eLearning Africa

17th International Conference & Exhibition on Digital Education, Training & Skills Development

Kigali
Rwanda
May 29 – 31
2024

eLearning Africa
In Review

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Université Numérique

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AHEEN African Higher Education in Emergencies Network

ICoBC International Council on Badges & Credentials

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eLearning Africa - The Leading Pan-African Conference & Exhibition on Digital Education, Training & Skills Development

→ A truly Pan-African event, eLearning Africa is the largest gathering of education and training and technology experts and professionals on the Continent. The eLearning Africa community brings together professionals, practitioners, and experts from government, education, and business who believe in the transformative power of education and technology. Representing over 80 countries, including this year's host country Rwanda, this annual Pan-African conference fosters sustainable change and development.



"The event was great and very productive for the Foundation."

Ajay Kela, President & Wadhwani Foundation

“Education Fuels Innovation, Investment Amplifies Skills: Africa’s Vibrant Leap Forward”



→ The 2024 eLearning Africa conference revolved around the theme “Education Fuels Innovation, Investment Amplifies Skills.” Discussions highlighted how education and skills development are essential for addressing global shifts and achieving the African Union’s Agenda 2063. Key topics included the importance of future-ready education, investment in socio-economic initiatives, and the role of innovation in driving sustainable growth.

Participants emphasised that high-quality education is crucial for developing critical competencies and fostering ground-breaking ideas. The conference highlighted the need for a blend of indigenous and global skills to ignite creative and innovative thinking, essential for Africa’s future. Investment in technology, such as AI, was identified as a way to revolutionise the education process.

The event showcased the centrality of education and skills development in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and Africa’s Agenda 2063. Attendees explored how education, skills, investment, and innovation converge to unlock Africa’s potential, paving the way for a future where the continent’s youth lead in long-term investment and innovation decisions.

eLearning Africa 2024 embraced this theme by uniting a diverse community of experts, professionals, and practitioners from around the world. With four plenaries, over 70 sessions and workshops, a Ministerial Round Table, and an exhibition, the event highlighted future opportunities for learning and development. Discussions revolved around how education can fuel innovation and how investment can amplify skills, highlighting Africa’s capacity to empower its people through education and training.

Themes:

- → Policy and Strategy
- → Curriculum, Content and Learning Methodologies
- → Teacher Development and Support
- → Partnerships and Collaboration
- → Credentials and Qualifications
- → Technology and Innovation
- → Equity and Inclusion
- → Assessment and Testing
- → Skills Development and Lifelong Learning
- → Sustainability and Global Issues

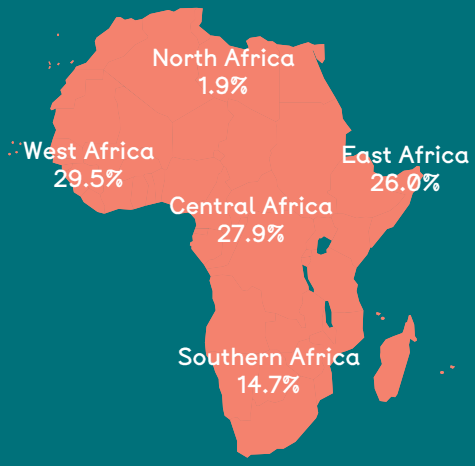
Key Figures of eLearning Africa 2024

Where participants came from

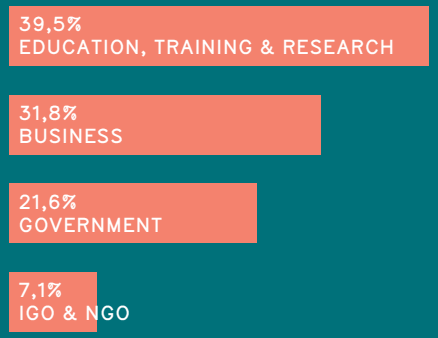
GLOBAL PARTICIPATION



AFRICAN PARTICIPATION



OCCUPATION OF PARTICIPANTS



1.225
DELEGATES

82
COUNTRIES REPRESENTED

73
PARALLEL SESSIONS & WORKSHOPS

14
KEYNOTES SPEAKERS

235
SPEAKERS

89
EXHIBITORS

98%

of participants enjoyed the relevance and content of the conference programme

98%

found it easy to develop new contacts at eLearning Africa



96%

of participants would consider recommending eLearning Africa to their colleagues and associates



