Issue 43
18 September to 22 September 2017
Message of the Director

Dear Colleagues and Partners,

Last week we celebrated International Peace Day, on 21 September, whose theme for the year is "Together for Peace, Respect, Safety and Dignity for all". The theme honors the spirit of togetherness, especially reflecting on the words of the UN Secretary-General, Antonio Guterres on this day "We must resist cynical efforts to divide communities and portray neighbors as the other. Discrimination diminishes us all. It prevents people and societies from achieving their full potential". At UNESCO, the Global Citizenship Education Programme, as well as Peacebuilding initiatives for Youth aim at socially transforming societies, by making people aware of the multicultural world we live in, and where respect, solidarity and sensitivity are at the foundation of an open-mind attitude towards ideas sharing and team work. We shall never forget the mandate of UNESCO to instill Hope and build Peace in the minds of men and women, through effective capacity building, actions and training towards sustainable development.

I was also on mission for the United Nations Country Team UNDAP SRP meeting 19 to 21 September 2017 in Kigali, Rwanda. The country team which is the model One UN country team had been able to skillfully aligned its vision for the next five years to Rwanda's vision built around the three pillars of social transformation, economic transformation and transformational governance. In its multi stakeholders meeting with government ministries, the private sector, civil society and donors there was endorsement of the major priorities of the UNDAP. The road map for its finalization and fine tuning the pillars priorities, outcomes and work plans was
agreed upon to be validated and signed off in June 2018. UNESCO has the opportunity to be better aligned to this process and more present than before. The Regional Office for Eastern Africa also participated in the UN Country Programming in the Context of the 2030 Agenda Workshop that was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 19 to 22 September 2017. The staff who participated obtained knowledge and skills to support UNESCO' positioning and engagement in the UN Country programming in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

UNESCO is taking Technical and Vocational Education and Training further in the region, as Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Tanzania and Uganda will benefit from the Better Education for Africa's Rise Project (BEAR II Project) Phase II. UNESCO is organizing validation workshops for these countries from 20 to 30 September 2017 in order to prioritize sectors among the relevant countries and to build synergies between stakeholders to assure the ownership and an inclusive consultation process.

This week I will also be in Balaclava, Mauritius, to participate in the International Day for Universal Access to Information. A series of events, workshops and panel discussions will take place, from 27 to 30 September 2017, on cyber law for African Nations, open educational resources for teaching and learning purposes, and the UNESCO Youth-mobile programme. The day will highlight the importance on the right to information as an unalienable right and freedom, for people and societies to democratically thrive and prosper. We need to remember that in a globalizing world, access to information is vital to build more inclusive, sustainable knowledge societies.

Let us rejoin by greatly valuing access and right to information as a powerful tool
that allows women and men to understand and participate in creating and sharing the knowledge they need to contribute fully to society. It widens opportunities for all, especially for girls, women and vulnerable groups.

Have a happy final week of September.

Ann Therese Ndong Jatta
UNESCO is currently accepting applications for the 2017 edition of the UNESCO King Hamad Bin Isa Al-Khalifa Prize for the Use of ICTs in Education. The theme for the 2017 Edition of the Prize is the use of ICTs to increase access to quality education. The deadline for nomination is 20 October 2017. The online submission form should be submitted, in English or French, via the following link, [here](#) (new users can register to the platform via [www.unesco.org/ict-ed-prize/register](http://www.unesco.org/ict-ed-prize/register). You will find more details on the submission of online application in the enclosed letters, which include the guidelines in English, French, Spanish, Russian and Arabic. For additional information, contact Ms. Chrystelle de Coligny or Ms. Lucie Shen ([ictprize@unesco.org](mailto:ictprize@unesco.org); +33 (0)1 45 68 09 06).

Join the Global Campaign #Action4SDG Campaign
On the occasion of the second anniversary of the SDGs on 25th September 2017, the United Nations is calling for actions across the world to tell people about the global goals and tell our leaders how they are performing.

