



## OIBC3: INNOVATION, DIGITALIZATION, YOUTH AND TRANSFORMING EDUCATION - 2025 -2026 FINAL WORKPLAN

Co-conveners: UNESCO, UNICEF (co leads of flagship shall be rotational on a quarterly basis)

Members: ECA, FAO, ILO, UNDP, IOM, ITU, OHCHR, UNAIDS, UN-HABITAT, UNHCR, UNIDO, UNV, WFP, WHO, UNFPA, UN-WOMEN

Key joint results area  <i>Please indicate alignments with the SDGs results framework agenda 2063 and other strategic frameworks</i>	Flagship initiatives and related strategic outputs  <i>Maximum of 2 joint flagship initiatives to be delivered jointly by at least two or more entities</i>	2025				2026				Responsible Parties
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
SDGs 3, 4, 5, 8	<b>FLAGSHIP 1: USE OF EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES, INNOVATION, DIGITAL SOLUTIONS AND INFRASTRUCTURE FOR TRANSFORMATIONAL EDUCATION, IN PARTICULAR FOR YOUTH</b>									
	Flagship co-leads: UNESCO <a href="mailto:m.bowe@unesco.org">m.bowe@unesco.org</a> , UNICEF <a href="mailto:tshibuya@unicef.org">tshibuya@unicef.org</a>									
	Members : UNFPA, UNDP, ITU, UNECA, ILO , UN Women									
	Pan African Initiative for Digital Transformation of TVET and Skills Development Systems in Africa	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	UNESCO, (AUDA-NEPAD) through the Skills Initiative for Africa (SIFA), The African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP) of the UNECA, and the African Development Bank (AfDB), UNFPA
	Transforming learning and skills development to drive job creation and economic growth in Africa	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	UNESCO, UNICEF, African Union, UNDP (Timbuktoo), UNFPA, ITU



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	<b>Leveraging digital and AI innovations in schools:</b> expanding school connectivity and alternative learning methods, to enhance early and foundational learning outcomes, while transforming the continuous professional development of teachers and school leaders.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	UNESCO, UNICEF, ITU
	Support to member states with the planning and implementation to put into action the <b>African Union's African Digital Compact</b> and the <b>Global Digital Compact and Declaration on Future Generations</b> (part of the Pact for the Future)  The 7 <sup>th</sup> <b>African Science, Technology and Innovation Forum</b> of the AFRSD draws on the conclusion of the Summit of the Future, held in September 2024, the main outcomes of which comprised the Pact for the Future, the Global Digital Compact and the Declaration on Future Generations	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	ITU, African Union Commission, UNDP ECA, UNESCO, ITU, European Union, UN Women
	<b>UNISS Voices of the Sahel</b> : Youth leveraging technology for development in the Sahel ( <b>campaign I am Sahel</b> )	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	UNESCO, UNECA, UNISS, UNDP
	<b>Policy support for the implementation of AU strategic documents:</b> African Digital Transformation Strategy AU Continental Strategy on Artificial Intelligence (AI), AU Continental Strategy for Education in Africa (CESA) 2022035	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	UNESCO, African Union Commission, UNDP, UNICEF, ITU



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	AU Continental Strategy for Science, Technology and Innovation (STISA) 2025 – 2034 AU TVET Strategy									
	<b>Learning Passport:</b> A comprehensive digital education solution (hardware, software, power, connectivity, teacher training), deployed to support OOSC. <b>Qualifications Passport (UQP)</b> is an innovative universal tool which aims to overcome this obstacle through recognizing the academic, professional and vocational qualifications of forcibly displaced individuals/refugees	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	UNESCO and UNICEF
	<b>Advancing CSW 69 and CSW 70 outcomes</b> related to use of new technologies and digital solutions for youth and women's empowerment, strengthening accountability/access to justice and wellbeing via support to ratification and implementation of the AU Convention for Ending Violence against Women and Girls and the UN Spotlight Initiative Africa Regional Programme 2.0, among other initiatives.	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	UN Women, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNDP, UNODC, ILO, WHO, UNESCO, UNECA



