PACE 2018 calls on National Education Policies to integrate Continental Education Strategy for Africa (CESA) and SDG 4 commitments.

African Union Commission meets with key Partners to prepare for the Innovating Education in Africa Expo to be held in October 2018.
This bi-annual CESA Journal provides the platform to engage all stakeholders and highlight reflections, debates, activities and innovative interventions for strengthening education and training towards the “Africa We Want”.

The last session of the Specialised Technical Committee on Education, Science and Technology held in Cairo, Egypt from the 21st-23rd of October, 2017 commended progress made in CESA implementation, and took decisions on a range of matters, including Girls and Women’s Education, School Feeding, the Pan African University as well as African Writers and Teacher Development.

I take this opportunity to extend an open invitation to participate in CESA activities, join existing Clusters and create new CESA Clusters as well.

In the second half of 2018, many exciting activities are already scheduled that will have far reaching impact across the education landscape. These include the launch of the CESA Thematic Cluster on Early Childhood Education; the Technical consultation on AU Continental Teacher Mobility and Qualification Framework; and the AU Flagship event: Innovating Education in Africa Expo.

Significantly, we extend appreciation to Member States and the commission for their efforts to implement CESA 16-25. We look forward to an exciting, fruitful and impactful 2018 working in partnership with you all.

Finally, we want to extend a bouquet of gratitude to the Chairperson of the Commission H.E. (Dr.) Moussa Faki Mahamat for his indefatigable commitment to the realization of Agenda 2063.

H.E. Prof. Sarah Anyang Agbor Commissioner for Human Resources, Science And Technology
Excerpts from Agenda 2063

“We, the people of Africa and her diaspora, united in diversity, young and old, men and women, girls and boys from all walks of life, deeply conscious of history, express our deep appreciation to all generations of Pan-Africanists. In particular, to the founders of the Organization of African Unity for having bequeathed us an Africa with exemplary successes in the fight against slavery, colonialism and apartheid.”

Agenda 2063, rooted in Pan-Africanism and African Renaissance, provides a robust framework for addressing past injustices and the realization of the 21st Century as the African Century…”

“In this new and noble initiative, past plans and commitments have been reviewed and we pledge to take into account lessons from them as we implement Agenda 2063. These include: mobilization of the people and their ownership of continental programmes at the core; the principle of self-reliance and Africa financing its own development; the importance of capable, inclusive and accountable states and institutions at all levels and in all spheres; the critical role of Regional Economic Communities as building blocks for continental unity.”

“We rededicate ourselves to the enduring Pan African vision of an integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa, driven by its own citizens and representing a dynamic force in the international arena.”

Implementation and Monitoring of CESA 16-25

The Continental Education Strategy for Africa (CESA 16-25) is designed to involve the widest possible coalition for education, training and STI in Africa. At the top of the pyramid of monitoring system is a team of ten heads of state and government, champions of education, training and STI which reports to the Conference during the AU Summit.

The CESA 16-25 requires all stakeholders and actors to be given freedom to act and take positive initiatives within the framework of the coalition for education, training and STI. This approach implies the acceptance of the following process:

CESA is a domestication of the global Education 2030 that unpacks SDG 4, as it focuses on Africa specific priorities. Coordinated collaboration with UNESCO is therefore imperative, to ensure coherence for African Stakeholders, while maintaining African leadership for education development in Africa.

Clustering under thematic areas has been identified as an effective tool for enhancing coordination and strengthening partnerships around common themes. This is anticipated to enhance alignment and harmony among stakeholders as well as facilitate the identification and deployment of synergies for enhanced efficiency and effectiveness. CESA Clusters are at various levels, including national, regional and continental and optimal use will be made of existing Clusters and platforms. Stakeholders are free to develop Clusters as seems fitting and convenient to them as long as they ensure they have: clear terms of reference (ToR) to CESA, a lead coordinating agency, agency members, a roadmap with activities and deliverables, baseline studies and reports on progress and challenges.

“An Africa, whose development is people-driven, relying on the potential of African people, especially its women and youth, and caring for children” - Agenda 2063
PACE 2018 held in Nairobi, Kenya: 25-26 April 2018 provided a platform for key stakeholder in the education sector to share progress, success stories, challenges and lessons learned by Member States thus far and to contribute to the ongoing discussions on the 2063 African Union vision The Africa We Want.

In her address, H.E. Prof Sarah Anyang Agbor stated that quality education is imperative, if Africa has to attain this vision, generate home-grown solutions to African challenges and participate fully in, and influence the global knowledge economy.

In his opening address to the delegates, the Assistant Director General for Education of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Mr. Firmin Matoko pointed out that, by 2030 Africa will have the largest workforce as 200 million people in Africa are aged between 15 to 24, thus making Africa the continent with the largest number of young population and stressed the need to leverage the demographic dividend in Africa.

The Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Education, Kenya, Amb. Amina Mohamed, in her opening remarks, emphasized the need to invest heavily in education as it is paramount to our continent’s future. She mentioned how Kenya has realigned its education system to include mechanisms for adequate training so as to equip the youth with relevant skills and knowledge needed for optimal performance.

The recommendations of the two-day technical meeting attended by senior country representatives and other education stakeholders in Africa were dubbed as “the Nairobi Declaration’.

