

Media Advisory October 15th, 2021

What?: Accessible Digital Textbooks Project; **Training of Teachers on Assistive Technologies and Interactive Digital Textbooks in Uganda**

Who?: <u>UNESCO</u>, <u>UN Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities</u> (UNPRPD) and Global E -Schools and Communities Initiatives (GESCI)

When: 18th - 22nd October, 2021

Venue: St.Noah Mawagali, Teacher Training College, Mityana District.

CONTEXT – Promoting Inclusive Education through accessible learning materials

Under the framework of the Accessible Digital Textbooks project funded by the <u>UN Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNPRPD)</u>, the UNESCO Regional Office for Eastern Africa with partners, particularly the ministries of Education, is supporting training of teachers on the use of Assistive Technologies and Interactive Digital Textbooks in teaching and adapting content to improve learning outcomes in Kenya, Rwanda and Uganda. The trainings which will be conducted by the Global E-Schools and Communities Initiative (GESCI) are expected to take place on **18th – 22nd October 2021.**

Journalists are invited to cover the training which will include a hybrid (face to face and virtual) opening ceremony to be held on Monday 18th October, 2021 from 10:00-11:30AM EAT and a closing ceremony on Friday 22nd October, 2021 from noon.

The Following officials are expected to attend the opening ceremony.

- Mrs Kayegi Beatrice; Principal, St. Noah Mawagali Teacher Training College
- Mr. Jerome Morrissey, Chief Executive Officer, Global e-Schools and Communities Initiative – GESCI.
- The Commissioner Special Needs and Inclusive Education, Ministry of Education and Sports, Ms. Sarah Bugoosi Kibooli.
- Mr Mulindwa Ismail, Director Special Needs Education, Ministry of Education and Sports, Uganda
- Dr. Saido Jireh Jallow, Chief of Education Section, UNESCO Regional Office for Eastern Africa.

The overall objective of this training is to ensure teaching and learning for learners with disabilities is made more inclusive and accommodating, in line with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2006) and Sustainable Development Goal 4 which aims to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.

Two training events have been planned for Special Needs Teachers drawn from all the 30 districts in Rwanda.

- 1. Training on Assistive Technologies to ensure inclusive education and access to information for Persons with Disabilities; and
- 2. Training on the use of interactive Accessible Digital Textbooks in teaching and adapting content to improve learning outcomes.

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Notes to Editors

- This training 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
- Tool kits used in these trainings will be shared with education stakeholders for adoption and use in training more teachers who handle learners with special needs.