The Global Day for Action will be on 25 September 2017.

Actions, both big and small can help, and become part of this global movement,
1. By organizing an event in your community: Fill the details here.
2. By adding your social media message on Thunderclap, by supporting the campaign that will be spread on the day: Click here.
3. By going Live on Social Media by using the #Act4SDGs, using ideas and resources, here.

Jane Constance, singer in Mauritius, to be awarded UNESCO Artist for Peace

Jane Constance, Mauritian singer, blind from birth, star of Mauritian music, will be awarded by UNESCO Director General Irina Bokova, on 26 September 2017 in UNESCO in Paris as a new UNESCO Artist for Peace. Check the complete list of UNESCO Artists for Peace, here.

Open Day for Malagasy Library and National Archives
Madagascar: On the occasion of the International Day for Universal Access to Information, on 28 September 2017, the Directorate of National Archives and the National Library open their doors to the public all day. Moreover, a photo exhibition of the Archives will be showcased all week from 25 September 2017, at the Directorate of Archives in Tsaralalana. For more information, consult the website of the National Archives, here.

**Web News of the week**

Validation workshops in five Eastern African countries for 'Better Education for Africa’s Rise (BEAR II) project

Community Radio Practitioners Trained on the Use of ICTs for Radio Programming, Production and Management in Kenya

**Events of the week**

Validation Workshop Better Education for Africa's Rise (BEAR II) project
26 to 27 September 2017  
Antananarivo, Madagascar

**International Day for Universal Access to Information**

27 to 30 September 2017  
Balaclava, Mauritius

**Validation workshop for Better Education for Africa's Rise (BEAR) II scoping report**

26 to 27 September 2017  
Nairobi, Kenya

**Pilot training on the Diploma on Educational Leadership and Management including UNESCO's contribution on inclusive education for Head Teachers**

25 to 27 September 2017  
Kigali, Rwanda

**Consultation and training session on the new Rwanda Education Board/UNESCO Model on Inclusive Education and the new Practical Classroom Toolkit with District Education Officers**

28 to 29 September 2017  
Kigali, Rwanda

**4th UNESCO Africa Engineering Week and Conference**

25 to 29 September 2017
Kigali, Rwanda

**Pre - World Teachers’ Day sub-regional social dialogue meetings for teachers**

27 to 29 September 2017
Mbale District and Gulu District, Uganda

**What the Press says about us**

Irina Bokova and Forest Whitaker at Concordia Summit on power of connecting for peace, Source: [Webwire.com](http://www.webwire.com)

Education is our greatest "soft power" for Peace, Source: [Sierra Leone Times](http://www.sierraleonetimes.com)

UN condemns Somali's journalist killing, Source: [Business Standard](http://www.business-standard.com)

Africa: SA, Tanzania Commit to Preserve Africa's History, Source: [AllAfrica.com](http://allafrica.com)

Ethiopia: Diverse Culture and Natural Beauty of SNNPs', Source: [AllAfrica.com](http://allafrica.com)

Tanzania: SA strengthen cultural ties, Source: [AllAfrica.com](http://allafrica.com)

Seychelles: 6 endangered birds that you can still see in the Seychelles, Source: [AllAfrica.com](http://allafrica.com)
Ethiopia plans to promote domestic tourism in World Tourism Day celebrations,
Source: Xinhuanet.com

**Missions**

**Karalyn Monteil**
Restoration of the collections of the Palace of Manjakamiadana project
24 to 28 September 2017
Madagascar

**Alice Ochanda**
4th Africa Engineering Week Conference
25 to 29 September 2017
Kigali, Rwanda

**Ann Therese Ndong-Jatta, Jaco Du Toit**
International Day for Universal Access to Information
27 to 30 September 2017
Port-Louis, Mauritius
Meetings

UNESCO Global Partnership for Education (GPE) project evaluation
Uganda hosted, from 18 to 19 September 2017, a colleague from UNESCO Headquarters to conduct a field visit for the external evaluation of the Global Partnership for Education program (GPE)-funded project focused on “Improving Teacher Participation in Local Education Groups (LEGs).” The field visit gathered data regarding the project result, implementation challenges and outcomes.