The Education Programme Coordination Meeting was held at the African Union Commission Headquarters from 14 - 15 February 2018. The meeting was organised by the Department of Human Resources Science and Technology of the African Union Commission. The objective of the meeting was to strengthen collaboration and alignment towards ensuring progress in implementing the AU’s Continental Programmes, particularly CESA 16-25 and Agenda 2063. The agencies that participated in the meeting include PAU, AU/CIEFFA, IPED and PAeVU.

Dr. Mahama Ouedraogo, Acting Director of the Human Resources Science and Technology Department in his opening remarks stated that education is important for achieving Agenda 2063; however colleagues and education agencies/units/institutions need to collaborate effectively to realise education’s full impact.

Dr. Beatrice Njenga, Head of Education Division presented on the AU Education Programme within the framework of the Continental Education Strategy for Africa (CESA 16-25) and Agenda 2063.

H.E Prof Sarah Anyang Agbor, Commissioner of the Human Resources Science and Technology Department delivered the concluding remarks. She commended all the agencies for participating in the meeting and urged all to work together in unity. She emphasised that the collaboration between agencies and the Department has to be strengthened.
The Global Business Coalition for Education annual breakfast was held in Washington, DC during the Spring Meetings of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund on April 19, 2018.

The event brought together several senior leaders from business, philanthropy, international organizations and government committed to making an impact in the lives of young people across the globe. The objective of the event was to identify practical opportunities for collaboration between the public and private sectors to invest in the next generation of innovators and makers through education.

The meeting was attended by the Commissioner for Human Resources, Science and Technology - H. E. Prof. Sarah Anyang Agbor. She stated that: Over 65% of Africa’s population are youth, and these youth need to be given the right kind of skills. “Without skills, there is no employment. There are job seekers and no job creators. To be job creators, they need skills.”

In her opening remarks, Sarah Brown, Executive Chair of GBC-Education stated that GBC-Education brings together 140 companies in a network to accelerate progress on global education, several of them who were present at the meeting.

Filippo Grandi, High Commissioner of the UN refugee agency UNHCR, in his speech urged business leaders to help make the case on the need to move from philanthropy to partnerships with organisations and governments.

The event was convened under three main themes: Education in emergencies, the future of work for young people and new opportunities for financing.
On February 22, 2018, Ibadan, Nigeria, the Pan African University for Life and Earth Sciences Institute (PAULESI), organized the official graduation ceremony of its 3rd batch.

Enhanced by the presence of Her Excellency Prof. Sarah Anyang Agbor, Commissioner of the African Union in charge of Human Resources, Science and Technology (HRST) and Mrs. Essien Usendiah, Director Inspector and Monitoring, representing the National Universities Commission of Nigeria, this graduation ceremony was attended by many parents of students, representatives of local authorities, the Director of the Department of Education Human Resources, Science and Technology of the African Union Commission (AUC), the Rectorate of the Pan African University (PAU) as well as the presence of the Directors of other PAU institutes, including PAUSTI of Kenya and PAUGHSS of Cameroon.

The major events which marked this graduation ceremony were its opening by officials, the graduation ceremony for the graduates and award ceremony for the best Masters projects.

In her address, Prof. Sarah Anyang Agbor, on behalf of AUC Chairperson, His Excellency Mr. Moussa Faki Mahamat, thanked the Government of Nigeria, the University of Ibadan and the thematic partners for the considerable support they provide to secure young Africans training through PAU. 50 Masters Degrees in Life and Earth Sciences were awarded to the graduates (33 Men and 17 Women) who completed their training in Plant breeding, Environmental management, Oil Geosciences, Mining Exploration and Reproductive and health sciences.

Two overall best students and three best Masters thesis were also awarded as a highlight to the event.

FIFTH HAQAA ADVISORY BOARD MEETING AND STAKEHOLDERS CONSULTATION

The fifth HAQAA Advisory Board Meeting and Stakeholder Consultation was held in Maputo, Mozambique from 21-22 March 2018.

The objective of the meeting was to promote the Harmonisation of African Higher Education, Quality Assurance and Accreditation (HAQAA). Dr. Yohannes Woldetensae, Senior Higher Education Expert from the AUC attended the event.

The meeting was attended by officials from various organizations working in Higher Education development in Africa. Experts of the Technical Working Group for Developing African Standards and Guidelines were represented.

It was agreed that the revised African Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance (ASG-QA) will be finalised by the Technical Working Group after considering feedbacks from Advisory Board. It was also noted that standards and guidelines should be stated in flexible terms to allow countries adapt it in their own contexts.

The need for mapping exercise of ASG-QA and the African Quality Rating Mechanism (AQRM) was highlighted to see how the two instruments are linked. It was also noted that the AQRM should be consistently promoted.

Participants agreed to improve dissemination of information on HAQAA. Advisory Board members were urged to advocate for domestication of ASG-QA.
The East African Higher Education Quality Assurance Network Forum was held in Kigali, Rwanda from 10-12 May 2018. The meeting highlighted the domestication of the Pan African Quality Assurance and Accreditation Framework (PAQAF) at regional and national levels.

The East African Higher Education Quality Assurance Network (EAQAN) is a network of quality assurance practitioners that provides platforms for exchange of experiences among quality assurance coordinators.

