

Newsletter



The latest news and updates from GESCI



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Welcome to the 2019 Quarter 1 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.

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GESCI Activities

January 2019

800 Teachers receive advanced ICT Teacher Training- Kenya

5th-30th January GESCI provided “Knowledge Creation” training as part of the ICT Competency Training for 800 teachers of Science, Technology English and Mathematics; from 80 Secondary Schools located in the counties of Nyamira, Narok, Taita Taveta and Kiambu. The focus was on the pedagogic emphasis on the use of 21st Century skills in teaching, in particularly innovation and creativity as well as hard to teach concepts. *For further information contact: esther.wachira@gesci.org*

400 teachers certified on Technology Literacy- Morogoro, Pwani Tanzania

14th - 25th January. GESCI working with Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MOEST) and President Office Regional Administrative and Local Government (PORALG), held a series of workshops with 400 teachers from the regions of Pwani and Morogoro in Tanzania on ICT integration in teaching and learning. The teachers, drawn from 40 secondary schools were certified for successfully completing two modules in the Technology Literacy Level of the Teacher ICT Competency professional development programme. For further information contact: joyce.msolla@gesci.org

Meeting with Ministry of Education and Skills Development- Gaborone Botswana

23-24th January. GESCI held a meeting with representatives from the Ministry of Education where GESCI CEO presented on the African Digital Schools Initiative (ADSI) model for implementation in Botswana. The country has 750 primary schools and 207 Junior Secondary and 34 Senior Secondary schools spread across 10 districts. They have about 15,000 teachers and they wish to have the model implemented in both primary and secondary schools. *For further information contact: angela.arnott@gesci.org*

Meeting with the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Secretariat- Gaborone, Botswana

23-24th January. GESCI presented its ICT in Education Norms and Standards Assessment Framework to the SADC secretariat. SADC have been requested by SADC Ministers (of ICT, Science and Technology as well as Ministers of Education) to develop an e-readiness tool for the education sector. In SADC’s Regional Indicative Development Strategy they have adopted the 4th Industrial Revolution strategy with an emphasis on modern technology, skills development, among others. and from that they have developed a Digital Strategy 2040 under which this new framework could fit. *For further information contact: angela.arnott@gesci.org*

1st International Day of Education-, Nairobi, Kenya

24th January. Igniting innovation through integrating ICTs in learning for sustainability and scale, GESCI joins the world in marking the 1st International Day of Education to celebrate gains made by creating a video series by staff.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nd6yvGdMmCg&index=21&list=PLOu6CsjmBZAsY-8LzE-ubxJIQDwvUTS7r>

World Bank Group explores ADSI model , Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

24th January. World Bank Education Practice Manager, Eastern Africa and national World Bank staff met GESCI’s Tanzania Country Project Manager for ADSI at the World to learn about the implementation opportunities and challenges of ADSI in Tanzania. *For further information contact: joyce.msolla@gesci.org*

GESCI explores its skills development initiative with the regional Livelihoods United Nations High Commission on Refugees (UNHCR)- Nairobi ,Kenya

29th January, Senior Global Livelihoods officer and Regional ICT Officer, UNHCR visited GESCI to discuss creative digital media skills development for refugee youth in Kenya. Ensuring access to quality education for children and women in crisis environments is one of the key focus areas in GESCI 2017-2020 Strategy. ADSI Country Manager shared the latest findings on the impact of the implementation of ADSI in Kenya in terms of student learning, teacher development and school progress. *For further information contact:* jerome.morrissey@gesci.org

World Bank Group meet at GESCI HQ , Nairobi , Kenya

30th January,. World Bank Education Practice Manager, Eastern Africa and Kenyan based, Senior Education Specialist, met with GESCI' head office staff on its **Digital School of Distinction** Programme which currently runs in 140 secondary schools in Kenya, Tanzania and Coté D'Ivoire. The World Bank is implementing the Secondary Education Quality Improvement Project (SEQUIP) in multiple countries including Kenya. They are investigating possible ICT integration models, their impact, implementation structures, methods of assessment and costs – to bring to scale across multiple countries. *For further information contact:*angela.arnott@gesci.org

February

GESCI provides EU-funded EMIS Technical Support – Freetown, Sierra Leone

4 February – 4 March. Under the European Union Sector support to the Ministry of Education, Sierra Leone, GESCI is providing ongoing technical support to the Ministry's Planning and Policy Unit on developing the capacity of staff, policy and strategic plans. GESCI expert assisted in the development of a draft EMIS policy, School Registry and School Report Card system. Additionally GESCI is exploring blended learning options with the teacher development units of the Ministry of Technical and Higher Education.