95%

of all participants described the sessions as interactive

95%

of participants expressed their interest to attend eLearning Africa again

" Congratulations on the success and seamless execution of eLearning Africa 2024. The event provided invaluable opportunities to connect with organizations that share Educational Initiatives mission ."

Kumar Karan Gupta, Educational Initiatives, Ei

↓ The 16th eLearning Africa **Ministerial Round Table**



The 16th eLearning Africa Ministerial Round Table (MRT) took place in Kigali, Rwanda on May 29, 2024. Participants included Ministers and Ministerial Delegations from more than 16 countries. The MRT addressed the theme “Digital Education, Skills and Human Capital: from Learning to Earning”.

Africa’s education systems are undergoing a transformative paradigm shift to address challenges posed by rapid population growth and increasing demand for education. This shift aims to align education with the needs of a technology-driven economy, fostering economic and social development. Key features include strengthening digital literacy, using technology for learning, widening access to education, and promoting lifelong learning. The transformation spans all education levels, focusing on developing relevant skills and knowledge.

The 2024 eLearning Africa Ministerial Round Table highlighted several crucial points:

- Investment in education technology is essential to equip graduates with necessary employment skills. There’s a need to reconceptualize education, making technology integral. UNESCO emphasised the importance of connectivity, access to digital tools, and developing digital competence in the teaching force.
- Addressing school dropout rates is vital, as is ensuring schools have access to digital tools. Examples of new school curricula addressing these issues were provided.
- Closing skills gaps is critical. A global shortage of 80 million people for ICT and digital skills jobs presents a significant opportunity for Africa. Innovative examples from Kenya and Zimbabwe demonstrated successful approaches.
- Embracing technological advancements is crucial. Many countries are working to integrate technology into their education systems. For instance, 80% of secondary schools in Uganda are already connected to the internet.
- The importance of ‘soft’ skills and 21st-century skills was emphasised as crucial for entering the job market. For lifelong learning, the significance of micro-credentials and short, focused academic courses was highlighted. Closer collaboration between public and private sectors is necessary to ensure new job market entrants have the required skills.

Implementing this shift requires national commitment, strategic planning, and focus on teacher training, infrastructure expansion, curriculum innovation, and economic alignment. The discussions underscored the need for rapid adaptation to global economic changes, integration of technology in education, and alignment of educational outcomes with employer needs. This transformation aims to prepare Africa’s youth for the demands of a modern, technology-driven economy while fostering overall economic and social development.





General Conclusions & Recommendations from the Ministerial Round Table

- → Technology offers the opportunity for a changed paradigm, addressing deep systemic issues focusing on the foundational skills of literacy, numeracy and digital literacy on which to build a comprehensive and inclusive education system.
- → Africa has to move from being a consumer of technology from elsewhere, to becoming a producer of African-developed technology and AI, using African languages.
- → No country can do this on its own. Many fundamentals, e.g. electricity and connectivity, can be developed at a continent-wide level. Development of African language models for AI can be done at the regional level, collaborating with global companies, but retaining ownership of the language models developed.
- → Creating a platform to allow sharing of innovation in African digital advancements, and to enable scaling of innovations in different countries and regions would be a welcome first step.
- → Collaboration, and co-operation, at the African Union Level, at the regional level, between and among countries, and between the government, private, and social sectors within countries, will all contribute to accelerating the development of new 21st century education models for education across Africa.

The challenges are recognised, and already, in 2024, we can see evidence of a new dynamism in embedding technology into the core of the education process in Africa.