The AUC representative - Dr. Yohannes Woldetensae, made a presentation on “Harmonisation of Quality Assurance and Accreditation Practices in Africa”, focusing on the implementation of PAQAF to provide AUC’s perspectives in promoting harmonisation of quality assurance mechanisms and practices.

The organisation that participated in the event included among others EAQAN, the Inter University Council for East Africa (IUCEA), the AUC and the Education Commission of Rwanda.

The East African Higher Education Quality Assurance Network organised a Forum on 10th May 2018. The Forum provided an important opportunity for quality assurance practitioners, senior university administrators, policy makers and executive members of national accreditation bodies to share ideas in promoting quality higher education in East Africa region.

Participants were informed that progress have been achieved in the development of the East African Qualifications Framework for Higher Education; and the Guidelines for Quality Assurance in Higher Education in East Africa.

EAQAN’s contribution to enhancing quality in higher education was stressed.

The NAQAAE International Conference and HAQAA Training Course was held in Cairo-Egypt from 22-23 April 2018.

The Conference was organised by the Egyptian National Authority for Quality Assurance and Accreditation of Education (NAQAAE).

The event promoted domestication of continental standards and guidelines in national systems. Participants noted that the AU Strategy for harmonisation of higher education incorporates a strong focus on establishing accreditation and quality assurance mechanisms; and there is need for effective networking of quality assurance and accreditation agencies at national, regional, and continental levels.


It was suggested that steps should be taken to ensure that the African Quality Rating Mechanism (AQRM) is adopted by African Universities as an evaluation tool for institutional self-assessment.
The Association of African Universities (AAU) is Africa’s apex higher education organisation with a membership of about 400 higher education institutions in 46 countries across the continent. The Association was established in 1967 in Rabat, Morocco but its headquarters was moved to Ghana in 1970.

In January this year, the AAU launched a Television Station (AAU TV) with the purpose of: Disseminating real time news and information on higher education-related issues, including but not limited national higher education policy directions, science and technology news, campus life, sports, etc.;

The AAU TV currently livestreams via Facebook (https://www.facebook.com/pg/AAU67), has developed its own TV website: tv.aau.org, and will migrate to satellite transmission at the end of September, 2018 to run a 24-hour continuous programme. The station wants to build its strength in intelligent programming which will serve to educate, inform and entertain its stakeholders across Africa and beyond.

Some of the programs broadcast by the AAU TV includes: Higher Education news in English and French; My University – a documentary on AAU Member Institutions; AAU Talks – a flagship programme that discusses thematic issues affecting higher education in Africa; Career Guidance – a discussion on different career choices for students; Road to Agenda 2063 – a discussion platform on the African Union’s aspirations towards a prosperous continent by the year 2063; RnD (Research and Discoveries) – a programme that aims to showcase research outputs, innovations and inventions from institutions of higher learning in Africa; and AAU Impact – a platform where the AAU showcases how its programmes have impacted the lives of individuals and communities.


The main goal of this workshop was to share knowledge and skills related to learner-centred teaching and learning in Higher & Tertiary Education. Countries Represented included Nigeria, Uganda, Ghana and Zambia.

The workshop modules included Continental frameworks on Higher Education, Initiatives and the State of African Higher Education Quality Assurance; Qualities of a good lecturer; Philosophical, Sociological and Psychological Foundations of Education and Curricula Review.

Participants commended the AAU for the organisation of the workshop and suggested for the secretariat to organise more of such key capacity building activities.

It was noted that the element of pedagogy needed to be strengthened in the training of teachers for Higher Education institutions.

The AAU is the coordinator of the CESA Higher Education Cluster which leads the implementation of Higher Education objectives set under the Continental Education Strategy for Africa (CESA 16-25).
The workshop targeted Personnel of African universities (public and private) and other Higher Education Institutions responsible for Quality Assurance; Personnel of national quality assurance agencies (NQAAs) in Africa; and others interested in Quality Assurance. The Workshop was organised from 28 February – 1 March 2018 in Khartoum, Sudan.

**Workshop Objectives:**
The objectives of the 2018 Good Practices Workshop was to:
- Share information on good practices and new developments in the field of quality assurance in higher education among NRAs and university personnel;
- Share identified quality assurance good practices and what makes a good university vice chancellor;
- Strengthen the professional capacity of emerging NRAs and Quality Assurance units in universities;
- Assist and support discussions on Quality Assurance issues through exchange of ideas and information.

**Workshop Facilitation Topics:**
There were presentations on Understanding Africa’s higher education leadership landscape; New Developments in Quality Assurance; Quality Assurance Good Practices and What Makes a Good University Vice Chancellor; What Works and What does not Work in Quality Assurance; Key Issues on Quality Assurance in Africa; International Accreditation for African Universities; Quality Assurance Situation in Sudan; and Ranking & Rating of African Universities.

**Countries Represented**
A total of 47 participants attended the Good Practices Workshop in Khartoum, Sudan, consisting of two AAU staff; two facilitators; three support staff; two students; 20 people from Sudan; and 18 people from Ghana, Nigeria, Mozambique, Namibia, Kenya, and Tanzania. The meeting agreed that there was common interest in the new developments in quality assurance.

**Database of African Theses and Dissertations (DATAD-RV)**

The workshop was held in Khartoum, Sudan from 25-27 February 2018. The target audience include librarians/information professional and Library IT support staff.

