



KIX CONTINENTAL SYMPOSIUM ON RESEARCH IN EDUCATION

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Deadline : June 17 2024



3RD GPE-KIX CONTINENTAL SYMPOSIUM ON RESEARCH IN EDUCATION IN AFRICA

Theme: Building Resilient Systems for Increased Access to Inclusive Quality and Relevant Education in Africa

20th – 22nd November 2024 | Addis-Ababa, Ethiopia

CONTEXT

As part of the KIX initiative, the KIX Africa 21 hub led by AUF, CONFEMEN and IFEF-OIF, and the KIX Africa 19 hub led by the Commission of the African Union, UNESCO and UNICEF ESARO, co-organize the 3rd edition of the GPEKIX Continental Symposium on Education Research in Africa. This event will bring together decision-makers, researchers and academics in the field of education to exchange essential knowledge on innovations, evidence and good practices to improve student learning outcomes in sub-Saharan Africa, particularly after the disruption of education systems caused by COVID-19.

The Knowledge and Innovation Sharing Mechanism (KIX) is a joint initiative of the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) and the International Development Research Centre (IDRC).

KIX operates through two main mechanisms, which contribute to strengthening national education systems through relevant and actionable data:

1. Knowledge Exchange: KIX creates spaces for GPE partner countries to share information, innovations, and best practices relevant to their needs and priorities, and disseminates knowledge generated by KIX-funded projects. Knowledge exchange is facilitated by KIX's four regional hubs.
2. Applied Research Projects: KIX projects provide evidence, mobilize knowledge, and build the capacity of education stakeholders on how to adapt and scale up innovations that meet the education priorities of GPE partner countries.

KIX brings together 70 low- and middle-income countries that are members of the Global Partnership for Education to identify common policy challenges and facilitate knowledge sharing and evidence accumulation. KIX is currently funding 36 projects in these 70 countries. To address educational challenges and bridge the gap between research, policy and practice in the region, KIX Africa 19 and 21 Hubs are organizing a joint research symposium to highlight research and evidence on improving the learning outcomes of students in their member states.

This new edition of the GPEKIX Africa Symposium will take place from 20 to 22 November 2024, in person, at the African Union Conference Centre and Office Complex in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Live streaming will be available via Zoom, allowing more participants to join.

With a theme "**Building Resilient Systems for Increased Access to Inclusive Quality and Relevant Education in Africa**", the symposium aims to:

Bring visibility to research to improve student learning outcomes with national stakeholders in GPE countries;

- Promote learning and discussion among national policy actors, researchers and practitioners about evidence and research on improving learning outcomes;
- Promote the use of research in policy decision-making by national policy actors in GPE countries;
- Help bridge gaps between research, policy, and practice in GPE member countries.
- Promote the African Union's continental theme for 2024 on the same topic.

The theme may be approached from multiple entry points, such as curriculum, assessment, pedagogy, teachers, inclusion, equity, policymaking, and practice. TVET, STEM Education, and issues around financing and strategic partnerships are also included.

The year 2024 has been designated as the "Year of Education in Africa," providing a unique opportunity for the African Union (AU) to reignite commitment among its member states towards achieving the targets of the Continental Education Strategy for Africa (CESA) and Sustainable Development Goal 4

(SDG4). This initiative follows several key declarations and calls to action, including the STC-EST4, AU-HLSE Declarations, the Urgent Call for Action by the SDG4 High-level Steering Committee, and the UN Secretary General's Vision Statement on Transforming Education. It dovetails with the AU Commission's proposed framework to urge governments and development partners to reevaluate educational and skills development models to create the future Africa desires in the 21st century.

CALL FOR SUBMISSION OF PAPERS

Proposals for papers are welcome on any of the following 5 thematic axes of the symposium and in connection with the main theme mentioned above.

- a. Equitable Education Access: Innovations for inclusive education in African contexts, focusing on marginalized learners and gender equality.
- b. Teacher Development: Programs and support for enhancing teacher quality and utilizing data-driven assessments for improved learner outcomes.
- c. Early Childhood Education: Planning, budgeting, and implementing effective ECE models and their community and policy impact.
- d. Data-Driven Management: Efficient use of Education Management Information Systems (EMIS) to drive equity and effectiveness in education.
- e. Curriculum and Leadership: Reforms in curriculum, teacher support, and leadership practices to enhance learning outcomes and quality assurance.

Papers may be submitted in one of three languages: English, French or Portuguese.

SUBMISSION DOCUMENT FORMAT

Paper documents include a written article and an oral presentation at the conference where time is divided equally between the PowerPoint presentation and audience questions, with answers provided by the presenter.

Proposals for articles must indicate:

- Title of the article, clearly indicating it as it appears on the paper
- The author's name(s), title(s) and institutional affiliation(s)
- The name, title and institutional affiliation(s) of the presenter if different from the author
- The email address and contact details of the presenting author
- An abstract of 250 to 300 words covering at least the study's background **including the geographical coverage; the research methods applied; a synthesis of results and conclusions and Policy recommendations.**
- **A complete article is available at the time of submission.**

Articles should be submitted through <https://www.iped.africa/news-event/gpe-kix-symposium-2024?lang=en>

Successful presenters will make an oral presentation at the conference from a PowerPoint file and will be asked to answer questions from the audience.

In addition, please note that submitted papers may be selected for publication on the websites of GPE KIX and KIX partners.

CRITERIA FOR SUBMISSION OF PAPERS

Papers submitted should focus on one or more of the Africa 19 and Africa 21 countries, and the presentations should be on completed or ongoing research. Presentations are welcome from academic researchers, government representatives, civil society organizations and local education groups.

Papers will be evaluated for acceptance based on the following criteria:

- Relevance to the theme
- Quality of research methodology
- Importance of research results
- Strength of discussion and analysis
- Policy Change Recommendations

SUBMISSION AND DEADLINES FOR SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS

- Opening of submission: Abstract submission opens **May 17, 2024**
- Abstract Submission Deadline: Abstract submission closes **June 17, 2024**
- Abstract Acceptance Notification: All applicants will be notified if their abstracts have been selected for the conference by **July 31, 2024**
- Submission of Accepted Papers: Final communications and complete presentations must be submitted no later than **September 2, 2024**.

INFORMATION AND QUESTIONS

Any questions relating to this call must be sent by e-mail to the e-mail address below:

- For anglophone-speaking countries: bnjenga@kenya.ilu.edu; angela.arnott@gesci.org
- For francophone-speaking countries: ina-aissatou.sano@francophonie.org; kouassi.konan@francophonie.org

Below are the countries participating in KIX Africa Hubs 19 and 21:

The KIX Africa19 Hub comprises the following 18 partner countries in English-speaking Africa: Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Mozambique, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Somalia (Somaliland and Puntland), South Sudan, Tanzania (mainland and Zanzibar), Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The KIX Africa 21 Hub includes the following 21 partner countries: 21 partner countries in Francophone Africa: Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Guinea-Bissau, Guinea, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Republic of Congo, Senegal, Togo, Sao Tome and Principe.

