14th International Conference & Exhibition on ICT for Education, Training & Skills Development

Abidjan
Côte d’Ivoire
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2019

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Hon. Mamadou Sanogo,
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Minister of National Education, Technical Education and Vocational Training, Côte d’Ivoire
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eLearning Africa - The Leading Pan-African Conference and Exhibition on ICT for Education, Training and Skills Development on the African Continent

→ A truly Pan-African event, eLearning Africa is the largest gathering of education and training experts and professionals on the Continent. Participants attend year after year to meet their fellow practitioners and gain exposure to the latest sustainable solutions and best practices in technology-supported education, training and skills development. eLearning Africa fosters the development and maintenance of multinational and cross-industry contacts and partnerships, and enhances participants’ knowledge, abilities and expertise.

→ This annual conference and exhibition showcases the many initiatives taking place on the Continent. These include large-scale multi-stakeholder projects, university-born initiatives, best-practice examples, and even small start-ups. The gathering supports multinational and cross-sector collaboration and partnerships, whilst attracting investment in all levels and all sectors of education, training, learning, and skills development.

→ The eLearning Africa community is made up of high-level policy makers, experts, decision makers, and practitioners from education, business, and government. The Pan-African conference is hosted by a different African government every year and brings together more than 800 participants from across the world (75% of whom were African in 2019).

“Attending workshops with subject matter experts and investors, enabled me to leverage digital learning experiences and good practices. It was such a pleasure to be part of that conducive environment with professionals sharing all the same passion for distance learning, as well as IT-related and goal-oriented methods and tools. I look forward to the next edition as, hopefully, one of the exhibitors.”

Vanessa Fatou FALL, Consultante Digital Learning au CME de Bingerville, structure de formation de la Compagnie Ivoirienne d’Electricité (CIE) société du groupe Eranove, Côte d’Ivoire
Key Figures of eLearning Africa 2019

WHERE PARTICIPANTS CAME FROM

WHERE PARTICIPANTS CAME FROM (BY AFRICAN REGION)

- WEST AFRICA 67.6%
- CENTRAL AFRICA 3.2%
- SOUTHERN AFRICA 6.9%
- NORTH AFRICA 4.7%
- EAST AFRICA 18.9%

OCCUPATION OF PARTICIPANTS

- 46.5% EDUCATION
- 24.9% BUSINESS
- 19.7% GOVERNMENT
- 7.0% NGOs & Associations
- 1.9% Others

- 910 PARTICIPANTS
- 72 COUNTRIES
- 10 PRE-CONFERENCE EVENTS
- 15 KEYNOTES SPEAKERS
- 200+ SPEAKERS
- 45 PARALLEL SESSIONS
- 50 EXHIBITORS
- 7 DISCOVERY DEMOS
- 6 POSTER PRESENTATIONS
85% rated the eLearning Africa plenary sessions as very good or good

91% rated the relevance and content of the conference as very good or good

85% rated the interactivity of the conference sessions as very good or good

“This is the kind of Conference that Africa needs in the era of the 4th Industrial Revolution. I learnt so much from people from different sectors of development, I borrowed information that I am going to use and I have started a chain of Networks that is beneficial for my professional growth.”
Dr. Mary Ooko

“I greatly enjoyed the conference. I made some new friends and my network grew considerably. I also learned a lot that can be utilized in my own organisation’s programmes.”
Anonymous

“eLearning Africa is a platform to be encouraged and promoted in all African states. It should inspire them to organise it nationwide.”
Brahima Sangare
The 12th eLearning Africa Ministerial Round Table
For the past twelve years, eLearning Africa has convened the annual Ministerial Round Table (MRT), a high-level, inter-governmental meeting that provides a platform for the discussion of challenges and the exchange of knowledge about leveraging technology for education, training and skills development.

→ The 12th eLearning Africa Ministerial Round Table (MRT) focused on the theme ‘The African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA): Learning, Training, Skills and Investment.’