**Workshop Objectives:**
The objective of the workshop was to:
- Inform participants about the established continental platform known as Database of African Theses and Dissertation including Research, DATAD-R (http://datad.aau.org) which can be used to heighten visibility of African research findings. The workshop will also help build the capacity of the University Libraries and their IT support staff, so they could better manage (electronically) the knowledge/research finding from their institutions.
- Countries Represented included Sudan, Nigeria, Ghana and Malawi.

Participants were generally appreciative of the support for the training sessions. Some institutions have gone ahead to draft policies and submitted them to their academic board for approval, so they can start running their institutional platforms. Yet others have set up their platforms and uploading content while they work on their policies after which they will then seek approval or institutional mandate to display their institutional knowledge content. A few have setup their repositories, received approval from the university board and have begun uploading research findings from their institutions.
Pan African University Institute for Water and Energy Sciences (PAUWES) hosted the PAUWES Research-2-Practice Forum 2018 from 16th to 18th April in Tlemcen, Algeria.

This international conference brought together over 150 participants from over 40 countries with the aim to promote and support applied and practice-oriented research and strategic partnerships on renewable energy, water and climate security in Africa.

In keeping with the African Union Agenda 2063, the African Union Science, Technology and Innovation Strategy for Africa 2024 (STISA-2024) and the Africa Water Vision 2025, a key role of PAUWES is seen in providing scientific and technological solutions to support a sustainable socio-economic development in the continent, science-based advice to policy makers on a local, national, regional and Pan-African level.

In this light, the forum will brought together and provided a platform for experts, scientists, education leaders, decision makers, entrepreneurs, private and public sector, policy makers, civil society actors and institutions interested or active in applied and practice-oriented research for development to discuss state of the art, challenges and innovative solutions in the areas of renewable energy, water and climate security and build strategic partnerships in Africa.

Furthermore this was an opportunity for the PAUWES academic fraternity to showcase its various projects while growing its network.

With support from the German Government and in cooperation with a consortium of German universities (UNU-EHS, ZEF and ITT) led by UNU-EHS and the University Abou Bekr Belkaid in Tlemcen, the event was very successful.

THE AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK (AFDB), led by President Dr. Akinwumi Adesina, and the African Institute for Mathematical Sciences (AIMS), led by Patron of the High-Level Advisory Council and former President of Nigeria, Olesegun Obasanjo, have initiated a ground-breaking relationship to build an industry-led research institution. The meeting was held at AfDB headquarters in Abidjan, Cote d’Ivoire. AfDB and AIMS discussed a 10-year partnership proposal to build mathematical and scientific capacity in Africa, strengthen industry linkages, and create a competitive industrial and innovative space.

AfDB President Adesina pledged his support and reiterated the Bank’s willingness to partner with AIMS.

The proposed partnership would see each African country secure 100 to 250 world-class specialists in mathematical sciences by 2020 to lead research and innovation in various fields. The total cost of the partnership program is projected at US $54.685 million with initial bridging financing of US $5 million to build mathematical capacity in Africa and called for the Bank’s support to establish the African Presidential Resource Center. President and CEO of AIMS and Founder and Chair of the Next Einstein Forum Thierry Zomahoun explained that bridging finance is needed to build upon and sustain the momentum in AIMS’ ongoing expansion of mathematical sciences education, training, research and industry initiative on the continent.
The Next Einstein Forum 2018 was organised by the African Institute of Mathematical Sciences (AIMS) from 26-28 March 2018 in collaboration with the Government of the Republic of Rwanda, Robert Bosch Stiftung and Johnson and Johnson foundations.

Key partners for the event also included the African Union Commission, MasterCard Foundation, Carnegie Corporation of New York, and the German Research Foundation.

The President of the Republic of Senegal, H.E Macky Sall and the Republic of Rwanda, H.E Paul Kagame along with Ministers of Education of both countries participated in the event and urged the youth to embrace science technology and innovation as it was the way to drive Africa’s development in the 21st Century. In a message from the President Kenyatta of Kenya given by the Minister of Education, Kenya offered to host the next NEF.

A number of innovations were showcased, including, among others: ‘Koniku’- driving technological innovations through patterns in biology; Quantum Leap Africa Space project; non-invasive method for detecting Malaria; and a new technology Several young entrepreneurs competed for three prizes of USD 25,000.

Dr. Beatrice Njenga, Head of Education Division at the African Union Commission presented on existing AU continental initiatives on scientific research, and urged that these be reflected in discussions concerning an African Fund for scientific research, to avoid unnecessary duplication and promote coherence and efficiency.

The meeting brought together continental and global STEM Education and research practitioners, scientists, entrepreneurs and science industry leaders to discuss how to promote STEM Education and research in Africa.
WORKSHOP ON THE POTENTIAL ACADEMIC PROGRAMS FOR PAEUVU

The Pan African Virtual and e-University (PAEUVU) is one of AU’s flagship projects that has been proposed for realising the Agenda 2063. The PAEUVU project will be operationalized as an Institute of the Pan African University (PAU).

The PAEUVU Workshop of Stakeholders and Experts on Potential Academic Programs was organized from 20-23 March 2018 in Addis Ababa, on the threshold of identifying and prioritising potential Academic Programs that will be expression to African renaissance and contribute to the collective vision: strengthening Africa’s position not only as a consumer but also a generator of global knowledge and culture. The academic programs will enable African students obtain degrees, diplomas and certificates, and participate in research agendas, addressing the AU’s ultimate aim of building knowledge, human resources, capabilities and skills for Africa’s future.

