

FUTURE OF EDUCATION IN AFRICA CONFERENCE 2026

Draft Conference Program

📍 National ICT Innovation Hub, Kampala, Uganda

📅 November 12–13, 2026

🕒 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM Daily

🏆 Awards & Gala Dinner: November 13, 2026 | 19:00 – 22:00

CONFERENCE THEME

“The Future African Workforce: Education at the Intersection of AfCFTA, Innovation and Employment”

DAY 1 — THURSDAY, 12TH NOVEMBER 2026

TIME	SESSION	DETAILS	Speaker	Topic	MC/ Moderator
09:00 – 09:30	Registration & Networking & Exhibition viewing	Arrival of participants, nametag, collection, networking.			Darren Kyeyune & Nankya Ednar
09:30 – 09:45	Opening Ceremony	Welcome remarks, conference overview, introductions.	ED -African Center for Youth Development, Education and Advocacy Initiative (ACYDEAI).		Darren Kyeyune & Nankya Ednar
09:45 – 10:00	Goodwill Messages	Remarks from Government, and AU/ UN representatives.	• OPM – Uganda • AU representative • UNDP		Darren Kyeyune & Nankya Ednar

10:00 – 10:30	Keynote Address (Ministry of Education and Sports)	<i>“Reimagining Education for Africa’s Workforce in the AfCFTA Era”</i>	Ministry of Education and Sports - Uganda Buganda	Sharing Uganda’s perspective on the transformation of education systems and the preparation of young people for the future of work.	Darren Kyeyune & Nankya Ednar
10:30 – 11:00	Tea Break	Refreshments & networking	Crystal Suites		
11:00 – 12:00	High-Level Panel 1	Aligning Education Systems with Africa’s Labor Market & AfCFTA Opportunities	UN Women, Kenya - Sharon Kinyanjui	Preparing Africa's Future Workforce: The AFRICA Framework for Inclusive AI, Gender-Responsive Education and AfCFTA Readiness	Darren Allan Kyeyune
			UNDP Uganda	Innovating for Africa’s Future Workforce: Connecting Skills, Entrepreneurship, Digital Transformation & Decent work.	
			CEO, Asante Africa Foundation - Geoffrey Kasangaki	Building Africa's STEM workforce: Skills, innovation and Opportunities for the Future	
			Buganda Heritage & Tourism Board	Reimagining the Purpose of School: Restoring the Joy of Learning, Valuing Education and Preparing Young People for Life and Work	
12:00 – 12:15	Goodwill Messages	Remarks from Development partners, and Academia.	African Development Bank NCBA Bank VCs – UCU, VU, IUEA		Darren Kyeyune
12:15 – 13:15	High-Level Panel 2	Digital Transformation, AI, and the Future of Learning in Africa.	Co-Founder, Komm Mit Afrika Invest – Mamadou Hawa Diallo	Preparing Africa's Future Workforce through AI, Digital Skills & Youth Innovation	Ednar Nankya
			Worklyn, South Africa - Mr. Rawk Akani	Advancing the education ecosystem: How to Learn with AI	
			Refractory Academy	Skills for Africa’s Future Workforce: From Education and Training to	

				Employment, Innovation and Entrepreneurship	
			Principal, Uganda Institute of Information and Communication Technology (UICT)	Bridging the Digital Divide: Integrating AI and TVET to Build a Borderless Workforce under AfCFTA	
13:15 – 14:00	Lunch Break	Lunch & networking	Crystal Suites		
14:00 – 15:00	High-Level Panel 5	Transforming African Universities for the Future Workforce	Germany Institute of Applied Sciences	From Applied Learning to Employment: Strengthening University–Industry Partnerships for Africa’s Future Workforce.	Jorram Paul Ssonko
			VC, African Rural University	Rural Universities as Engines of Africa's Future Workforce: Linking Education, Innovation and Employment	
			VC, Uganda Martyrs University	Reimagining African Universities for the Future of Work: From Employment, Innovation & Impact	
			Academic Registrar – Islamic University in Uganda	Beyond the Degree: Strengthening University systems for Employability, Skills Recognition & Lifelong Learning	
15:00 – 15:30	Exhibition Viewing & Networking	Networking & Exhibition Viewing			
15:30 – 16:45	Technical Workshops / Breakout Sessions. ✓ 15 minutes expert presentation each.	Tracks: • TVET & Skills Development.	Northwind Foundation, Uganda - Max Amanu	Power of the First Job: Why Opportunity Competes Education.	Kenneth Wabuleya
			Educate! Uganda - Edith Mukyala	From Learning to Livelihoods: Evidence and Lessons from Educate!’s Workforce Readiness Model in East Africa	
		• EdTech Innovation.	SSCL Africa - Dr Enoch Opare Mintah	The Cognitive Translation Barrier: The Hidden Cost of Africa's Skills and Sustainability Gap	Joshua Ahimbisibwe

