
Xavier Project and Eneza- SMS mobile revision bringing better results for refugees in Kenya

Location: UNESCO Headquarters, Room 7

Date and time: Tuesday 21 March 2017, 11:20 – 13:10

Presenters: Edmund Page, Xavier Project

About the presentation:

I intend to talk about Xavier Project's partnership with Eneza Education, through which we deliver quality revision material for free to 10,000 refugees in Kenya through basic mobile phone technology. Eneza uses SMS to deliver quizzes to students in Kenya that are based directly on the Kenyan curriculum and is proven across the country to improve grades by 22.7%. At the 2016 MLW, Xavier Project presented on the launch of this partnership that would see us enabling 2250 refugees to access Eneza learning in 2016. The results of this pilot are out and the feedback has been impressive. For example, the top students in both Kakuma and Dadaab were Eneza students, and the schools where Eneza was piloted did better on average than other primary schools. In Dadaab, students who did more than two quizzes per day, improved their grades by 36% during the year.

With average class sizes in many schools in both Kakuma and Dadaab reaching 200, it is vital that teachers are enabled with solutions that promote quality and make their jobs easier. Teachers are using Eneza to set homework and to carry out formative assessment, and students using Eneza are now able to obtain grades that will give them access to quality secondary education where selection is based on primary school grades.

As we expand in 2017 we are informed not just by our successes but also the challenges we have faced with the community outreach, the software, the infrastructure and the hardware that has been used for students to access Eneza. My talk will touch on these challenges and provide an opportunity for attendees to advise on future practice. I will add to this by giving human examples of our work and a breakdown of the personalised progress data this technology enables us to analyse.

Meet the presenters:

Edmund Page is the CEO and founder of Xavier Project, an NGO working with refugees in Kenya and Uganda. He founded Xavier Project in 2008 with the conviction that everyone has the right to equal opportunities and protection wherever they live and whatever their background. This right is denied to refugees and Xavier Project uses education to change this. After graduating from St Andrews University in 2009 he spent two years working as a teacher in London before moving to Nairobi in 2011 to concentrate full-time on Xavier Project. He splits his time between the Nairobi, Kampala, and Kakuma offices.

Internet links related to the presentation:

<http://www.xavierproject.org/xavier-project-launches-eneza-programme-in-turkana-north-and-west/>

<http://www.xavierproject.org/xavier-project-visits-kakuma-refugee-camp/>

<http://allchildrenreading.org/technology-strengthens-education-to-refugee-children/>