On Day 2 and 3, participants broke into five working groups. Each group was tasked to propose recommendations in their particular focus area as well as address some guiding questions: Potential academic programs and justification; Levels and key components of the programs; Key competencies, skills and values, attitudes to be mainstreamed in the curriculum; List of resources for teaching, learning, assessment and research; Identified modalities for quality assurance and accreditation; List of potential partners and collaborators.

It was noted that there is need to factor in decisions by AU Heads of State and Government on Quality Assurance (QA) system and accreditation. Further, clarity is needed on who is the beneficiary or end user of the proposed quality assurance system and whether it addresses market needs.

MEETING OF PAN AFRICAN VIRTUAL AND E-UNIVERSITY TASK FORCE

The HRST Department of the African Union Commission facilitated a meeting of the PAEUVU Task Force from 27th February to 2nd March 2018 in Pretoria, South Africa.

Outcomes from the Workshop:
1. A Learning Management System for PAEUVU
   The detailed review of SAKAI and MOODLE showed that both learning management systems would be potentially good choices for PAEUVU.
2. Considerations for the PAEUVU Architecture
   A PAEUVU Intranet is recommended to provide a private network accessible only to PAEUVU staff and students.
   It is recommended that the PAEUVU Learning Management System (LMS) be hosted on a dedicated server in a private cloud.
3. Recommendations on Structural and Coordination Issues
   Internet Connectivity Initiatives in Africa should be linked to the PAEUVU Initiative
   UbuntuNet Alliance covers East and Southern Africa, WACREN covers West and Central Africa and ASREN (Arab States Research and Education Network) covers North Africa.
The ‘African Forum on Youth Skills and Enterprise in the Digital Era’ held from 18-19 April 2018 brought together senior policy makers, government administration senior officials, development partners, private sector, representatives of African youth, young entrepreneurs, civil society, and experts to showcase, share, and discuss comprehensive innovative TVSD/TVET models and programmes that aim at developing the leadership and digital skills of young people, and equipping them with the necessary knowledge, tools and know-how to design marketable products and services, in order to create sustainable enterprises and generate employment.

The TVET Cluster of the Continental Education Strategy for Africa (CESA 16-25) was launched on the 19th of April 2018 with AU NEPAD Agency as the Coordinator of the Cluster. The African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF) also offered to be the Co-Chair of the Cluster.

At the conclusion of this successful meeting, African governments and key stakeholders agreed to: Foster and implement appropriate policies to integrate digital skills, 21st Century Skills and Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) in the African education and training systems; Establish technological partnerships in order to fill the skills gap in jobs requiring advanced ICT competences such as Coding; Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning and Robotics; Cyber Security, among others; Accelerate the use of ICT to offer all learners, with a special focus on girls and women, an equal opportunity to access quality education; Spread the culture for eLearning; Promote Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) as an enabling pathway, as opposed to a sub-sector of last choice; and Train teachers on digital skills and 21stCentury Skills.

The event was organized by the Government of Tunisia through its Ministry of Professional Training and Employment (MFPE), the African Union Commission (AUC), the Global E-Schools and Communities Initiative (GESCI), the Association for the Development of Education in Africa (ADEA), and UNICEF.

The African Digital Schools Initiative (ADSI) continues to be rolled out in Kenya, Tanzania and in Côte d’Ivoire. This programme leads schools through 4 stages of whole school digitisation from e-Initial to e-Enabled to E-confident and, finally, to e-Mature. If and when the 140 participating schools in the three countries reach the e-Mature stage, they will be classified and awarded Digital Schools of Distinction status. This programme is a first for Africa.

During a 2-day workshop held in each of the four participating Kenyan Counties (Kiambu, Nymira, Narok, Taita Taveta) the school principals received certification in recognition of their lead roles in supporting their teachers to utilise and integrate digital technologies in their teaching.

The teachers in the 80 schools are following a rigorous ICT training programme and have already successfully completed the first two cycles - 1st on Technology Literacy and 2nd on Knowledge Deepening. Teachers are now competent in incorporating various ICTs tools in their teaching which will enrich student learning. Teachers commended the program as the skills they acquire allow them to demonstrate concepts using videos, photos and simulation.
The iTOYA Award for excellence in ICT integration in teaching and learning in Kenya has been awarded to Maxwell Kayesi, a Physics teacher at Karuri High School in Kiambu County. Maxwell and Kiambu High School are taking part in the African Digital Schools Initiative (ADSI).

The iTOYA award (iTeacher of the year award) was jointly established by the Teachers Service Commission, CEMASTEA, Kenya Secondary Heads Association and eKitabu. The award recognizes the best innovative teacher in classroom practice in mathematics and science. Mr Kayesi is also a School Based Coordinator at the Karuri overseeing all (ADSI) project activities in terms of ICT Integration, he is an excellent role model and mentor.

Maxwell Kayesi was awarded his prize during the 43rd annual principals conference attended by over 9,000 the principals from all public secondary schools in Kenya the teachers service commission secretariat led by Dr Lydia Nzomo, chairperson and other senior staff, staff from the Ministry of Education led by the Cabinet Secretary for education Ambassador Amina Mohamed, sponsors and other stake holders in education.