Participants, who included representatives of both African Governments and international organisations, discussed steps that might be taken towards uniting the continent in what could eventually be the world’s biggest single market, and creating the right environment for this to happen. The Round Table produced a set of recommendations designed to help Africa prepare itself for the development of an African Continental Free Trade Area.

→ With a population of 1.2 billion people and a GDP of $2.5 trillion, if all African Union member states sign up to it, the African Continental Free Trade Area could be a catalyst for lasting change and sustainable growth in Africa, enabling Africa to meet the goals set out in the UN’s 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda and, more specifically, the African Union’s Agenda 2063, “The Africa We Want”. The important questions the round table sought to answer included:

- What will be needed to ensure that Africa’s young people are ready to make the most of the opportunity?
- How can African Governments help to inspire young Africans, particularly budding entrepreneurs, and how can they provide them with the skills they will need?
- How can African Governments ensure that AfCFTA leads to improvements and does not lead to the introduction of a range of new problems?
- How can AfCFTA be truly African?

For the recommendations reached after the discussion, and for more details on the meeting, please take a look at our MRT Report.

eLearning Africa has gained a reputation for leading the discussion on key issues in African education and training. Its programme includes a ministerial round table, as well as debates, panels and discussions. One minister described the event as “the new reference theatre for the inter-generational transmission of new knowledge at the continental level.”
↓ Pre-Conference Events
The eLearning Africa 2019 Pre-Conference Events took place on Wednesday, October 23, and offered 10 half- and full-day workshops with activities designed to help participants develop practical skills, as well as gain in-depth insights and concrete knowledge on the following subjects:

- MoodleMoot Africa
- Distributed Learning Technologies and Next Generation E-Learning
- Africa Cloud: Design Thinking Workshop
- Gamify it! Crowd-building the Atingi-Challenge by Drawing on Expert Knowledge of Digital Learning in Africa
- From Strategy to Design: How to Plan for Learning in your Organization
- Shape the World’s Biggest Education Technology Research Project Ever
- Using open educational resources, platforms and tools developed by French Digital Thematic Universities (L’Université Numérique)
- Blockchain at the Service of Education
- #eSkills4Girls Initiative
- Designing Your Online Course: Tools, Best Practices and Hurdles

“I joined a panel of education and innovation experts to discuss the role of Open Education technologies in preparing African youth for the future. All in all, a great experience! Well done eLearning Africa!”

Ekwow Spio-Garbrah, ABCDE
eLearning Africa 2019 featured three plenary sessions, which included the eLearning Africa Plenary Debate. The Plenary Sessions hosted world-renowned experts who shared their perspectives on pertinent issues facing the African education and training sector.
The opening plenary, chaired by Albert Nsengiyumva, Secretary General of ADEA, Côte d’Ivoire, saw a panel of esteemed speakers discuss a range of topics around this year’s theme, ‘The Keys to Africa’s Future’.

Keynote speakers of this plenary were:
→ Hon. Kandia Kamissoko Camara, Ministry of National Education, Technical Education and Vocational Training, Côte d’Ivoire
→ Efosa Ojomo, Global Prosperity Lead at Clayton Christensen Institute for Disruptive Innovation, USA
→ Martin Dougiamas, Founder of Moodle, Australia
→ Prof N’Dri Thérèse Assié-Lumumba, Professor at Cornell University, USA

What is the role of education in preparing Africans for the future and how will it have to change? Today’s youngsters will have to compete in a very different labour market tomorrow. They will face the challenges of rapidly increasing technological change and a 4th Industrial revolution. How can we equip them to create social progress and prosperity for all Africans? What is the role of education, how should it be organised and what should our priorities be? How can technology enable African education and training to rise to the array of new challenges facing them? Join us to hear some innovative and disruptive ideas about the future that rethink the purpose of education and reboot the programme for African educators.

Côte d’Ivoire’s Education Minister, HE Mme Kandia Kamossoko Camara, told the conference that she was convinced that the dual focus on both employability and learnability was vital.

