

## **QUARTERLY UPDATE**

**ISSUE 2, 2019**



Welcome to the 2019 Quarter 2 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.

## GESCI Activities

### April

#### **RELI Life Skills Workshop – Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania.**

*8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> April, 2019.* The Regional Education Learning Initiative (RELI) organized a workshop for its Life Skills Thematic Group. GESCI, among the RELI members, Africa Aid, OCODE, Milele Zanzibar Foundation, Ubongo Kids, SAZANI, Prime Minister-Senior Youth Officer (PMOLYED) Tanzania, Life Skills Policy Expert attended the workshop. GESCI was invited to contribute inputs to the Life Skills thematic group Work Plan 2019 and collaborate with other cluster members in producing different outputs and learning products in readiness for the RELI Annual convening in July 2019 in Entebbe, Uganda.). *For further information contact: [samuel.otieno@gesci.org](mailto:samuel.otieno@gesci.org)*

#### **National Primary Teacher ICT Competition – Nairobi, Kenya**

*8<sup>th</sup> April, 2019.* GESCI as a member of the national ICT Competition Advisory Board joined the Ministry of Education, Kenya, ICT Authority Kenya and partners to organise the National ICT Competition for teachers using ICTs in primary schools. A Total 2825 teachers sent in their applications, among them 324 head teachers, 2483 teachers from regular primary schools and 43 were from special schools. Mr. Francis Karanja from St. Michael's Primary School in Embu was awarded the Best Principal. Ms. Eunice Wambui from the same school teaching Mathematics received the award for best teacher nationally. *For further information contact: [jerome.morrissey@gesci.org](mailto:jerome.morrissey@gesci.org)*

#### **ICT/Digital Learning Strategic Framework**

*9<sup>th</sup> April, 2019.* The United Nations High Commission on Refugees (UNHCR) in partnership with GESCI has developed a framework on ICT/Digital Learning Implementation for partners wishing to engage in programmes supporting refugee education. The framework provides parameters for engagement for education technology partners wishing to implement projects in the Kakuma or Dadaab refugee camps in Kenya. *For further information contact: [angela.arnott@gesci.org](mailto:angela.arnott@gesci.org)*

#### **Secondary School Teachers Feted after 12 Months of ICT Training – Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire**

*12<sup>th</sup> April, 2019.* The Ministry of National Education and TVET, Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, in partnership with GESCI marked the first phase of *African Digital Schools Initiative (ADSI/ENEA)* which transforms schools to digital schools of excellence. 141 key secondary teachers from Abidjan and Yamoussoukro have successfully concluded phase one of their ICT professional development on technological literacy. ADSI supports school transformation by the provision of ICT equipment, digital resources and school ICT planning strategies. The certificates were handed out to the successful teachers by the Director of Cabinet Mr. Kabran Assoumou who remarked: "Teachers must embrace the comprehensive opportunities that the ENEA provides to become digitally-enabled teachers and more professionally competent to enrich the learning experience of their students". *For further information contact: [sylvie.tanflotien@gesci.org](mailto:sylvie.tanflotien@gesci.org)*

#### **Continental Education Strategy for Africa (CESA) Clusters Meeting – Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**

*22<sup>nd</sup> -23<sup>rd</sup> April, 2019.* The African Union in partnership with various partners and organizations in Africa held a two-day meeting to carry out a stock take of activities implemented by the CESA Clusters. GESCI chairs the ICT in Education cluster which is in line with its 2017-2020 Strategy. *For further information contact: [senthil.kumar@gesci.org](mailto:senthil.kumar@gesci.org)*

### May

#### **ICT Teacher Training- Narok and Taita Taveta Counties, Kenya**

*1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> May, 2019.* Teachers from 40 secondary schools in Narok and Taita Taveta Counties in Kenya completed an advanced face-to-face training on the use of ICTs in Education. The teachers have been trained since 2017 through the African Digital Schools Initiative (ADSI) and they say their

teaching has since evolved. Speaking after the first session of the training, a teacher from one of the counties said *"Before the GESCI training, I used to integrate ICTs in my teaching but I was not as good. After the training through the African Digital Schools Initiative (ADSI) programme, I am able to prepare various lessons and involve my students. I just cannot teach without ICTs now."* *For further information contact:* [esther.wachira@gesci.org](mailto:esther.wachira@gesci.org)