Other than ICT integration the award criteria entailed other domains such as Teacher professional development, teacher performance and appraisal, teacher involvement in learner lifelong activities and co-curricular activities.

Mr Kayesi provided a demonstrated, using a seven-minute power point presentation, on how he integrates ICT in his day to day classroom teaching to over 10,000 National delegates at the conference. Maxwell said: “The Africa Digital School Initiative program played a major role in me realizing this achievement”.

Teachers from different African countries under the auspices of Africa Federation of Teaching Regulatory Authorities (AFTRA) are meeting in Abuja to make sure that people employed to teach in schools are effective in their work, among others. The 7th Teaching and Learning in Africa Conference and 9th Roundtable was held from May 14-19, 2018 under the theme ‘Teaching and Learning in Africa in Context of Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG4) and Continental Education Strategy for Africa (CESA)’.

In his address, The Minister of Education of Nigeria, H.E. Adamu Adamu, stated that without adequate, qualified and professional teachers, the goal of having an educational system that produces quality graduates, who can favourably compete globally, cannot be achieved.

The Conference provided opportunities for exchange of best practices between AFTRA (the statutory regulators of the teaching profession in Africa) and members of the global community particularly the academia, ICT experts, employers of teachers, teachers unions, international development partners, non-governmental organisations, and the general public.

The Roundtable is AFTRA’s Annual General Meeting (AGM) and admits only AFTRA member organisations. AFTRA is the Africa Regional Branch of the International (World) Forum of Teaching Regulatory Authorities, and a lead partner in the CESA Cluster on Teacher Development.
IPED commenced the pilot of the in house developed data collection platform in collaboration with the Ministry of Education of Kenya in Nairobi from 25-29 June 2018. The long awaited exercise planned to take place in 4 countries namely Kenya, Malawi, Chad and Namibia was conducted successfully in three government owned schools in Kenya namely St. Geroge Girls High School, Langata High School and Kabete Polytechnic.

IPED is mandated to establish a continental Education Management Information System. This system will house both granular and composite education data culled from the national EMIS systems of member states. In order for IPED to establish a functional continental EMIS system, national systems must be strengthened and functional. As a way of strengthening capacities of member states, IPED developed a system that assists in data transportation from different sources into National EMIS systems.

This is part of the AUC’s efforts to assess readiness of member states in having effective and efficient data transportation systems from source to their National EMIS system. The exercise also helped in identifying the strengths and weakness of the system before the final roll out phase. The outcomes of the Kenyan exercise were:

1. The IPED system is capable of integrating with existing EMIS systems to enhance data collection, transmission and dissemination;
2. Data transmission time from the IPED platform is at an average of 20 seconds per enumerator;
3. Data sources for the newly developed indicators have been identified which should make reporting on them easy;
4. The weaknesses of the IPED system were identified.

The CESA Indicators Manual that was validated in November 2017 was reviewed in detail and finalized through consensus. Indicators were analysed according to the CESA Strategic Objectives, while keeping in mind the desired contribution of education to Agenda 2063 aspirations. Consensus was reached concerning indicators definitions, their purpose and the potential source of data. Gender and inclusion featured highly in the discussions. The reporting template for Member States was discussed and adopted as amended.

A presentation was made on scheduled piloting of data collection tools, and piloting of a number of new indicators in Member States which is planned for the 3rd quarter of 2018. Final amended documents will has been shared and commended upon and finalized and will be dissemination.
AUC PARTICIPATES IN GLOBAL EMIS TASK FORCE CONFERENCE, PARIS

The International Conference on EMIS held at UNESCO Headquarters from 11-13 April 2018 brought together over 20 Member States with education actors across all sectors - national governments, non-profits, private companies, and international organizations interested in EMIS - to discuss challenges, lessons learned, and ways through which development partners can better collaborate with countries to address EMIS-related needs.

The Conference focused on the importance of EMIS in improving the delivery of quality education and lifelong learning for all. It also discussed the importance of data collection to monitoring progress toward SDG-4, as well as the various challenges faced by countries in collecting EMIS data.

Mr. Lukman Jaji, Policy officer at the Human Resources, Science and Technology Department of the African Union Commission presented on the African Union's efforts in revitalizing the Pan African Institute for Education for Development, the African Education Observatory based in Kinshasa, DR Congo.

He also presented on efforts undertaken to strengthen EMIS process Management using new and emerging technologies including review of existing technologies utilized by AU member states to strengthen National EMIS systems. In addition, he gave an insight into the yet to be launched AU Education Data Rescuing Program which is aimed at extracting historical education data from national archives to be deposited in the continental EMIS database.

The conference agreed on the need to make data more inclusive, particularly to ensure the representation of vulnerable and marginalized populations.

GLOBAL CONFERENCE ON EDUCATION FINANCING, 2-3 FEBRUARY, DAKAR

The event held in Dakar, Senegal from 2-3 February was organised by the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) and co-hosted by the President of the Republic of Senegal H.E. Macky Sall and French President Emmanuel Macron.