SDGs 3, 4, 5, 8	FLAGSHIP 2: YOUTH, IN PARTICULAR FEMALE YOUTH, EMPOWERED VIA TRANSFORMATIONAL EDUCATION, ENHANCED ACCESS TO SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND CIVIC AND POLITICAL OPPORTUNITIES IN LINE WITH AUC AND REC INITIATIVES								
	<p>Co leads: UNDP <a href="mailto:raquel.leandro@undp.org">raquel.leandro@undp.org</a> and UN Women <a href="mailto:sunita.caminha@unwomen.org">sunita.caminha@unwomen.org</a></p> <p>Members : UNFPA, UNESCO, ITU, UNECA,ILO ,WHO</p>								
	<p><b>Youth socio-economic empowerment</b> – job creation, entrepreneurship and youth led SME development- Here we would place the <b>Youth Connect Initiative</b> – UNDP, UNFPA and UNICEF and in several countries many others as well as the Youth and agripreneurship work – UNDP, FAO</p> <p>Promotion of decent work, Youth employability/out of school children -Job Creation and social protection, Cultural industries – CREATE (AUC, UNESCO,ILO)</p>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	<p><b>Initiative: Leveraging the digital transition for Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment in sub-Saharan Africa</b> - UN Women, UNECA This will support assessment of challenges and opportunities in relation to women’s access to digital technology and how to leverage digital technology for GEWE in 15 countries in Africa; and formulation of regional programme on ‘Gender and Digital Divide’ in sub-Saharan Africa Timeline: Q2,Q3 2025</p>								
	<p><b>African Youth leadership development</b> – collaboration with the African Union will be supported through various initiatives, contributing structured leadership development to equip young African women with the necessary skills, networks, and experience to drive social and economic change.</p>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	<p>Making African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA) work for Africa’s young people</p>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

UNDP, UNFPA and UNICEF, FAO, UNICEF, UNESCO, ILO, AUC, UN Women ,UNECA

UNDP and AUC - The African Young Women Leaders (AfYWL) Fellowship, UN Women UNFPA, ITU

UNDP, AUC UNESCO, UN Women

[illegible]



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	Support the roll-out of the ESA and WCA Ministerial Commitments for Educated, Healthy, and Thriving Adolescents and Young People in ESA and WCA Countries including application of the Accelerated Action for the Health of Adolescents (AA-HA!) guidance	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	(UNFPA, UNESCO, UNAIDS, WHO)

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SDG 8, 9, 10, 11	FLAGSHIP 4: PROMOTING SMART CITIES IN AFRICA BY LEVERAGE DIGITAL AND INNOVATION									
	Co leads : UN-Habitat <a href="mailto:jane.lumumba@un.org">jane.lumumba@un.org</a> , ITU Sund Christine <a href="mailto:christine.sund@itu.int">christine.sund@itu.int</a> ,  Members: OICT, UNITAC, UNESCO ,UN Women,WHO									
	Develop strategy for people centered smart cities taking into consideration policies in the UN decade of Healthy Ageing, capacity building and urban planning and support to regional initiatives (SADC, AU).	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	UN-Habitat, ITU , OICT, UNITAC UNESCO (Netexplo smart cities accelerator) UN Women - would be keen to engage to connect this with Safe



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										Cities and Public Space interventions
	Develop and apply digital tools, AI and technologies for spatial analysis and mapping; and to support evidence-based decision-making programming.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	UN-Habitat, ITU , OICT, UNITAC
	Increase efficiency of service delivery in cities and foster local governance and citizen participation.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	UN-Habitat, ITU , OICT, UNITAC

### OIBC-3 "Innovation, Digitalization, Youth and Transforming Education"

#### Mapping of RCs/ UNCTs Support Needs from the Africa RCP – Requests for OIBC 3 Flagships

##### DEPLOYMENT OF EXPERTISE – CROSSCUTTING

- Algeria:** facilitation of a workshop for development of a multisectoral programme concept aimed at identifying and addressing the needs of the NEET.
- Djibouti:** support to Government's economic and digitalisation strategy.
- Guinea-Bissau:** Systemic aspects of linking basic education and TVET and identifying employability pathways in a context of limited private sector growth. Expert support in terms of analysis and recommendations for the sector financing strategy. Advocacy and fund raising on behalf of this

national emergency plan. Identify a path for the consolidation of the various ongoing youth initiatives into a joint UN programme, with a strong gender lens.

4. **Mauritania:** provision of high calibre support to government to operationalize its youth innovative employment strategy.
5. **Sierra Leone:** Technical support in the form of a resource person to scale up the Governance and Economic Transformation programme, particularly innovation digitalization.
6. **Malawi:** Expertise to incorporate digital tools and methodologies into national education curricula.