The Minister mentioned that “It concerns the employability of young people in a competitive global context and the appropriation of moral and civic values. It is no longer a matter of training office clerks for the needs of the administration (this season is over!); but to build the African of today and tomorrow in relation to the requirements, on the one hand of open and global competition, based on talent and skills at both individual and collective level, and secondly socio-professional insertion in a world in difficulty with employment.”
Africa has the world’s most youthful, growing population. What do young Africans want? What do they need to transform their talent into tomorrow's skills? And how can they turn new skills into success? How can we help to facilitate change and make it sustainable? How can technology enable innovation? And how can innovation become an enabler for learning and employment at scale? The ideas and opinions of our panel of experts in this lively and provocative session will not leave anyone indifferent!

The chairperson of this plenary was:

→ Prof. N’golo Aboudou Soro, Secretary General, UNESCO, Côte d’Ivoire

And the keynote speakers:

→ Linda Nanan Vallée, Executive Director, Digital Youth Foundation, Côte d’Ivoire
→ Mahid Abdulkarim, Student, Unity High School, Sudan
→ Jef Staes, Author and Keynote Speaker, Red Monkey, Belgium
→ H.E. Dr Ekwow Spio-Garbrah, Chairman of African Business Center for Developing Education and SolarFi, former Minister of Education, Ghana

“You have everything under one roof. Please keep the spirit of eLearning in Africa.”

Sebastian
The eLearning Africa Debate

The eLearning Africa’s most popular session is the annual Plenary Debate, which provides an opportunity for all to take part in a lively discussion about an important issue for African’s education and technological growth.

This year, our panel of speakers debated the motion ‘This House believes Governments are failing to provide young people with the skills they need to prepare for the future.’

As technology advances at ever-increasing speed, industry is changing and so is employment. Change is both an opportunity and a challenge. But it is happening so fast that it sometimes seems to have outpaced our ability to keep up with it. The only hope for young people, in an age of such rapid change, is to acquire the skills and the flexibility that will enable them to adapt. This year’s eLearning Debate asked how African governments are meeting the challenge of change. What are the skills that young people need to survive in a rapidly changing world and how are they providing them? Are they failing to equip youngsters with the key skills tomorrow’s employers will need? What more could be done? Who is responsible and are they doing enough?

In what proved to be a lively and exciting debate involving strong participation from the floor, the team arguing for the motion won.

The chairperson of the debate was:
→ Dr Harold Elletson, Editor, eLearning Africa Report

And the keynote debate speakers were:
→ Kumba Liliana Musa, Data Scientist, The Directorate of Science, Technology and Innovation, Sierra Leone and
→ Hon. Michael Onyango, Member of Distributed Ledgers & Artificial Intelligence TaskForce of the Ministry of Information, Communication and Technology in Kenya against the motion
→ Nnenna Nwakanma, Chief Web Advocate, World Wide Web Foundation, USA with
→ Prof. Tim Unwin, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair in ICT4D, UK in favour of the motion
Parallel Sessions
This year eLearning Africa offered 45 Parallel Sessions that took place over two days, featuring expert speakers from across the African continent and around the world.

All sessions were arranged into nine main themes:

- The use of digital technology in education and training
- Transforming Africa’s Higher Education and promoting borderless universities
- The use of digital technology for teachers and trainers: digital literacy and Continuous Professional Development
- Defining the right skills Africa will need in the future
- Youth empowerment and youth employability methods in the digital world
- Expanding access and use of digital technology to under-served areas and communities
- Transformative technologies: the Digital Transformation and Innovation to Improve the African Context
- The role of ICTs in transforming African agriculture
- Training and solutions for healthcare professionals

“Deeply honoured to have been invited to attend the event. Thank you so much, for organising this forum for African decision makers!”

Jacques Dang, Technology Director at HEC
The eLearning Africa Exhibition

“The eLearning Africa is one of our key trade fairs and we maintain our business contacts in the region very well at one spot! It was a very well organised event!”

Gerald Henzinger, think modular – digital solutions GmbH
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.