Presidents of Chad, Mali, Niger, Burkina Faso, Central African Republic, and Ghana participated, and Vice President of the Gambia, and Prime Minister of Cote d'Ivoire. A large number of Ministers and senior officials from GPE member Countries from Africa, Asia and Latin America and Oceania also participated. The World Bank Director General and Ecobank also participated. African Union Member States and Stakeholders shared experiences highlighting the value of education and the need for increased financing for least developed countries.

The president of Senegal highlighted education developments in his country and said that Senegal has spent USD 3.8 billion on education over the last three years. Therefore, USD 3.1 billion from rich countries should not present a challenge. He pledged to give USD 2 million to GPE, becoming the first African country to do so.

GPE made an appeal for USD 3.1 billion as the amount of money needed every year from donor funding in order to meet SDG4 in least developed countries.

53 developing countries pledged to increase their domestic financing of education by 110 billion USD.
The meeting was held on 27 January 2018 on the sidelines of the AU Summit in Addis Ababa and was attended by H.E. Macky Sall – President of Senegal, H.E. Thomas Kwesi Quartey - AUC Deputy Chairperson, H.E. Prof Sarah Anyang Agbor – Commissioner for Human Resources Science and Technology Department, AUC, H.E. Tilaye Gete – Minister of Education of Ethiopia, H.E. Emmanuel Fabiano – Minister of Foreign Affairs and Internal Security of Malawi, AU Member State Officials – Kenya, D.R.C, Botswana, Sahrawi Republic, Ghana, Central African Republic, Senegal, Ethiopia, Representatives from RECS - IGAD, AUC, ONE, GPE and other development partners.

H.E Prof Sarah Anyang Agbor explained the investment needs in education fields such as STEM and TVET and provision of conducive environment for schools, women and girls education, and teacher development which are the backbone of economic development.

H.E Mr. Thomas Kwesi Quartey presented the AU’s strategy to have every child in school by 2020 and provided insights into the importance of focusing on Africa’s human resources through education.

A panel discussion was organised as part of the event to discuss the issues of Education Financing and Efficiency; Equity, Quality and Gender Equality; and Education in Humanitarian Situations.

H.E. Macky Sall stated that financing of education in Africa should take into account early childhood education.

Global Partnership for Education (GPE) emphasised their support for CESA and Agenda 2063. ONE Campaign also presented petition to H.E Macky Sall on getting girls to school by 2020.
The Consultation and Experience Sharing Workshop on Peace Building and Prevention of Violent Extremisms through Education was held at the African Union Headquarters, from 22-23 May 2018. The workshop was organized by the African Union Commission (AUC) in collaboration with UNESCO-International Institute for Capacity Building in Africa (IICBA).

Dr. Beatrice Njenga, Head of Education Division of the AUC expressed her gratitude to the Government of Japan to support this great endeavour and noted that Aspiration 4 of the Agenda 2063 emphasizes that “a culture of peace and tolerance shall be nurtured in Africa’s children and youth through peace education”.

Dr Yumiko Yokozeki, Director of UNESCO-IICBA noted that the Sahel countries are affected by natural disasters and ongoing conflicts, and that is why the project targets Sahel countries including: Algeria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Central African Republic, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sudan and cross border areas.

The main outcomes of the two day consultation will be: Participants shared possible areas of interventions and joint activities in relation to the project; Participants developed youth intervention plan for the project; and Sahel and Horn of Africa countries developed national action points and follow up plans.

Participants from Uganda, South Sudan, Somalia, Kenya and Ethiopia shared their experiences on peace building activities that have been carried out in their countries at the national level.

The 2nd High Level Dialogue on enhancing policies and practices to promote STEM-focused TVET for Women and Girls was held on the sidelines of the AU Summit in Addis Ababa on 24 January 2018. The High Level Dialogue was co-hosted by the African Union International Centre for Girls and Women education in Africa (AU/CIEFFA), and the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Addis Ababa as well as AU partners.

The aim of The 2018 High Level Dialogue is to engage policy dialogue and reach commitment for science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) or Higher level of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) subjects related to labour markets.

While making her remarks during the opening ceremony, the Commissioner, Human Resources Science and Technology (HRST), H.E. Prof. Sarah Anyang Agbor, noted that “The retention of girls’ and women’s education to quality deliverables has become a non-negotiable quest for all education actors and for all AU Member States”.

The specific objectives of the Dialogue was to: Share best practices and challenges on returns on investment in girls and women’s education, especially in STEM focused TVET areas; and Improve understanding of the necessity to support girls and women in STEM.
The third African Day of School Feeding was commemorated in Harare, Zimbabwe on 1st March 2018. This year’s theme is ‘Realizing the African Child’s Full Potential through Effective Home-Grown School Feeding.’ A special event was held at Glen View No. 2 Primary School in the Zimbabwean capital, Harare, and complemented by a series of official conferences in the city. It was attended by senior officials from the African Union as well as ministers, deputy ministers from Cote d’Ivoire, Gambia, Niger, South Sudan, and Liberia and representatives from over 30 African countries. Also present were development partners, and members of the diplomatic corps and civil society.

The African Day for School Feeding was instituted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government during the 26th African Union Summit in January 2016 in recognition of the immense value of Home-Grown School Feeding (HGSF). With HGSF, food is sourced from local smallholder farmers, thus boosting income generation and entrepreneurship in local communities. School meals have been proven to enhance retention and improve the performance of children in school – as well as enhancing a child’s concentration in class, they have long-term economic benefits, raising productivity throughout a lifetime.

