ programme is the European Union's programme for education, training, youth and sport, which supports learning mobility of individuals, cooperation for innovation, transnational partnerships and national efforts to modernise systems. The international dimension of the programme -- cooperation with partner countries across the globe -- focuses on higher education and youth. *For More information on how to apply, please follow links below:* [https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv:OJ.C\\_.2018.384.01.0004.01.ENG&toc=OJ.C:2018:384:TOC](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv:OJ.C_.2018.384.01.0004.01.ENG&toc=OJ.C:2018:384:TOC)

### **Next Einstein Forum Fellows Application 2019 – 2021 Now Open!**

The NEF Fellows is a select programme that recognises Africa's best young scientists and technologists. The NEF Fellows programme consists of Africa's most brilliant young scientists that the NEF showcases on the global stage. The NEF Fellows programme provides these brilliant young minds with the opportunity to present their research and draw upon the vast networks of NEF members and participants for support, connections and advice to advance their work. *To apply Visit:* [nef.org](http://nef.org)

### **560 free online courses from 200 universities**

Variety of online courses in the fields of Education Technology and Business.

*Visit:* <https://medium.freecodecamp.org/200-universities-just-launched-560-free-online-courses-heres-the-full-list-d9dd13600b04>

### **Women's STEM Award 2019**

Deutsche Telekom praises the Women's STEM Award! STEM graduates women from all over the world can submit their thesis with focus on one of the strategic growth areas: Cloud, Internet of Things, Artificial Intelligence, Cyber Security and Networks of the Future. *To apply visit:* <https://challenge.telekom.com/en/challenges/women-stem-award-2019?lang=en>

### **Gulu Univerity Student Enterprise Win \$1,000 From The Agri –Preneurship Alliance**

JuFresh Enterprise is the name of a student enterprise made up of five young dynamic students pursuing MSc. Agri-Enterprises Development at Gulu University in Northern Uganda. The enterprise which started operating in November 2018 at Gulu University is venturing into producing a variety of fresh fruit juice and fruit salads. *Visit:* [www.ruforum.org](http://www.ruforum.org)

### **Call for Applications for MCF@RUFORUM Scholarships – 2019**

The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM), in partnership with Mastercard Foundation is implementing an eight year transformative project to meaningfully contribute to Africa's growth and development. The aim of the partnership is to transform African agricultural universities and their graduates to better respond to developmental challenges through enhanced application of science, technology, business and innovation for rural agricultural transformation.

**Application procedure:** Applicants should obtain application forms for both the scholarships and admission from the university of choice. Applicants shall only apply to one university of choice. Application forms can also be downloaded by clicking following websites: [RUFORUM](#); [Gulu University](#) and [Egerton University](#) . Applicants are encouraged to carefully study the application guidelines and provide all the required information and documents prior to submitting the application. Females are particularly encouraged to apply. **Application Deadline:** The deadline to apply for the MCF@RUFORUM Scholarships is Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019 at 17:00 Hours (GMT+3). Download the [MCF Application Form 2019](#) and the [Advert MCF Scholarship](#) here: <https://ruforum.files.wordpress.com/2018/12/MCF-final-Form-2019.pdf>

## Networking and Resources

### Google For Education

Google for Education can support teachers, learners, researchers, and organizations. Learn more about the collaborative tools of [G Suite for Education](#), powerful and affordable [Chromebooks](#), and the Big Data, machine learning, and storage tools within [Google Cloud Platform](#). Visit: <https://edu.google.com/?>

### Africa Innovations Handbook

The Africa Education Innovations handbook documents 63 innovations in the words of the innovators themselves who were present for the first Innovating Education in Africa Expo, held in Dakar from 4-6 October 2018. It contributes to raising the visibility of identified innovative practices and products in education in order that they can be supported, upscaled, replicated or further developed. Visit: [http://edu-ai.org/downloads/Periodic%20Publications/Africa\\_Education\\_Innovations\\_Handbook/Africa\\_Education\\_Innovations\\_Handbook\\_2018\\_final.pdf](http://edu-ai.org/downloads/Periodic%20Publications/Africa_Education_Innovations_Handbook/Africa_Education_Innovations_Handbook_2018_final.pdf)

### SDG 4 Data Digest: Data to Nurture Learning

Launched in December, the [SDG 4 Data Digest 2018: Data to Nurture Learning](#) highlights the importance of monitoring learning, from early childhood education to adult literacy programmes, offering a series of good practices to inform the learning indicators of SDG 4. Published by the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS), a key objective of this publication is to help governments use data effectively to ensure the provision of quality education. The Digest emphasizes the work of the Global Alliance to Monitor Learning ([GAML](#)) working with countries to develop indicators and methodological tools to measure progress toward SDG 4. The Digest also advocates for more participation in major international or regional assessments, which would be a cost-effective decision for donor and governments. As estimated by the UIS, “solid data on learning to gauge whether approaches are working or whether reforms are needed could improve education spending efficiency by 5%, saving \$30 million each year in the average country and paying for the cost assessments hundreds of times over.”

### 2018 World Development Report

Although published in October 2017, the World Bank’s [2018 World Development Report](#) was a key resource throughout this year as for the first time, it was entirely devoted to education. Under the theme “LEARNING to Realize Education’s Promise”, the publication identifies some of the persisting challenges: for instance, the latest international learning assessments show that in spite of a steady progress to provide access to education to all, many children still lack foundational literacy and numeracy skills when they finish school. The report offers three main policy solutions to tackle the issues identified: 1) assess learning effectively so that schools start working for learners; 2) act on the evidence gathered, taking into account the potential system-level technical and political barriers to learning; and 3) mobilizing actors and tracking progress, so that the system works for learning.

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Newsletter information sources include:

African Countries’ and Ministry of Education websites, University World News, SADC, UNESCO, 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, FAWE and general sources.

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