### **EMIS Support- Sierra Leone**

*4<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> May, 2019.* Under the EU Sector Support to Sierra Leone, GESCI is providing technical assistance to the development of a sector wide EMIS Strategy and Action Plan to both the Ministry of Basic and Senior Secondary Education and the Ministry of Technical and Higher Education. GESCI has drafted them an EMIS Policy, Memorandum of Agreement with Statistics Sierra Leone, as well as strategies to develop Education Information Standards Dictionary, School Registry System and School Report Cards. Additionally GESCI provided technical advice on the development of e-learning platforms for teacher training colleges professional development. *For further information contact:* [angela.arnott@gesci.org](mailto:angela.arnott@gesci.org)

### **ADSI schools receive more laptops - Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania**

*6<sup>th</sup> May, 2019.* In a bid to accelerate ICT integration in Education, GESCI, with support from Mastercard Foundation delivered 80 laptops, two to each of the 40 secondary schools implementing the African Digital Schools Initiative (ADSI) Programme in Tanzania. Previously each school had received two digital projectors and five laptops for teaching. *For further information contact:* [joyse.msolla@gesci.org](mailto:joyse.msolla@gesci.org)

### **Secondary schools awarded for achieving e-Enabled status in Digital Development- Abidjan, Cotè d'Ivoire**

*10<sup>th</sup> May, 2019.* GESCI in partnership with the Ministry of National Education and Technical Training of Côte d'Ivoire, held an award event for 20 ENEA/ADSI secondary schools in the in recognition of their progress from the 'e-Initial' digital stage of ICT integration to the 'e-enabled' level in Abidjan and Yamoussoukro regions. Some 196 participating teachers are in the second cycle of ICT competency known as Knowledge Deepening which kicked off in January 2019. *For further information contact:* [sylvie.tanflotien@gesci.org](mailto:sylvie.tanflotien@gesci.org)

### **Recording of Exemplar Lessons in ADSI Schools -Kenya**

*20<sup>th</sup> May - 9<sup>th</sup> July 2019.* Teachers from 80 ADSI participating secondary schools in the counties of Nyamira, Taita Taveta, Kiambu and Narok are in their third and final phase of ICT Competency teaching. During 6 weeks during which they are receiving online training,, GESCI's technical team visited schools to monitor implementation and record best practice lessons which will uploaded on the ADSI Open Educational Resources online Portal to be accessed by other teachers in Kenya. *For further information contact:* [esther.wachira@gesci.org](mailto:esther.wachira@gesci.org)

### **Post-Graduate certificate in smart grid technology with PAUWES**

*29<sup>th</sup> May 2019.* The Pan African University Institute of Water and Energy Sciences (PAUWES) in collaboration with GESCI plans to develop an online post-graduate certificate in smart energy technology aimed at promoting entrepreneurship in the sector. This initiative is part of the Transforming Energy Access – Learning Partnership (TEA-LP) programme that aims at advancing energy access education in Africa. PAUWES, GESCI's partner, was among eight universities selected to participate in this initiative. GESCI will be responsible for managing the Entrepreneurship modules of the course. *For further information contact:* [angela.arnott@gesci.org](mailto:angela.arnott@gesci.org)

## **June**

### **Short-listed for the Young Scientists Exhibition- Nairobi Kenya**

*12<sup>th</sup> June, 2019.* 10 Secondary Schools implementing the ADSI Programme in Kenya have been short-listed to present their projects at the national Young Scientists Kenya (YSK) event from 6<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> August, 2019. The schools include Timbila Boys, Canon Kituri Secondary School and Dr. Aggrey Secondary School from Taita Taveta County, Githunguri High School, Karuri High School and St Peter's Ndumberi from Kiambu County, Emurua Dikirr Boys and Massai Girls from Narok County and Our Lady of Mercy Rangenyo Girls and St Paul's Gekano Boys from Nyamira County. Four of the

projects selected are in the field of Technology, five in Science and one in Social Awareness. The YSK is a unique platform in East Africa, for young people from across Kenyan counties to demonstrate their innovation and showcase their scientific talents. *For further information contact: [senthil.kumar@gesci.org](mailto:senthil.kumar@gesci.org)*