50 Exhibitors from 23 countries

- Alpha Publishing
- Altissia International SA
- Amtrak Technologies Private Limited
- Association of African Development Learning Centre (AADLC)
- Axiom Learning Solutions Limited
- Baden-Württemberg International
- Butterfly Works
- Certiport – a Pearson VUE Business
- common sense – eLearning & training consultants GmbH
- Computer Zentrum Strausberg GmbH
- Distance Education for Africa (deAfrica)
- Dr.-Ing. Paul Christiani GmbH & Co. KG
- École supérieure privée en Direct (EDE)
- Éditions Eburnie
- Edukans / University of Amsterdam
- ETS Global B.V.
- Etudesk
- European Commission
- Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy (BMWI)
- Festo Didactic SE
- Finnpartnership and Education Finland
- Fondation Jeunesse Numérique
- German Development Cooperation
- GOPA Worldwide Consultants
- ICDE International Council for Open and Distance Education
- ICDL Africa
- iMove: Training – Made in Germany at the Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training
- LD Didactic GmbH
- Le Sphinx MEA
- leXsolar GmbH
- L’Universite Numerique – E-Charlemagne
- Medien LB – experts for digital educational contents
- mEImu Edutech Pvt Ltd
- Mohammed VI Polytechnic University
- Moodle
- OPENCOLLAB
- Oracle Academy
- OTC Cote d’Ivoire
- PCG Academia
- RITLES
- Simulgames Technologies
- TEAM CONNEX AG
- Telelangue
- Televic Education
- The Skills Network
- think modular – digital solutions GmbH
- UNESCO – Futures of Education
- Uptitude
- VitalSource Technologies
- WBS TRAINING AG

We had a blast at eLearning Africa in Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire! This year, we were part of the Exhibition hall together with other pioneers and innovators in online learning. A lot of familiar faces and new friends – see you next year!

Butterfly Works, Civic & Social Organization

“Congratulations to the eLearning Africa Team. To organise an event like this in different countries each year is amazing! The most inspiring place to be. Thank you!”

Andreas Hörfurter, Partner, Common Sense eLearning & Training Consultants, Exhibitor

“Overall a great conference, amazing venue, engaging staff and a colossal cultural experience. We are only privileged to meet educators and potential partners from across the world to truly engage in solutions for education in Africa and to support open education technologies for providers to upskill our future generations.”

Martilene Orffer, Managing Director, Opencollab, Exhibitor
The eLearning Africa Community

eLearning Africa is much more than just a conference and an exhibition. It is also a network of experts throughout Africa and the world, who are involved in finding sustainable education and training solutions by seizing the opportunity that technology offers to expand the reach of education.

“In its fourteen years of existence, eLearning Africa has made a real contribution to the expansion of education, training and skills development across Africa,” says Rebecca Stromeyer, Founder of eLearning Africa. “Our network of experts from all over the world is unique and it is full of people who are helping to transform the prospects of Africans. At the eLearning Africa conferences, when people from all over the world get together, ideas are exchanged, partnerships are created and friendships are forged. It is a very special event.”

“I had the opportunity to represent Afriboard Education in Abidjan at the annual conference eLearning Africa. It was a gratifying and informative 3-day conference where key players in the field of education and edtech met.”

Arona Gana Gueye, Cogérant chez Afriboard Education

“I had a great time at the eLearning conference in Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire. Met amazing people doing some amazing work! Key takeaway from the conference is “the world is yet to see the best out of Africa.”

ZHIRI, Participant eLA19, Software Developer
As African leaders seek to make a reality of the African Union’s vision of a ‘transformed continent’ by 2063, and as businesses assess the implications of a ‘fourth industrial revolution’, the eLearning Africa Report looks at the state of education, training, development and technology at this moment of unparalleled change.

With contributions from experts, practitioners, advisors, entrepreneurs and even students and artists, it provides a fascinating insight into how technology assisted learning and training are leading change and development throughout Africa. It combines news, features, interviews and profiles of leading figures with controversial opinion columns, a survey of 900 education and technology experts, detailed country reports and the first ever directory of African EdTech companies.

Download your free copy of the Report: