

Press Release | 30 August 2021

UNESCO, UN Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNPRPD), Global E-Schools and Communities Initiatives (GESCI)

**DEVELOPMENT/REVIEW OF NATIONAL POLICY FOR INCLUSIVE ICTS IN EDUCATION
FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES IN KENYA AND RWANDA**

(BASELINE SURVEY)

“Promoting Inclusive Education through Accessible Digital Learning Materials”

30th August 2021

ICT is a valuable tool for learners with disabilities who are vulnerable to the digital divide and exclusion from educational opportunities. Inclusive ICTs can improve their quality of life by increasing participation and reducing social exclusion. The provision of inclusive ICTs for learners with disabilities involves removing barriers and enabling all learners to access the same educational opportunities as their peers.

UNESCO Regional Office is carrying out a baseline survey that aims at analyzing existing legal, policy, and regulatory framework that supports inclusive ICTs in education for Persons with Disabilities thereby identifying the gaps. It will ascertain the extent to which the current education system has promoted access to ICTs and systems including mobile communications and web accessibility for persons with disabilities as well as determining the existing guidelines that promote the design, development, production, and distribution of accessible information and communications technologies and systems. In addition, the baseline will be able to establish whether the existing national procurement legislation (s) has provisions to cater for procurement of accessible ICT equipment for PWDs and identify the current barriers to inclusive ICTs in education in Kenya. The baseline kicked off on **August 20, 2021** and is expected to be completed by **September 15, 2021**.

The survey will involve extensive desk review, complemented with key informant interviews targeting Government line ministries (education, ICTs, social services, etc.), actors in special needs education such as national council for Persons with Disabilities, International Development Organizations, Civil Society Organizations, and NGOs working in the inclusive education space.

We look forward to your participation and engagement during the period.

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Notes to Editors

- This survey is made possible with the support UN Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNPRPD)
- Follow UNESCO Regional Office for Eastern Africa on twitter @UnescoEast
- Follow Global e-Schools and Communities Initiative (GESCI) on twitter @GESCI
- The findings from the survey will be used to inform subsequent interventions including the development/review of inclusive ICTs in education policy.

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