“It is important that more local resources are invested in developing Home Grown School Feeding, to build self-reliance and long term resilience.” said H.E. Prof. Sarah Anyang Agbor, Commissioner for Human Resources, Science and Technology of the African Union.

An AU review, ‘Study on Sustainable School Feeding Across the African Union’ was also launched at the event, supported by WFP.

From 18-19 May 2018 in Midrand, South Africa, the AU/CIEFFA jointly with the Pan African Parliament (PAP) convened a two-day workshop on the theme “Monitoring the implementation of Legal and Institutional Framework on Girls and Women’s Education” at the margins of the 6th Ordinary Session of PAP.

The meeting was conducted at two levels:
(i) a consultative meeting to share AU/CIEFFA’s work on legal and institutional frameworks on girls and women’s education in the continent and
(ii) a follow-up meeting with PAP aimed at getting the Parliamentarians to share their respective countries’ experiences on existing strategies in ratifying and implementing regional continental and international instruments.

The meeting discussed and recommended to:
(i) Interact with Human Rights Commission, Banjul, the committee on the Welfare of the child to rout for appointment of Special Rapporteur or a Working Group on Girls and Women’s education in the continent;
(ii) Popularise the strategy and prepare advocacy documents during statutory meetings of ministers on ratification, reservations of international instruments for the promotion of girls and women’s education.
(iii) Make a strong case for girls and women’s education with Agenda 2063.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 – 6 July 2018</td>
<td>3rd African Public Library Summit And Ministers Roundtable</td>
<td>Durban, South Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-4 September 2018</td>
<td>Early Childhood Education Cluster Launch</td>
<td>Addis Ababa, Ethiopia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-6 September 2018</td>
<td>Technical consultation on AU Continental Teacher Mobility and Qualification Framework</td>
<td>Addis Ababa, Ethiopia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 September 2018</td>
<td>Safe Schools Education Policy Forum</td>
<td>Addis Ababa, Ethiopia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12-13 September 2018</td>
<td>SDG-Education 2030 Steering Committee meeting</td>
<td>Paris, France</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 – 21 September 2018</td>
<td>International Conferences on Quality Assurance in Higher Education in Africa (ICQAHEA)</td>
<td>Yaoundé, Cameroon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-19 September 2018</td>
<td>AAHEFA international conference on Sustainably Financing Higher Education</td>
<td>Lilongwe, Malawi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-28 September 2018</td>
<td>Sustainable Education Meeting 2018 and CESA-ICT in Education Cluster meeting</td>
<td>New York, USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26-28 September 2018</td>
<td>e-Learning Africa Conference</td>
<td>Kigali, Rwanda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 - 28 September 2018</td>
<td>Regional Consultation on World QA Conference and SADC Technical Committee Meeting on Certification and Accreditation</td>
<td>Johannesburg, South Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-6 October 2018</td>
<td>Innovating Education in Africa Expo</td>
<td>Dakar, Senegal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-12 October 2018</td>
<td>Validation of findings of Study on state of Peace Education in Africa</td>
<td>Addis Ababa, Ethiopia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16-19 October 2018</td>
<td>AfECN International Conference on Early Childhood Development</td>
<td>Nairobi, Kenya</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21-25 October 2018</td>
<td>Global Child Nutrition Forum</td>
<td>Tunis, Tunisia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-16 November 2018</td>
<td>Launch of CESA Thematic Cluster on Curriculum and CESA Implementation Platform and Cluster Coordination Meeting</td>
<td>Addis Ababa, Ethiopia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 – 29 November 2018</td>
<td>Pan African Conference on Public Service Interpretation and Translation</td>
<td>Nairobi, Kenya</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CLUSTERS BRIEF

There are 9 launched clusters and 4 upcoming clusters under the Continental Education Strategy for Africa (CESA 16-25)

Education Planning
Status: Launched
Coordinator: Association for the Development of Education in Africa (ADEA)

Peace and Education
Status: Launched
Coordinator: Save the Children International

STEM Education
Status: Launched
Coordinator: African Institute for Mathematical Sciences (AIMS)

Teacher Development
Status: Launched
Coordinator: UNESCO International Institute for Capacity Building in Africa

Higher Education
Status: Launched
Coordinator: Association of African Universities (AAU)

ICT In Education
Status: Launched
Coordinator: Global e-Schools and Communities Initiative (GeSCI)

Women and Girls Education
Status: Launched
Coordinator: AU International Centre for the Education of Girls and Women in Africa

School Feeding
Status: Launched
Coordinator: World Food Programme (WFP)

TVET
Status: Launched
Coordinator: AU NEPAD

Early Childhood Education
Status: Upcoming
Coordinator: TBD

Life Skills
Status: Upcoming
Coordinator: TBD

Curriculum
Status: Upcoming
Coordinator: TBD

Literacy Cluster
Status: Upcoming
Coordinator: TBD
Youth unemployment will be eliminated, and Africa’s youth guaranteed full access to education, training, skills and technology, to health services, jobs...

Agenda 2063

The strategy is part of the long-term people centered AU Agenda 2063 which is underpinned by science, technology and innovation...

STISA 2024

Without job-related skills, youth and adults cannot benefit from the employment opportunities that offer a decent income.

TVET Strategy