Digital Skills for Global Competitiveness

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Background

- At least 65% of university students do not receive any mentorship outside the classroom

- Criticism of the university education system in Kenya

Background

- At most 30% of students in most Computer Science classes at Kenyan universities, are girls.
- At most 30% of qualified academics in Computer Science at Kenyan universities, are women.

Approach

Structured and impactful mentorship

Innovative curriculum

Tracked progress

Measured impact

50 - 50


International Women's Day
I will be bold and challenge bias and inequality
#BeBoldForChange

Methodologies to improve skills for female mentees

Research workshops	Scholarships	Tech Community	Peer-mentorship
Increase participation of women in STEM research and academia	Train female students to write award-winning scholarship essays	Immerse students in tech events aimed at women in computing	Strengthen support for students

Impact

Joy Bii,
Internship at Nano Digital

Beth Wangari, Winner of a
Lifetime Amazon scholarship

Lynet Kosgey, Outstanding
commitment in peer mentorship

- The first female student from Kenya Methodist University received a full scholarship to attend the Grace Hopper Conference.

Main Lessons Learnt

- Structured and progressive mentorship programs upskill students towards global competitiveness.
- 50-50 programs provide a balanced environment where students learn to interact and work with each other.
- Female role models in professional positions are crucial for motivation of girls and women in STEM.
- Mentorship should not be based on digital skills alone but on providing skills that help students to: communicate their Science, work in teams, innovate, and contribute positively to their communities.

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