### **ECD Quality Learning Measurement- Lilongwe, Malawi**

*10-15<sup>th</sup> June, 2019.* GESCI was invited to provide technical support to customize international ECD tools, developed by World Bank, UNESCO and Brookings Institute, to the Malawi ECD context for the Ministry of Gender, Children, Disability and Social Welfare (MoGCDSW). The purpose of the Measuring Early Learning Environment (MELE) Classroom Observation Tool is to provide an objective snapshot of the quality of the environment and experiences of children within a pre-primary program classroom on the day observed. Many of the MELE items include scoring criteria that reflect a play-based learning style. *For further information contact: [angela.arnott@gesci.org](mailto:angela.arnott@gesci.org)*

### **Update on AYPSEE website of the GESCI skills programme**

The African Union Commission, the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) Agency, KfW and GIZ financed through the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) developed the Skills Initiative for Africa (SIFA). The Initiative aims to promote and replicate successful practices and African solutions that contribute to decent employment, skills development and youth participation in entrepreneurship. GESCI shared its experience on the implementation and development of the model on the Youth Skills Development on the African Skills Portal for Youth Employment and Entrepreneurship (ASPYEE). The online platform – ASPYEE forms part of SIFA and serves as a knowledge repository to share and replicate these nationally -tried and -tested approaches throughout the continent. *Visit: <http://www.nepad.org/skillsportalforyouth/good-practice/linking-technology-and-creativity-employment-and-self-employment>*

### **Expert Working Group validates training modules- Dar es Salaam, Tanzania**

*24<sup>th</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> June , 2019.* The Education Specialist and the ADSI Project Implementation team convened a workshop with the Expert Working Group involving members from the Tanzania Institute of Education, University of Dar es-Salaam and Teacher Training Colleges. Participants recognising ADSI as a unique and innovative model for schools in Tanzania, requested GESCI to scale up the project in as many schools as possible.. ADSI team used feedback to track changes in the module contents to suit Tanzania context.400 teachers will start training on module two of the Knowledge Deepening Cycle of training in ADSI. *For further information contact: [elizabeth.mbasu@gesci.org](mailto:elizabeth.mbasu@gesci.org)*

## **Events – Past and Upcoming in 2019**

### **June**

#### **Regional Workshop on National Book and Reading Policies in Africa- Nairobi, Kenya**

*17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> June 2019.* The Association for Development of Education in Africa (ADEA) with the support of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) under the [#GlobalBookAlliance](#) initiative, in collaboration with the African Union Commission-Human Resources Science and Technology, (AUC-HRST) Education Division organized a Regional Book Industry Stakeholders' Workshop. The workshop reviewed the policy framework for all African Ministries of Education. andt provided the steps necessary for enactment of a bill that establishes a Book Law or a National Book Development Council with executive powers and having the full support of national authorities. AUC launched the Africa Reading Culture Cluster at the workshop. *More information on the workshop is available here: <http://www.adeanet.org/en/events/high-level-regional-workshop-on-national-book-and-reading-policies-in-africa>*

#### **ECED Leadership Capacity Building Workshop- Flic-en-Flac,Mauritius**

*24 to 26 June 2019.* ADEA's Inter Country Quality Node on Early Childhood Development (ICQN-ECD), which is hosted by Mauritius, organized a Leadership Workshop, themed "Making it to 2030



and contributing to Africa's Agenda 2063" which sought to engage participants in policy implementation issues relating to quality improvement and, more specifically, to strengthening the Early Childhood Education and Development (ECED) workforce in key aspects of programming including measurement of early learning. The ECED Leadership Workshop was being held in collaboration with the AUC and partner organisations, namely, the Africa Early Childhood Network and USAID and brought together senior officials of African Ministries of Education, civil society actors, regional economic communities and development partners and professionals engaged in ECED. *For further information contact: [msoonarane@govmu.org](mailto:msoonarane@govmu.org)*

### **Innovating Education in Africa Expo Planning Meeting- Virtual Meeting**

The African Union's Human Resources Science and Technology (HRST) Department invited key players involved in the planning of the expo to a virtual meeting to consider the implementation programme, which will be held from **19-23<sup>rd</sup> August**. Participants included VMWare (based in Belgium), One Campaign, ADEA, CIEFFA, AUDA, UNESCO ICCBA and Addis office, FAWE, AU Youth Division, Save the Children International, AU HRST, Ashoka and GESCI. *For further information contact: [owusum@africa-union.org](mailto:owusum@africa-union.org)*

## **July**

### **Her Education, Our Future Launched**

*5 July 2019.* UNESCO launched the **Her education, our future initiative** a new drive to accelerate action for girls' and women's education by leveraging political and financial commitments, as well as leadership for women and girls. It will contribute to the UNESCO Strategy for Gender Equality in and through Education (2019-2025) and its three pillars aiming for better data to inform action for gender equality in and through education; better legal, policy and planning frameworks to advance rights; and better-quality learning opportunities to empower. The initiative was launched at the [G7 France-UNESCO International Conference](#) Innovating for girls' and women's empowerment through education.