For further information contact:angela.arnott@gesci.org

Phase 2 Teachers Training Conducted in Tanzania

30th January- 8th February- GESCI conducted the 2nd phase of training for 40 secondary schools from Pwani and Morogoro regions in Tanzania. This training will equip teachers with skills on ICT Integration in teaching through Project Based activities. The training came a week after teachers were issued with certificates for successfully completing the 1st phase.

For further information contact: joyce.msolla@gesci.org

School Visits and Online tutoring- Kenya

February 2019. The African Digital Schools Initiative (ADSI) is in its 3rd phase and year of training in Kenya where teachers have been introduced to Information Literacy and search of educational content through readily available Open Educational Resources. The training support team has visited the 80 secondary schools to monitor the integration process in the classroom. The Counties hosting schools participating in the programme are Nyamira, Taita Taveta, Narok and Kiambu. *For further information contact:* esther.wachira@gesci.org

ICT Integration training conducted for Secondary School teachers- Abidjan, Yamoussoukro- Cote d'Ivoire

February 2019. GESCI conducted phase II of an innovative secondary schools programme in 20 schools with 200 teachers of STEM and other subjects went through the training which was delivered in French. The teachers are currently going through a continuation of the programme online for a period of 6 weeks. *For further information contact:*

sylvie.tanflotien@gesci.org

March

GESCI MERL Specialist assessing ADSI Impact in Schools – Morogoro, Pwani, Tanzania.

4-8th March. GESCI MERL Specialist visited four ADSI supported secondary schools in the different regions in Tanzania to support the project coordinators with tracking key activities and changes that can be attributed to the GESCI intervention. It was agreed that a simple school performance tool would be shared that would capture both historical and current changes in enrolment and learner performance in STEM subjects.

For further information contact: sam.otieno@gesci.org

AU Innovating Education in Africa Expo 2019 1st Planning meeting Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

7 March. GESCI is a member of this planning team which is organizing the next Innovating Education in Africa Expo. Prize money for AU Education Innovation Prize is set at 1st prize – \$100,000; 2nd – \$40,000; 3rd – \$15,000; 4th-10th – 4,000 each. The Government of Botswana has offered to host the next Expo from 20-22 August 2019. Based on lessons learnt in 2018, the focus areas have been narrowed to innovations to ICT in education. The Call for Submissions has been launched on 19 February 2019, and so far 88 applications have been received. *For further information contact : owusum@africa-union.org*

PSIPSE Visit to Loreto Girls Kiambu County - Kenya

12th March. GESCI and The Partnership to Strengthen Innovation and Practice in Secondary Education (PSIPSE) visited a secondary school in Kiambu County. PSIPSE, a funder collaborative that seeks to increase secondary education access and improve learning outcomes for marginalized populations, wished to document experiences and efforts taken to ensure successful implementation of ICT in education initiatives. The school with 1350 students (from all over the country) and 65 teachers is one of the 80 secondary schools in Kenya implementing the African Digital Schools Initiative (ADSI) programme. The visit provided an opportunity for teachers to showcase their prowess with integrating ICTs in teaching and learning since they started training in January 2017. *For further information contact: esther.wachira@gesci.org*

Joint Consultations on Teacher Development in Africa

18th – 22nd March. GESCI participated in the Teacher Development Workshop in Africa organized by UNESCO. GESCI highlighted its Digital Schools Development Programme during the sessions on Secondary Education in Africa with a focus on preparing youth for the future of work. Ms Wachira moderated a session on African Regional Focal Points of the International Teacher Taskforce on Teachers for Education 2030. The African Focal points personnel discussed issues around working with regional economic communities like EAC, IGAD and SADC, mobilizing resources in the various regions and contributing to the 4 thematic areas of the Teachers Task Force. *For further information contact: esther.wachira@gesci.org*

