



## **The African Digital School** Initiative: STEM, ICTs and the Teaching Profession **Presented by: Mary Hooker Senior Education Specialist**, **GESCI** mary.hooker@gesci.org

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# Overview

- Part 1: STEM and the Teaching Profession
- Part 2: How ADSI contributes to STEM TPD
- Part 3: Main lessons

## PART 1: STEM AND THE TEACHING PROFESSION

**Some Good and Sobering News** 

## Global Monitoring Reports 2012 - 2015



- Significant **progress** in EFA goals.
- 34 million children attended school as a result of faster progress since Dakar
- Greatest progress achieved in gender parity, particularly in primary education
- Governments increased efforts to measure learning outcomes through national and international assessments
- 'Silently excluded': many young people leave schools lacking foundational skills

## TIMSS 2002 - 2011



International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement

### WHERE STUDENTS PERFORM WELL

- Science 'Factual Knowledge'
  - Mathematics 'Facts & Procedures'

Closing Equity Gap - Learning MS Basics

### **Performance gaps?**

Conceptual & Transformative Skills

- 'Understanding & using concepts'
- 'Solving routine & complex problems'
- 'Reasoning and analysis'

Professor Kwame Akyeampong, 2016

## MSE Contribution to SDGs 4 & 8



International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement

Transferable Skills for Life Long Learning

Skills for Work & Inclusive, Sustainable Economic Growth Access to Quality Instruction in M&S

> Interpreting, Analyzing, Manipulating Information or Data for SD

### Solution? New Conceptualization of

Teacher Education

- Experience in 21CTL
- Problem Solving
- ICT-STEM-Skills

## PART 2: THE AFRICAN DIGITAL SCHOOL INITIATIVE (ADSI) A model for strengthening innovative practice in Science, Technology, English and Mathematics (STEM)

## Leveling the playing field...



SIPSE Pilot 2013-2015; 20 Schools; 20 School Heads; 120 Teachers; 5,000 Students

# The African Digital Schools Initiative: 2016-2020



Phased Approach: 140 schools, 140 school heads; 1,400 STEM teachers, 70,000 students.

## **ADSI Model Innovation Package**



**Current Practice** Exploring ICT use to support didactic teaching

#### Active Teaching & Learning

Whole class dialogue Questioning techniques Collaborative group work

## Peer-to-peer Learning Teacher try outs observation

#### **Blended Learning Resources**

**Reflective practice** 

Self-assessment

- E-learning, m-learning & teacher portal platforms/ OERs/ Exemplary ICT-STEM materials
- Tutor support online and school based coordinators
- Teacher Technology, Pedagogy & Content Knowledge (TPACK-in-practice)

## Supporting Innovative Practice in STEM with and through ICT



**Teacher Design Teams** Multi-disciplinary community of practice

#### New Pedagogy Problem & project based learning

ICT use to build STEM concept understanding & use





Koehler & Mishra (2008);

#### Koh, Chai, Wong & Hong, 2015

### SCHOOLS As Learning Organization

Build schools' 21CLcapacity

for e-learning strategies and planning

to challenge **existing tacit practice** about ICT in T&L

to design, monitor and evaluate enabling environments for integrating ICT In STEM Prof<mark>ession</mark>al Development

Infrastructure

& resources

THE ROOTS OF EDUCATION ARE BITTER BUT.... THE FRUITS ARE SWEET

Leadership and Planning

> ICT in the STEM

Curriculum

E-Learning Culture

GESCI Digital Schools of Distinction,

## **PART 3: MAIN LESSONS**

Innovation to institutionalization... knowledge management... change as complex... research co-design...

## PARDIGM SHIFT From 'pilots' to 'institutionalization'



Strengthening Innovative Practice in Secondary Education (SIPSE) Pilot Learning... 2013-2015

### **REFORM & INNOVATION Knowledge flow - 'multiple conversations' – vision and action planning**

Groups	Members	Role
National Planning Partners Expert Working Groups	Ministries & Departments, Universities, TEIs, TVEs, Schools, Subject experts, TSCs, etc.	Prioritization curriculum mapping, module development
Project coordinator regional, district & county support teams	Champions, subject technical support district / county directorates	Online facilitation; school visits programme
School level 1: Management	Heads, BoMs, PTAs, Community	School Strategy and Planning; DSDF
School level 2: School based support teams	School based coordiantors	School based support –focus on practice & reflection;
School level 3: Teacher Design teams	STEM and other subject teachers	Lesson planning & resources; peer-to peer observations; workshops - Video – individual & collective review ICT-ATL
Strategic partnerships	UNESCO, ADEA, AUC, MS, INTEL, Ministerial Forums,	Sharing of lessons learned; informing policy and strategy on emerging good practice

Hannay, Ben Jaafar and Earl, 2013

### RESEARCH, POLICY & PRACTICE TRIAD

Develop rigorous frameworks for measuring ICT impact on STEM 21CL & Skills

involve full value chain of researchers-practitioners-policy makers

learning & utilization driven policy making

from national to school levels Use learnings to inform ICT policy dialogue – national to local research triangle

Policy-practice-

Rigorous evaluation research

Recognize 'local school proof' contribution Co-design research - school and academic communities

### Butler, Leahy, Shiels & Cosgrove, 2013

# Thank You

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