**Better Education for Africa's Rise (BEAR) II Validation in Uganda**

A two-day consultative meeting was held from 21st to 22nd September 2017 in Kampala, Uganda, opened up by the Permanent Secretary for Ministry of Education with an aim to validate the proposed interventions for the BEAR II Project and agree on the final project focus around, (i) the relevance of Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) programs to industry and the labour market, (ii) the Quality of TVET and (iii) improving the perception of TVET. UNESCO, in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Sports of Uganda, will be implementing
the Better Education for Africa’s Rise (BEAR) II project to strengthen the TVET sector, funded by the government of Korea.

**Moodle Needs Assessment in Kigali, Rwanda**

The training on Moodle customization, which took place at the University of Rwanda (UR), from 18 to 21 September 2017, comes in the framework of strengthening the capacity of the University of Rwanda in expanding higher education through offering courses via Open, Distance and E-Learning (ODeL) as one of expected results of the "ICT Transforming Education in Africa", a project developed within the framework of the UNESCO-Korean Funds-in-Trust (KFIT) to support the integration of ICT-based innovative approaches for education in Mozambique, Rwanda and Zimbabwe. The Moodle customization training will be carried out in three consecutive phases starting from the fact finding workshop. Among the results,
the need for capacity building of UR staff on managing, integrating new features and enhancing Moodle according to UR needs. Next trainings will take place in Rwanda in October and November.

**Training on UN Country Programming in the Context of the 2030 Agenda**

**Agenda**

Two of UNESCO staff from the Regional Office for Eastern Africa participated in this training in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 19 to 22 September 2017. The interregional training was an important capacity building opportunity as participants obtained a common understanding of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and improved articulation of UNESCO positioning, comparative advantage and value added vis-à-vis the 2030 Agenda implementation at the country level. The new 2017 UNDAF Guidance was also explored and practical exercises where carried out in identifying UNESCO’s entry points, actions, and tactics necessary to support UN country programming processes.
NEW UNESCO Report "Cracking the Code: Girls' and Women's Education in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)"

UNESCO's groundbreaking report aims to "crack the code" or to decipher the factors that hinder or facilitate girls' and women's participation, achievement and continuation in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education. It draws from cross-national and regional assessments from more than 120 countries.

Read the Full Report here
UNESCO exhibition on Writing Peace

Writing for Peace exhibition is one of the major activities of the Programme of Action for a Culture of Peace and non-violence adopted by the General Conference of UNESCO in its thirty-sixth session in November 2011. The exhibition, opened on the occasion of International Day of Peace, in 2012, at the United Nations headquarters in New York, forms part of the global effort of UNESCO to promote the emergence of a sense of belonging to a shared and mutual humanity, while giving prominence to the wealth of cultures, mutual respect between them and the resulting intercultural dialogue. Take a look at the exhibition, here.
More Than One-Half of Children and Adolescents Are Not Learning Worldwide

The UNESCO Institute for Statistics has just released new data about a global learning crisis. More than half-six out of then- kids worldwide are not learning the minimum. Globally, 617 million kids are not achieving minimum proficiency levels in reading and mathematics. In Sub-Saharan Africa, more than 80% of children and adolescents won't be able to read proficiency by the time they should be completing primary and lower secondary education.

Read the fact sheet, [here](#).
**Videos**

**Health Literacy for Behavioral Change in Kibera**

**Somalia looking forward, UNDP Somalia**

**Global Peace Message 2017, by Forest Whitaker, UNESCO Special Envoy for Peace and Reconciliation. Video credit to IICBA, International Institute for Capacity Building in Africa**
UN Days and Public Holidays

International Day for Universal Access to Information
28 September 2017

Birthdays

Andrew M'mbaiza Kegode
6 October

Hamidou Dodo Boukary
17 October

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