GESCI Board of Directors holds Annual Meeting, Nairobi, Kenya

20th March. Members of the GESCI Board held their annual meeting in Nairobi, Kenya. Some members of the Board from South Africa, Jamaica, Florida and Ireland attended the meeting via Video Conferencing. New members to the Board now include Ms Hendrina Doroba, Division Manager, Education and Skills Development at the African Development Bank as well as Ms. Mary Kang'ethe, Education Director of National Commission for UNESCO. The Board discussions reviewed GESCI strategies and direction. *For more information contact: jerome.morrissey@gesci.org*

Pan African Virtual e-University (PAVEU) – Yaounde, Cameroon

25-27th March. GESCI sits as a member of this steering committee who met to develop a two-year implementation plan for this new university. GESCI is signing an MOA with the PAVEU

to collaborate on developing various online masters programmes in ICT Leadership, including Women in STI and Agriculture. *For further information contact:* jerome.morrissey@gesci.org

Events – Past (2018) and Upcoming in 2019

February

High Level Dialogue on Gender, Education and Protection of Schools in Humanitarian Settings - Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

5 February. In line with the AU theme of 2019, the Department of Human Resources, Science and Technology hosted a high level dialogue on protection of education in humanitarian settings. The objectives of the meeting, which GESCI attended, were to improve participants' understanding of impacts of humanitarian situations on education, especially for girls and women, and the role of education in peace building; share experiences among AU Members States and non-State actors policy frameworks and practice in protecting education during humanitarian situations through implementation of the Safe School Declaration and Guidelines, among other humanitarian instruments; and strengthen commitment on specific measures to protect girls, women and boys in education systems under all circumstances. *For further information contact* njengab@africa-union.org

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

8-10th February. The objectives of the Kenya Skills Show 2019 are to provide a forum for public and private TVET institutions, NGOs, private companies AND development partners to showcase their technical, vocational, entrepreneurship and life skills education and training opportunities; and improve the image of TVET among students and the general public. . *For further information contact* kevin.rotich@kenya-ahk.co.ke

First SADC High-Level Regional Conference of Vice Chancellors and Deans of Education, Science, Engineering and Technology - Victoria, Falls, Zimbabwe

19-22 February. Organised by UNESCO Regional Office and the Ministry of Tertiary and Higher Education, Zimbabwe, the conference aims to develop a concrete action plan and framework for socio-economic transformation to accelerate the achievement of the SADC Industrialisation strategy and enhance global competitiveness. *For more information, please contact:* p.awopegba@unesco.org

March

UNESCO Mobile learning Week 2019

4th-8th March. 1500 participants from 130 countries participated in the event that provided the educational community, governments and other stakeholders a unique opportunity to discuss the role of Artificial Intelligence (AI) for sustainable development.

Visit: <https://en.unesco.org/mlw>

2nd International Leadership Conference for Women in Higher Education Nairobi, Kenya.

6-8 March 2019. This conference is one of the key platforms provided by AAU for the discussion of innovative and creative ways of empowering women, especially young women in higher education to reach their full potential and aspire to the topmost leadership positions in their chosen fields. The maiden edition, which was held in Accra, Ghana was highly successful and brought women across national and international boundaries together to share knowledge, ideas and strategic management skills required for success in various

leadership positions. Visit: https://blog.aau.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/Concept-Note_Womens-Conference-in-Kenya.pdf

International Conference on E-Assessment in Mathematical Sciences (ICEMS-19) – Accra Ghana

14th March. The aim of the Conference is to provide a platform to the researchers and practitioners from both academia as well as industry to meet the share cutting edge development in the field. *For further information contact: info@iirst.com*

Knowledge Societies for Sustainable Development in Africa: IFAP priorities and public domain content in Africa - Zimbabwe, Harare.