↓ Pre-Conference Workshops



The Pre-Conference Workshops and Masterclasses took place on Wednesday, May 29, and offered 12 half- and full-day activities designed to help participants develop practical skills, as well as gain in-depth insights and concrete knowledge on the following subjects:

- → The Future of Digital Skills Development for Youth NEET in South Africa and Beyond
- → Creating Sustainable and Extendable Open Educational Resources (OER) as Interactive Online Classrooms
- → MoodleMoot Rwanda 2024
- → Leadership in the Age of AI
- → The Transformative Power of Tourism for Development, Education, and Innovation
- → Open Educational Resources for Economic Development
- → Gamification: Exploring the Potential of Emerging AI Tools
- → Foundational Learning: Tech4Ed's role in setting the foundations for learning for all
- → Multilingualism in Hybrid and Distance Learning
- → Delivering Engaging Virtual Training
- → The Crucial and Multi-Faceted Role of Faculty in Ensuring Academic Integrity and Helping All Students Succeed in the AI-Enabled Digital Learning Environment
- → Designing Content for Online Learning

"We achieved several key objectives: we connected with numerous potential partners and clients, and showcased our products and services to a diverse audience. The interactions and networking opportunities provided by the event were invaluable, allowing us to build strong relationships and explore future collaborations. Overall, the event exceeded our expectations in terms of visibility, engagement, and the quality of connections made. We look forward to participating in future eLearning Africa events and continuing to build on the success we experienced this year."

Daniella Lekgau, JumpCO



↓ eLearning Africa **Plenaries**



eLearning Africa 2024 featured four plenary sessions hosting world-renowned experts who shared their perspectives on issues and opportunities in African education and training sectors.

↓ The Learning Battle

This engaging and thought-provoking interactive plenary session encouraged participants to share their favorite new learning approaches in an increasingly online learning environment. While some attendees chose to sit back, relax, and listen, others stood up to deliver short lightning speeches, arguing the reasons for their selected methods. Following each pitch, fellow participants had the opportunity to voice their support or opposition, sparking lively and animated discussions. The audience demonstrated their enthusiasm for each intervention with rounds of applause, which were measured by an "applause meter." The session format fostered a dynamic exchange of ideas, allowing participants to actively contribute to the conversation and learn from each other's experiences in the evolving landscape of digital learning. The winner of this competition, agreed by participants through their measured applauses, received a trophy from the two moderators of the Learning Battle, Tom Wambeke and Aline Gayongahire.





↓ The Opening Plenary

Education Fuels Innovation, Investment Amplifies Skills: Africa's Vibrant Leap Forward



The Opening Plenary, chaired by Dr Aida Opoku-Mensah, Co-founder of the Fourth Industrial Revolution Consortium for Africa's Development (FIRCAD), Ghana, explored the critical connection between education, investment, and innovation in shaping Africa's future.

In his speech, Hon. Michael Onyango featured how with strategic investments in education and technology, Africa can emerge as a net exporter of human resources and manufactured products to the rest of the world.

The African Traveling Teacher, along with his personal story, showed his work to expose teachers to the richness of the African continent focused on equipping them with knowledge and resources to nurture the next generation of thought leaders and social justice champions.

Dr Laila Macharia addressed not only the power of digital skills but also the power of changing mindsets: there are more concerns about mindset than technical skills: the biggest issue isn't even aptitude, it's just attitude. She highlighted Africa's potential to upskill their youth with digital and the gift this could be, not only to Africa but also to the global workforce.

Keynote speakers of this plenary were:

→ **Hon. Michael Onyango**, The 4gotten Bottomillions (4BM), Kenya

→ **Francis Bizoza**, The African Traveling Teacher, Uganda

→ **Dr Laila Macharia**, Aspen Institute's Africa Initiative, Kenya

→ **Hon. Claudette Irere**, Minister of State for Education, Rwanda

↓ Friday Plenary

Navigating the Future: Transformative Strategies for Education, Training, and Skills Development in Africa

"The event is essential for us. It allows us to share ideas and messages with an influential and pan-African group of policy makers and experts working at the intersection of technology and education."

Mark West, UNESCO





The Friday Plenary, chaired by Mark West from UNESCO, explored transformative strategies for education, training, and skills development.