*For further information contact: [gender.ed@unesco.org](mailto:gender.ed@unesco.org)*

### **Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Secretariat Meeting – Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**

*4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> July, 2019.* The 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of experts of member states in charge of Education on the implementation of the Djibouti Declaration on Education for Refugees, Returnees and Host Communities was organized by IGAD. *For further information contact: [Abienne.Awil@igad.int](mailto:Abienne.Awil@igad.int)*

### **UNESCO 15th World Conference on "Intellectual Capital for Communities" - Paris, France**

*11<sup>th</sup>- 12<sup>th</sup> July 2019.* Organized by the European Chair on Intellectual Capital, the University of Paris-Sud and UNESCO's Intergovernmental Information for All Programme (IFAP), the conference will discuss: Artificial intelligence and the next generation of skills: What will be the impact of digital and artificial intelligence on jobs and professional qualifications? GESCI invited to participate in the session on Education and Jobs in a world of Artificial Intelligence (AI)

### **Second Symposium of the Higher Education Forum for Africa, Asia and Latin America- Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**

*26<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> July 2019.* The Second Symposium is jointly organized with St. Mary's University's 17th Edition of International Conference on Private Higher Education in Africa with a theme **"African Higher Education in the Realm of Sustainable Development"** which kicks off on 25 July 2019. The theme of the symposium is **"Internationalization of Higher Education in the New Era of World (Dis) Order."** *For further information contact: [teferra@ukzn.ac.za](mailto:teferra@ukzn.ac.za)*

### **Annual Policy Dialogue Forum on Secondary Education in Africa- South Africa**

*29<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> July 2019.* The Association for the Development of Education in Africa (ADEA) and the Ministry of Basic Education of South Africa, with the support of the MasterCard Foundation, are organizing a High-Level Annual Policy Dialogue Forum on Secondary Education in Africa. The forum seeks to share understanding of mechanisms for leveraging secondary education to better empower

African youths to contribute effectively to the socio-economic transformation of their respective countries. *For further information contact:* [s.bodo@afdb.org](mailto:s.bodo@afdb.org)

### **Education Technology Workshop – Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania**

*30<sup>th</sup> July – 2<sup>nd</sup> August, 2019.* The Association of African Universities (AAU) in Partnership with The Open University of Tanzania organised the education technology that targets information technology (e-learning) administrators, university administrators, faculty members and academic professionals who are interested in acquiring skills needed to successfully integrate technology in their classroom. *For further information contact:* [sagyapong@aau.org](mailto:sagyapong@aau.org)

## **August**

### **Transforming Energy Access- Learning Partnership- (TEA-LP) – Nairobi , Kenya**

*6<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> August, 2019.* The Pan African University, Institute of Water and Energy Sciences (PAUWES) through the University of Algeria, Tiemcen, Algeria will launch the 1<sup>st</sup> workshop. The objectives of the workshop will be to kick-off the TEA LP programme. Partners will discuss and begin to plan for the forthcoming activities, share and exchange knowledge and expertise on curriculum design, energy access, sector engagement, teaching and learning activities among other topics. *For further information contact:* [guy.cunliffe@uct.ac.za](mailto:guy.cunliffe@uct.ac.za)

### **Second Young Scientists Kenya Science and Technology (YSK) Exhibition- Nairobi, Kenya**

*7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> August , 2019.* The exhibition will be opened by H.E. President Uhuru Kenyatta and graced by dignitaries from both national and local governments. Winners of the exhibition will be announced on 9th August with fantastic prizes and opportunities in all scientific categories including some special prizes. 10 secondary schools implementing GESCI's African Digital Schools Initiative (ADSI) Programme will present their projects at the exhibition. *Visit:* <http://ysk.co.ke/>