14th – 15th March. The forum on Knowledge Societies for Sustainable Development in Africa will highlight the important role of African National IFAP Governance structures in contributing towards universal access to information, by facilitating access to information and developing public domain content and developing digital skills. The Forum will encourage African countries to establish/enhance the role of IFAP governance structures as part of a wider strategy to harness knowledge societies for the sustainable socioeconomic development of Africa. *For further information contact: [Jaco du Toit j.dutoit@unesco.org](mailto:j.dutoit@unesco.org)*

April

Microsoft MEA Education Exchange Competition , Paris, France

3rd-4th April. This year's Microsoft Education Exchange (E2) event will be held in France in Paris, France, with the support of local and international governments. This meeting explores industry trends – including emerging technologies that support teaching, skills development, modern pedagogies, safe school environments, and predictive analytics that identify at-risk students. It's an event for invited education leaders who help transform today's teaching organizations into learning organizations. *Visit: <https://www.microsoft.com/mea/Events/Details/350?SearchTxt=ID>*

CESA Clusters Coordination Meeting

22nd – 23rd April. The AU HSRT is calling all coordinators of Continental Education Sector Clusters to a planning meeting in Addis. *For further information contact: owusum@africa-union.org*

Pan African Youth Forum- Addis Ababa , Ethiopia

24th – 27th April 2019. African Union Commission is organizing the Youth Forum whose goal is to inaugurate the “1 million by 2021 initiative” which aims to meaningfully reach at least 1 Million African Young people by 2021 with opportunities and essential interventions. The initiative will provide opportunities for education, skills development, employment as well as Leadership. *For further information contact: owusum@africa-union.org*

May

Africa Education Finance Conference- Nairobi, Kenya

15th – 16th May. This conference will be held under a theme : “ **Financing for equity and for innovation**” which aims to explore and sharpen the focus of thinking on how education value chain can be financed through innovative and collaborative strategies as a core part of the industry developments strategies. *For further information contact: brenda@aidembs.com*

8th Africa Federation of Teaching and Regulatory Authorities Conference and 10th Roundtable - Maseru, Lesotho

13th -18th May. As an intergovernmental organisation covering 55 African countries, their ministries and institutions of education, teachers unions and CSOs in education, AFTRA organises its 8th conference on 'Teaching and learning in Africa for Global Competitiveness'. Other high-profile participants typically include the African Union, UNESCO-IICBA,

Education International and members of the International Task Force on Teachers for Education 2030 (including VVOB) and the International Forum of Teaching Regulatory Authorities. *Visit:* <http://www.iicba.unesco.org/sites/default/files/sites/default/files/2019%20AFTRA%20Conf%20%26%20RT%20Announcement%20English.pdf>

Validation Workshop of the Study on Protection of Education in Africa - Addis Ababa

22-23 May. The AU HRST and Save the Children have commissioned a study on progress made among targeted member states on the protection of education from attacks and military use. Specifically the study will look at the extent of integration of peace and education in Global Citizenship Education into the national curriculum; Promising practices and programmes on Peace and Education, Prevention of Violent Extremism, Global Citizenship Education, and Peace building; The extent of integration of peace education in co-curricular activities, as well as Teacher training and development for peace and building in target countries. The validation workshop will review the findings of the study. *For further information contact :* ekram.mohammed@savethechildren.org

Education Development News

Global

World Bank, Gates Foundation, DFID Join Forces to Improve Education Quality Around the World

The World Bank, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, and the UK's Department for International Development announced a new partnership that will develop tools governments can use to better monitor the quality of their education systems, allowing policymakers to take real-time decisions to ensure that all children are learning. The multi-year partnership will provide countries with an integrated system for tracking the how well education is delivered and how well countries are progressing toward their policy goals. The World Bank will take the lead on developing the new tools under a multidimensional Global Education Policy Dashboard, working together with education and governance experts from around the world. The Dashboard will soon be tested in 13 countries and it will be progressively expanded to more countries. *Visit:* <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2019/01/21/world-bank-gates-foundation-dfid-join-forces-to-improve-education-quality-around-the-world>

Africa

FAWE Partners with NORAD to equip girls and Young Women with Entrepreneurship Skills