The UNESCO-UNICEF Gateways to Public Digital Learning Initiative was presented by Mark West and Charles Avelino. It was explained how this initiative is mapping and describing preeminent digital platforms to highlight innovations and showcase the diversity of approaches to support public education online.

The plenary featured Muongeni Tamara Manda, a 23-year-old young woman's learning journey and aspirations, causing a big impact within the audience, highlighting how from her own experience, investing in education and skills fuels youth dreams and can lead to a transformative impact in Africa. She stressed how she wanted to become an employer and not an employee.

Finally, Rogers Sithole delivered an inspirational talk on how education is the key to creating entrepreneurs that Africa needs for the future.

Speakers:

→ **Charles Avelino**, UNICEF, Rwanda

→ **Muongeni Tamara Manda**, Chinhoyi University of Technology, Zimbabwe

→ **Rogers Sithole**, OneConnect, South Africa

↓ The eLearning Africa Debate

Motion: This House Believes that the Traditional Education System will become Obsolete in the Digital Age

The annual eLearning Africa Debate, introduced in 2009, remains the conference's most popular session. Following a parliamentary-style format, it featured two opposing sides with speakers giving brief, opening speeches followed by audience interventions.

This year's debate centred around the future of education in an era dominated by digital innovation. It questioned whether traditional models, characterised by in-person instruction, fixed curriculums, and formal assessment methods, could sustain and thrive or will be overtaken by the rise of digital platforms, online courses, and virtual learning environments.

The highly spirited, provocative, yet good humoured debate featured a vigorous exchange of views, highlighting the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead for education in the digital age. Following the speeches, the floor opened for audience questions, comments, and contributions, culminating in a show of hands vote after 90 minutes for those opposing the motion.

Chairpersons:

→ **Hon. Michael Onyango**, The 4gotten Bottomillions (4BM), Kenya

Speakers:

→ **Ify Obidi Essien**, Tech-Savvy Teacher Int'l, Nigeria

→ **Prof. Paul Birevu Muyinda**, Makerere University, Uganda

→ **Kennedy Ekezie**, Consize, Nigeria

→ **Verusha Maharaj**, Red & Yellow Creative School of Business, Honoris United Universities, South Africa

The eLearning Africa 2024 conference finished with the closing speech by Charles Karakye, Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Education of Rwanda.

"Thank you so much for inviting us to participate in your world-class event. It truly is a reflection of our ambitions of being part of the movement to democratise education on our beautiful continent."

Mpho Nkomonde, OneConnect




Learning
Africa
Kigali
wanda
29 – 31
2024




earning
Africa



↓ Parallel Sessions



eLearning Africa 2024 offered 73 Parallel Sessions that took place over two days featuring more than 235 expert speakers from across the African continent and around the world.

The programme comprised a diverse range of themes, including:

- → **Data and analytics,** discussing the use of data-driven insights to optimise learning experiences and exploring transformative initiatives that empower educators, maximise student potential, and ensure equitable access to high-quality education.
- → **Applied Artificial Intelligence** in education, presenting real-world solutions, with concrete examples and strategic methodologies for utilising AI to personalise learning experiences, tackle gender gaps, and bridge socio-economic disparities.
- → **Transforming Higher Education,** examining the evolving landscape of university education in the digital age, blending insights from diverse sessions to address critical challenges and innovations.
- → **Educational Technology Innovations,** aiming to break barriers across the educational landscape by showcasing especially African made ground-breaking tools and methodologies that enhance learning experiences.
- → **Empowering Individuals and Communities,** offering innovative strategies to address topics such as youth unemployment challenges, while aiming to foster entrepreneurial mindsets and to bridge the gap between academic preparation and market needs.
- → The **Teachers' Empowerment Agenda** aimed to empower educators of all levels of education, to improve their digital literacy skills, offering practical strategies for professional growth, with transformative teaching practices tailored to diverse contexts and connectivity limitations.