### **Innovating Education in Africa Expo, 2019 - Gaborone, Botswana**

*20<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> August, 2019.* The Innovating Education in Africa Expo is a flagship event of the African Union Commission 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. All stakeholders in the education space in Africa and beyond are welcome to participate in the event. *To register visit :* <https://www.iea.edu-au.org/>  
**Deadline : 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2019.**

## **September**

### **DEASA and DEATA joint conference – Dar Es Salaam Tanzania.**

*25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> September , 2019.* The National Distance Education Association of Tanzania (DEATA) in collaboration with the Distance Education Association of Southern Africa (DEASA) will have a joint Conference under the *theme “Agenda 2030 and Open and Distance Learning: Making transformation happen.”* The conference intends to share experience in teaching, learning and research in open and distance learning (ODL) and show case ways in which ODL is responding to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all. Researchers, scholars and graduate students from Africa and around the world will be in attendance. Participants may register online, through: <https://forms.gle/uKHGteaK8mbPhKFXA> under DEASA and DEATA Joint Conference registration. *For further information contact:* Prof. Elinami [Swaielinami.swai@out.ac.tz](mailto:Swaielinami.swai@out.ac.tz) , [swaiev@gmail.com](mailto:swaiev@gmail.com)

### Global

#### **New data reveals attacks against education around the world**

Updated data of the **Global Coalition to Protect Education from Attack (GCPEA)** shows that more than 14, 000 armed attacks on education took place in the last five years in 34 conflict-affected countries. The GCPEA, of which UNESCO is a founding member, released the new data ahead of the fourth anniversary of the **Safe Schools Declaration**. High-level representatives from over 90 countries are gathered in Palma de Mallorca, Spain on 28-29 May 2019 at the **Third International Conference on Safe Schools** to mark the occasion and encourage other states to endorse the Declaration. *Visit:* <http://www.protectingeducation.org/news/education-suffered-over-14000-armed-attacks-last-5-years>

### Africa

#### **Ways in which Africa can prepare its youth for the digital economy**

It is vital for Africa to prepare her youth for the digital economy and the future of work. The **World Development Report 2019** notes that the labour market of the future will require new skills including digital fluency, creative thinking, problem-solving, collaboration, empathy and adaptability. With these new demands in place, it would be remiss of Africa not to strengthen her biggest asset: the youth who make up around 60% of the continent's population.

Appropriate action will help the continent to harness this promising demographic dividend. Furthermore, a proactive stance is likely to reduce the risk of massive labour substitution and endemic unemployment, while enabling the continent to leverage the new entrepreneurial and economic opportunities associated with the digital economy. *Visit:* <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2019/05/4-ways-africa-can-prepare-its-young-people-for-the-digital-economy/>

### Countries

#### **Kenya: Young Africa Works to connect millions of young people to dignified work**

Young Africa Works in Kenya, an initiative which aims to support five million young Kenyans to access dignified and fulfilling work over the next five years has been launched in Nairobi. This initiative is a public-private partnership between the MasterCard Foundation, the private sector and the Government of Kenya which will provide billions of shillings in capital, business development services and market linkages to SMEs to support their growth. *Visit:* <https://www.capitalfm.co.ke/business/2019/06/young-africa-works-to-connect-millions-of-young-people-to-dignified-work/>

#### **Burundi: A career in science for women and girls**

The UN General Assembly on 22 December 2015 dedicated February 11 to women and girls of science. In Burundi, the day was celebrated for the first time ever on 18 February 2019 at the Ecole Normale Supérieure (ENS). Jointly organized by ENS, the UNESCO House of Peace and FAWE Burundi, the event brought together university professors, Ministry of Education officials, FAWE members and some female students. The obstacles imposed on girls in education, particularly in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) subjects will need to be addressed in a country that aspires for sustainable development, particularly where 52% of the population is female according to the 2008 census. *Visit:* <http://fawe.org/home/2019/04/04/burundi-international-day-of-women-and-girls-in-science-a-career-in-science-is-a-real-obstacle-course-for-women-and-girls/>