The Forum for African Women Educationists (FAWE) has entered into a new partnership with the Norwegian Agency for Development (Norad) in an initiative that seeks to equip 900 girls and young women from Zanzibar and Mali with entrepreneurship skills. The three-year project dubbed ' Building adolescent girls and youth skills through innovative Technical Vocational Education Training and advancing women's Economic rights and gender equity in the labour market' starts in 2019 and will work towards the empowerment of 900 female adolescents and young women with sufficient occupational competencies to equip them with entrepreneurial and business startup skills that will enable them to set up their own sustainable enterprises and make them competitive in the labour market. <http://fawe.org>
Accessed on 15th January 2019

Countries

Ethiopia: Training Workshop on the Utilization of the Global Digital Library in Ethiopia

UNESCO IICBA and the Global Digital Library (GDL) team from Norway conducted a testing workshop in Hawassa, Ethiopia on utilizing a web-based system of digital library for language teacher educators and pre-service students of the Hawassa College of Teacher Education. A

total of 20 teacher educators and student teachers from Sidamuu Afoo and English language streams participated in the workshop. The workshop was facilitated by Mr. Christer Gunderson, GDL Technical Officer, and Mr. Kenneth Stigen, GDL Technical Team Member. The Digital Library serves as a catering platform for teaching and learning resources globally. The primary objectives of the workshop were to orient participants on the use of a Digital Library to support language literacy in teacher training institutions (TTIs) and schools as well as to introduce technology-based opportunities for language e-content development and delivery through a Digital Library system. *Visit*; <http://www.iicba.unesco.org/node/338>

South Africa: ACBF can help South Africa overcome its education development challenges.

According to South Africa's National Development Plan, also called "Vision 2030", the country expects to eliminate poverty from 39% to zero and reduce inequality from 0.7 to 0.6 Gini coefficient by the year 2030. The country also hopes to move towards becoming a socially and economically inclusive state in the next decade. This is where the African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF's) 28 years of experience can help South Africa devise innovative ways of tackling the education sector challenges. As Prof Nnadozie put it: "Capacity has been built mostly in policy formulation and analysis but capacity for implementation remains a challenge even in the education sector." *Visit*: <https://www.acbf-pact.org/media/news/acbf-can-help-south-africa-overcome-its-education-development-challenges>

Kenya: Kenyan Science teacher, Peter Tabichi wins Global Prize

A science teacher from rural Kenya, who gives away most of his salary to support poorer pupils, has won a \$1m prize (£760,000) for the world's best teacher. Peter Tabichi, a member of the Franciscan religious order, won the 2019 Global Teacher Prize. Brother Peter has been praised for his achievements in a deprived school with crowded classes and few text books. He wants pupils to see "science is the way to go" for their futures. The award, announced in a ceremony in Dubai, recognises the "exceptional" teacher's commitment to pupils in a remote part of Kenya's Rift Valley. He gives away 80% of his pay to support pupils, at the Keriko Mixed Day Secondary School in Pwani Village, Nakuru, who otherwise could not afford uniforms or books. *Visit*: <https://www.bbc.com/news/business-47658803>

Vacancies, Awards and other opportunities

Free Information Technology Master's Degree for African Policy Makers

The African Development Institute of the [African Development Bank](#) wants to create a critical mass of global ICT experts across the African continent. They have partnered with the Korea-Africa Economic Cooperation Knowledge Sharing Programme to develop highly trained public service professionals in information and communication technologies. *Visit*: <https://www.ictworks.org/information-technology-masters-degree/#.XH26b9FS8nU> Deadline: April 9, 2019

Africa-Europe Alliance: Call for proposals – Pilot VET mobility scheme for Africa and the Enlargement countries

The European Commission is launching an exciting new initiative that will enable vocational education and training (VET) colleges in the EU to set up student and staff exchange programmes with colleges in Africa, the Western Balkans and Turkey. These mobility partnerships will also share good practice in their countries and regions, and create networks and partnerships for exchange. For Africa, projects must focus on three priority fields of study: (a) Engineering, manufacturing and construction; (b) Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries and Veterinary; (c) Hotel, restaurants and catering and/or Travel, tourism and leisure. Eligible organisations can be a public or private VET provider, consortium or a company involved in VET. They must be based in an EU Member State or one of the eligible partner countries. This initiative is part of the new [Africa – Europe Alliance for Sustainable Investment and Jobs](#) that underlines the need to match skills with the demands of the labour market. A budget of 4.95 million EUR has been included in the [Annual Action Programme 2018](#) of the [Pan-African Programme](#) for a Component of an AU-EU Skills for Youth Employment

Programme. *Visit:* https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/kenya/59045/africa-europe-alliance-call-proposals-%E2%80%93-pilot-vet-mobility-scheme-africa-and-enlargement_mn Deadline: 14.05.2019 12:00 (Brussels time)

Skills for Africa Initiative – Call for proposals in Cameroon, Togo and Tunisia. Kenya, South Africa, Nigeria and Ghana still to be launched.

SIFA - Skills Initiative for Africa, Financing Facility, aims to improve access to employment-oriented skills development for young people, in particular for women, students from low income groups, refugees and migrants. SIFA will later disseminate lessons learned and best practices at national, regional and continental level. *Visit:* SkillsAfrica.org

Applications for Future Leaders Connect Program

The British Council is currently accepting applications for its Future Leaders Connect Program with an aim to provide future leaders with skills and international networks which will improve their ability to make or influence policy changes, leading to long term impact on the social and economic development in their countries and beyond. <https://www2.fundsforngos.org/latest-funds-for-ngos/british-council-seeking-applications-for-future-leaders-connect-program/>

Nominations Open for 2019 UNESCO Prize for Girls' and Women's Education

The UNESCO Prize for Girls' and Women's Education honours outstanding and innovative contributions made by individuals, institutions and organizations to advance girls' and women's education. It is the first UNESCO Prize of this nature and is unique in showcasing successful projects that improve and promote the educational prospects of girls and women and in turn, the quality of their lives. Visit [:https://www2.fundsforngos.org/awards-and-prizes/nominations-open-for-2019-unesco-prize-for-girls-and-womens-education/](https://www2.fundsforngos.org/awards-and-prizes/nominations-open-for-2019-unesco-prize-for-girls-and-womens-education/)

Call for Submissions of ICT in Education Innovations

The African Union Commission in collaboration with the Government of the Republic of Botswana and its Partners will hold the Second Innovating Education in Africa Expo in Gaborone, Botswana from 20–22 August 2019. The event which will be held under the theme: “**Harnessing the Capacity of ICT to ensure Inclusion, Quality and Impact in Education and Training in Africa**” in line with Strategic Objective 3 of the Continental Education Strategy for Africa is purposed to showcase outstanding innovations in education which can be scaled to improve delivery, access and management of education in Africa. The event is also aimed at raising the visibility of these innovative practices in order to catalyse support for up-scaling and replication.

Visit: <https://au.int/en/announcements/20190219/innovating-education-africa-expo-2019-call-submissions-ict-education>. For further information contact: owusum@africa-union.org
Deadline: 30th April, 2019

OWSD Early Career Women Scientists (ECWS) Fellowships 2019

The Early Career Women fellowship programme by Organisation for Women In Science for the Developing World (OWSD) supports early career women scientists to lead important research projects in those countries which have been identified as especially lacking in scientific and technological resources. The fellows will undertake their research projects fellows and will build on their leadership and management skills, develop connections with a variety of public and private sector partners to potentially convert their research into marketable products or guarantee its impact on a broader scale. The OWSD Early Career Fellowship is for two years and provides up to USD 50,000. Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) includes Agricultural Sciences. Research project proposals from other fields (social science, education, etc.) are not eligible and will not be taken into consideration. Eligible academic qualification require a PhD in one of the above listed study fields. *To apply and for more information visit:* <https://www.afterschoolafrica.com/28959/owsd-early-career-women-scientists-ecws-fellowships/> Deadline April 30 2019

Reimagine Education Awards

Reimagine Education Awards Application is open to individuals with ground-breaking ideas for the world of Education. Re-imagine Education is a global competition rewarding innovative approaches aimed at enhancing student learning outcomes and employability, offering \$50,000 in funding to the overall winner (s and 16 'Oscars' of Education). It culminates in an international conference for individuals passionate about shaping the future of Education.

Applicants can come from Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, Middle East, USA and Canada. The panel of Expert Judges will be looking out for Innovative approaches to teaching and learning; Programs designed to nurture graduate employability, Evidence of effectiveness, rigorously tested and the The potential for scalability. Category Winners and Overall Winners will be announced at the Reimagine Education **Awards Ceremony** (London, **1-3 December 2019**). *Visit:* <https://www.reimagine-education.com/awards/> Deadline: September 1 2019

AU TEACHER PRIZE: Call for Ministries of Education to Submit Applications

This first AU Teacher Prize will be focused on those teaching at the secondary school level only. Ministers responsible for Education in AU Member States are requested to nominate and submit names of two teachers, one male and one female, who meet the eligibility criteria below. Ministries are encouraged to work with relevant national agencies including Teacher Unions, in selecting the two top teachers. *Online form:* <https://www.edu-au.org/teacher-prize> Deadline: 30th July 2019

Mwalimu Nyerere African Union Scholarship Scheme 2019

Call for Scholarship Applications For Refugees and Displaced Persons in Africa Only for Masters Programmes in Natural Sciences, Agriculture, Health, Education, Engineering, and Social Sciences . The Scholarship Scheme is intended to enable young Africans to study in leading African Universities preferably outside their own countries, with a binding agreement that beneficiaries will work in any African country for two to four years after graduation. The 2019 Call for Applications is targeting Refugees and Displaced Persons in line with the AU theme of the year. *Visit:* <https://au.int/scholarship>. Deadline: 30th April 2019

Networking and Resources

The Africa Capacity Report (ACR) 2019

The Africa Capacity Report 2019 (ACR 2019) provides a snapshot of leadership capacity in Africa based on independent survey data from over 46 African countries. ACR 2019 addresses the capacity dimensions of transformative leadership both in public and private sectors. It looks at the major elements of transformative leadership in Africa, highlights the leadership capacity gaps related to achieving sustainable development on the continent, and identifies strategies for addressing them. Most importantly, ACR 2019 offers concrete recommendations for improving performance, combining both technical elements and the mindset changes that are necessary for success. *Visit:* <https://www.acbf-pact.org/media/news/africa-capacity-report-2019>

South African Ed-tech start-up seeks expansion to other countries

South African Ed-tech start-up, called Zelda, is looking at expansion to other African countries and Europe. Founded in 2017, Zelda is a bursary management platform that helps organisations find and filter talented youth to support through university. The platform combines personality assessments with machine learning to help students make more informed career decisions and improve their chances of success while studying, and helps companies make a positive impact on South African youth while creating a strong pipeline of talent for future hires. <http://disrupt-africa.com/2019/01/sa-ed-tech-startup-zelda-eyes-expansion-after-raising-angel-round/> Accessed on January 31, 2019

This Nigerian start-up uses analytics to monitor student performance

A Nigerian Ed-tech startup, called Insight Africa, is using its Studylab product to allow teachers and schools to monitor the progress of their students across each subject, while providing video tutorials to help fill gaps. [Studylab](#) is a continuous assessment, feedback, and analytics system for schools, who can sign up on a per-student subscription basis for the platform, which works both online and offline. Students work on questions provided on Studylab, with the system collecting data on their work and providing visualised reports on the progress of each student across each topic. <http://disrupt-africa.com/2019/01/this-nigerian-startup-uses-analytics-to-monitor-student-performance/> Accessed on January 25, 2019

Gender-responsive pedagogy for early childhood education toolkit

Convinced of the powerful effect on gender of quality teaching in early childhood education, VVOB and FAWE joined forces with ministries of education, teachers and teacher trainers in Rwanda, South Africa and Zambia to develop a 'gender-responsive pedagogy for early childhood education' toolkit. The toolkit provides early childhood teachers and school leaders with a set of practical and low-cost instruments that they can use to reflect on their own gender biases as well as hands-on tips to introduce gender-responsive pedagogy in their schools and classrooms. *Available for Download here:* https://www.vvob.be/sites/belgium/files/grp4ece-toolkit-72dpi_1.pdf

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.

The comments expressed in this newsletter are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the GESCI or those GESCI represents. No responsibility is therefore taken for the veracity of information provided.

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