- → **Equity Enhancement Initiatives,** focusing on inclusive digital solutions and transformative initiatives to bridge the digital divide, foster equality, and uplift communities across Africa with concrete examples on empowering rural communities, learners with special needs, girls in STEM, children's literacy, and marginalised populations.
- → **Skills Development,** analysing innovative training initiatives and targeted programmes aimed at equipping professionals with essential competencies needed for success in the modern workforce.
- → **Cutting-Edge Methodologies and Solutions** addressed sustainability strategies for environmental education, immersive education, gamified content, project-based learning, digital certification innovations, OER implementation, and multimedia integrated learning methodologies.
- → **Health Initiatives,** where speakers examined strategies tailored to meet the evolving needs of healthcare education, from medical education to healthcare professionals upskilling.
- → **Technical and Vocational Training** sessions explored methods to align vocational training with market demands, emphasising partnership-building, curriculum planning, and innovative training approaches to enhance TVET's responsiveness to industry needs and cultivate job-ready graduates.
- → **Agricultural Advancements,** showcasing initiatives like e-agriculture portals, innovative platforms, mobile apps, and training in climate-smart practices, financial literacy, and market insights to revolutionise agricultural practices and empower farmers for sustainable development.





↓ The eLearning Africa **Exhibition**



The exhibition is eLearning Africa's central networking hub, hosting leading international and African educational and technology companies and institutions presenting their latest products, tools and services.

- → AASOKA (MBD Alchemie)
- → Academia by Serosoft
- → Academic Bridge
- → Adapt IT
- → ALPHA COMPUTER LTD
- → Anshuman Tech Pvt. Ltd
- → Article26
- → atingi
- → Automata4 Group - EDU
- → Avanti
- → BAG Technologies
- → bbw gGmbH - hub4africa
- → Beekee
- → Binary Logic SA
- → Bookt
- → Business France
- → Catalyst IT Europe
- → Class
- → Common Sense eLearning
- → Consize.com
- → DAAD
- → DADB German Academy of Digital Education
- → datocracy & Panoply Digital
- → De Marque
- → DMS
- → Dr. -Ing. Paul Christiani GmbH & Co. KG
- → E-cole
- → EDIBON
- → Educational Initiatives (Ei)
- → Edunao
- → Ethiopian STEP Project (GOPA)
- → ETS DIDACTIC GmbH
- → EvidenceB
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- → Nelevat
- → Nomad Education
- → O'Genius Priority Ltd.
- → OneConnect
- → OPENCOLLAB
- → ORACLE ACADEMY
- → Panworld Education
- → Pearson
- → PhET Simulations
- → platform3L GmbH
- → RAKICT for ICT Training
- → ROBBO Oy
- → Rwanda Pavilion (RwandaICT Chamber)
- → SAP PUBLIC SECTOR CONS (SAFAZ CONSULTING)
- → SmartClass
- → STARWAVES Johannes von Weyssenhoff
- → Tech-Savvy Teacher Int'l
- → think modular
- → TK Academy
- → UNESCO
- → University of South Africa (UNISA)
- → Verifdiploma
- → Voicearchive
- → WBS TRAINING AG
- → Worlddidac
- → Worlddidac Lounge
- → Yombz







The eLearning Africa Community

eLearning Africa offers a platform to connect you with its Pan-African network and community of practice in the field of digital learning, enabling you to network with stakeholders in education, training, and skills development.

These stakeholders include government ministers, business leaders, policy directors, institutional decision-makers, and representatives from organisations such as the African Union, the African Development Bank, the United Nations, West African Development Bank, ECOWAS, COMESA, as well as EdTech start-ups, universities, education and training providers, publishers, NGOs, IGOs, and many more.

The annual eLearning conference is the result of 19 years of research and development, building on the success of Africa's leading conference on technology-assisted learning.





27.400
→ followers

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→ followers

8.236
→ followers

9.202
→ members & followers

"Such a fantastic conference, still reeling from ideation and connections."

Aanya, Social Impact Lead, Middle East & Africa, Amazon

eLearning Africa

↓

18th International Conference & Exhibition on Digital Education, Training & Skills Development

Save the Date!

↓

Dar es Salaam
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May 7 – 9
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