#### **Tunisia: Launch of the ReBootKamp (RBK) training Labs**

**ReBootKamp** (RBK) is a career accelerator focused on skills training for refugees and disadvantaged youth in regions of conflict. RBK uses a powerful form of education technology called eXtreme Learning (XL) to produce market-ready software engineers in four months. ReBootKamp has set up labs to train 1000 software developers a year. In recent years demand software developers and digital

skills has been growing at exponential rate. In order to provide a sustainable solution to this problem, RBK is about to launch its first cohort in August 2019 to reach a rate of 1000 software developers per year over the next three years. This particular phase is open to Tunisian nationals. The first training session is scheduled to start on August 15th, 2019. *For more information contact: [lotfi@rbk.org](mailto:lotfi@rbk.org). Deadline for Registration: 31/07/2019*

## Vacancies, Awards and other opportunities

### UNESCO ICT in Education Prize: call for nominations open to projects leveraging Artificial Intelligence (AI)

The UNESCO King Hamad Bin Isa Al-Khalifa Prize for the use of ICT in education is now accepting candidatures. The theme of the 2019 edition is the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) to innovate education, teaching and learning. Artificial Intelligence (AI) and advancements in neuroscience have the potential to enhance teaching methodologies, support lifelong learning and personalize learning through various ways, as well as propel and accelerate the discovery of new delivering modes of education. . More information on: [selection criteria and eligibility](#). **The deadline for nominations is 31 October 2019** (midnight, Paris time).

*For more information contact: [ictprize@unesco.org](mailto:ictprize@unesco.org) (link sends e-mail)*

### Call for proposals: Breaking systemic barriers to women's participation in science

IDRC is now accepting research proposals to help improve gender equality and diversity in science education. This call for research proposals aims to identify and address systemic barriers that stand in the way of greater participation by women and other underrepresented groups in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) in the public and private sectors in low and middle-income countries (LMICs). The call is open to research institutions, consortia, or non-governmental organizations with proven research capacity. The institutions should have a strong presence in eligible low and middle-income countries. The research must be proposed and executed by an institution or group of institutions that are independent of the institution(s) to be studied. <https://www.idrc.ca/en/news/call-proposals-breaking-systemic-barriers-womens-participation-science>  
The deadline for submissions is **15 August 2019**.

### WDS Data Stewardship Award 2019: Call for Nominations Open!

The Call for Nominations for the 2019 WDS Data Stewardship Award is now **open until 29 July 2019**. This [annual prize](#) celebrates the exceptional contributions of early career researchers to the improvement of scientific data stewardship through their (1) engagement with the community, (2) academic achievements, and (3) innovations. We are also pleased to announce that the process has been opened up from this year, and **nominations may now be made any scientific organization, group, body, union, or otherwise**. The winner for the 2019 Data Stewardship Award will be presented with their Award and a prize in plenary at the next SciDataCon (dates and venue to be confirmed)—alongside the 2020 Award winner—with their attendance covered by the World Data System. If you know of an early career researcher who deserves to have their accomplishments recognized and highlighted to the international community then please be sure to complete the below form (see notes) and send it to the WDS International Programme Office **by 29 July 2019**. *Visit: <https://www.icsu-wds.org/news/>*

## Networking and Resources

### The Commonwealth Education Report 2019

GESCI contributed to this report which is an invaluable resource looking at the Commonwealth's most pressing education challenges and opportunities, with perspectives from over 50 global experts on education and lifelong learning. *Visit [https://www.che.ac.za/sites/default/files/CW\\_Education\\_Report\\_19\\_Publication\\_LR.pdf](https://www.che.ac.za/sites/default/files/CW_Education_Report_19_Publication_LR.pdf)*



## The World Development Report 2019

The World Development Report (WDR) 2019: The Changing Nature of Work studies how the nature of work is changing as a result of advances in technology today. Fears that robots will take away jobs from people have dominated the discussion over the future of work, but the Report finds that on balance this appears to be unfounded. Work is constantly reshaped by technological progress. Firms adopt new ways of production, markets expand, and societies evolve. Overall, technology brings opportunity, paving the way to create new jobs, increase productivity, and deliver effective public services. Firms can grow rapidly thanks to digital transformation, expanding their boundaries and reshaping traditional production patterns. The rise of the digital platform firm means that technological effects reach more people faster than ever before. Technology is changing the skills that employers seek. *Visit:* <http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/816281518818814423/pdf/2019-WDR-Report.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.

GESCI's African Digital Schools Initiative (ADSI) is funded by Mastercard Foundation, Canada.