#### FLAGSHIP 1: USE OF EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES, INNOVATION, DIGITAL SOLUTIONS AND INFRASTRUCTURE FOR TRANSFORMATIONAL EDUCATION, IN PARTICULAR FOR YOUTH

7. **Benin-** e-learning platforms
8. **Cote d'Ivoire:** Expanding internet connectivity and ICT infrastructure in underserved areas. Promoting public-private partnerships (PPPs) for affordable digital access. Supporting policy frameworks for inclusive digital transformation.
9. **Cote d'Ivoire:** Integration of digital tools and AI in education for improved learning outcomes. Capacity-building for teachers and students on digital competencies. Support for digital learning platforms and e-learning expansion in rural areas.
10. **Cabo Verde:** Identification of digital solutions for transformational education, youth and women empowerment, for SIDS and MICs. Digital economy, AI and cybersecurity.
11. **Mauritius & Seychelles:** Design AI regulations and share best practices from other similar SIDS countries and Support the design of a transformation-focused education agenda, incorporating strategic foresight for long-term human capital development in areas like ICT, blue economy, financial services, and AI.
12. **Zambia:** Technical support on the use of digital platforms for in and out of school adolescents and youth. Leveraging use of cost-effective tech solutions to enhance digital learning. Evidence generation on the use of digital learning to advance education outcomes. Thought leadership, research and data collection on emerging digital economic opportunities for youth.
13. **Algeria:** knowledge exchange on multisectoral programme concept aimed at identifying and addressing the needs of the NEET.
14. **Lesotho:** Support to implement TES commitments, including curriculum reform and integrating technology in classrooms.
15. **Mali:** Support businesses and public administrations in their digitalization efforts. Support the accelerated extension of the Internet to all regions, and the rapid development of mobile telephony.
16. **Madagascar:** Support for sectoral planning on transforming education, particularly definition of sub-sectoral strategic objectives and realistic targets to monitor.
17. **Uganda:** Develop a systemwide Digitization Agenda.



- 18. **Tunisia:** Ensure a coherent response among agencies involved in the transforming education agenda.
- 19. **Mauritius & Seychelles:** Collaborative support to promote the inclusion of women in STI, including specific joint programmes aimed at ramping up mentoring and immersion opportunities.
- 20. **Mauritius & Seychelles:** Develop regulations and monitoring mechanisms to address online cyber risks, with a particular focus on protecting children and girls.
- 21. **South Africa:** Analytical and technical support in taking forward GIGA and also the leveraging of digital connectivity and the digital economy for the country's transformation.

#### FLAGSHIP 2: YOUTH, IN PARTICULAR FEMALE YOUTH, EMPOWERED VIA TRANSFORMATIONAL EDUCATION, ENHANCED ACCESS TO SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND CIVIC AND POLITICAL OPPORTUNITIES IN LINE WITH AUC AND REC INITIATIVES

- 22. **Botswana:** Coherent and joint strategy for 2025 onwards, linking education and labour needs.
- 23. **Guinea:** How digitalisation can improve education and Youth participation in economic development.
- 24. **Egypt:** Advice and best practices (not examples) from similar countries to Egypt on: (i) Youth and Women empowerment, especially through investment in their skills improvement to access the labour market; (ii) Building teachers capacities to facilitate usage of digital solutions in education.
- 25. **Cote d'Ivoire:** Digital entrepreneurship programs for women and youth. Strengthening STEM education and technical training for young women. Support for inclusive access to digital finance and innovation ecosystems.
- 26. **Lesotho:** Strengthening programs for youth employability and entrepreneurship, particularly in technology and green sectors.

#### FLAGSHIP 3: INTEGRATING POPULATION DYNAMICS AND MEGATRENDS INTO THE TRANSFORMATION OF EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

- 27. **Gambia:** Harness demographic dividends by advancing innovation and digitalization, empowering youth and women, and transforming education systems.
- 28. **Sao Tome & Principe:** Technical expertise and knowledge-sharing on digital learning platforms and solutions to expand digital and alternative education initiatives, including integration of digital sexual education programs. Offer advanced digital tools and methodologies to strengthen statistical capacity building, data collection, and evidence generation.
- 29. **Cote d'Ivoire:** Expanding telemedicine and mobile health solutions to improve healthcare access. Leveraging AI for predictive health analytics and disease prevention. Strengthening digital health information systems to improve service delivery.
- 30. **Libya:** Incorporating digital solutions through ONE HEALTH as a transformational approach to women's and young girls' empowerment. Shared experiences and best practices on digitizing health management information systems.

- 31. Madagascar:** Support for the operationalization of a National School Radio that could serve as a teaching tool and a channel for raising awareness on Reproductive Health and violence against girls

**FLAGSHIP 4: PROMOTING SMART CITIES IN AFRICA BY LEVERAGE DIGITAL AND INNOVATION**

- 32. Cote d'Ivoire:** Job creation strategies in digital sectors for youth and women. Development of smart cities and digital governance frameworks. Strengthening cybersecurity and digital rights protection.