	✓ 30 minutes facilitated discussion. ✓ 10 minutes developing a recommendation. ✓ 5 minutes reporting back to the auditorium.		Regional Director, Africa - Spix Foundation - John Gitabi Kimotho	Access to world class EdTech for all learners and teachers in Africa	
		• Building University – Industry Partnerships.	Uganda Martyrs University - Director, University Advancement & Executive Operations VU	Building University-Industry Partnerships for Graduate Employability & Institutional Impact.	Kabigumira Joab
			IUEA /UCU/MUBS	Harmonizing Curricula for Continental Mobility: How can we align Higher Education with AfCFTA and Cross-Border Industry Demands	
		• Bridging the Rural Digital Divide and Advancing Informed Learning.	Speedbird Advisory - Christopher Katiisa	Bridging the Gender Gap: Digital Innovation as a Catalyst for Overcoming Domestic Barriers to Female Education in Africa	Jorram Paul Ssonko
			Mbale City Local Government - Justine Auma	Healing-Centered Education for Workforce Readiness: Strengthening Innovation, Adaptability, Resilience, and Leadership in African Learners	
16:45 – 17:00	Day 1 Wrap-Up	Summary of key insights, announcements for Day 2	ECOWAS Director – ACYDEAI Mr. Sylvester Phadion		

DAY 2 — FRIDAY, 13TH NOVEMBER 2026

TIME	SESSION	DETAILS			
09:00 – 09:15	Arrival & Recap	Summary of Day 1 outcomes	EAC Director - ACYDEAI		Ednar Nankya
09:15 – 09:45	Keynote Address (Ministry of ICT & National Guidance)	<i>Innovation, Policy and the Future of Education systems in Africa.</i>	Ministry of ICT & National Guidance / National ICT Innovation Hub	Innovation, Policy and the Future of Education systems in Africa	Darren Kyeyune & Nankya Ednar

09:45 – 10:45	High-Level Panel 3	AfCFTA, Trade Literacy & Workforce mobility.	Afro-Arab Youth Council	Connecting Africa and the Arab World: Youth Skills, Mobility and Economic Integration for the Future Workforce.	Joshua Ahimbisibwe
			African Development Bank	Financing Africa's Future Workforce: Investing in Skills, Innovation and Jobs for Inclusive Economic Transformation	
			International Youth Congress on AfCFTA (ICOYACA)	Empowering the Youth Dividend: Harmonizing Trade Literacy and Skills Portability for a Mobile Ugandan and Pan-African Workforce.	
			Uganda Tourism Board	From Destination Marketing to Decent Work: Building Digital Skills, Tourism Enterprises and Career Opportunities for Uganda's Future Workforce.	
10:45 – 11:45	High-Level Panel 4	Youth Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Job Creation in Africa	EU Delegation to Uganda	Building Future-Ready skills for Africa's Youth. Linking Education, TVET & Employment.	Kenneth Wabuleya
			Founder, Elite Africa Education - Uchenna Umeano	What Is Education For in 21st-Century Africa?	
			Ashoka East Africa	From Education to System change; Empowering young Africans to become changemakers and job creators.	
			National Social Security Fund Uganda (Pending confirmation)	From First Job to Financial Security: Building a Culture of Saving and Social Protection among Africa's Future Workforce.	
11:45 – 12:00	Tea Break	Refreshments & networking.	Crystal Suites Hotel		
12:00 – 13:00	Ministerial Roundtable (Flagship Session)	Policy, Governance & Education Reform in Africa.	Ministry reps, MPs, AU reps, EU, AfDB, EU, UNDP, ACYDEAI, AAYC, University & Institution reps, Ashoka, BHTB, UTB, NSSF, Hariss, Airtel	Policy, Governance & Education Reform in Africa.	Darren Kyeyune

12:00 – 13:00	Exhibition Viewing & Networking	Exhibition Viewing & Networking Drama	School		Ednar Nankya
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch Break	Lunch & networking.	Crystal Suites Hotel		
14:00 – 15:20	Research & Paper Presentations	Evidence-based insights on education, workforce & policy.	Selected Researchers		Lontina Keshi & Isah Abdul-Azeez
15:20 – 16:20	Technical Workshops / Breakout Sessions ✓ 10 minutes expert presentation each. ✓ 25 minutes facilitated discussion. ✓ 10 minutes developing a recommendation. ✓ 5 minutes reporting back to the auditorium.	Policy & Governance in Education	Brookings Institution - Brad Olsen	Scaling What Works in Education: Stretching Scarce Resources to Build Africa's Future Workforce	Darren Allan Kyeyune
			Ministry of Education and Sports / UNATCOM	From Policy to Practice: Strengthening Education Governance, Accountability and Evidence-Based Reform in Africa	
		Partnerships & Investment in Education.	Education Outcomes Fund /AfDB (prospective speaker)	Financing Education for Impact: Mobilizing Public, Private and Development Partner Investment for Sustainable Learning Outcomes	Kabigumira Joab Kanyonyi
			NCBA Bank (prospective speaker)	Beyond Funding: Building Effective Education Partnerships for Innovation, Skills Development and Employment	
		Youth Innovation & Workforce Development.	StarkIndustriesZW - Alex Sibanda	The Adaptive Generation: Preparing African Youth for Work that doesn't exist Yet	Lontina Keshi
			Shared Ground UN Women, Uganda - Angum Manuella Okello Elizabeth	Beyond Access: Building an Inclusive Education System for Africa's Future Workforce	
16:20 – 16:35	Conference Outcomes & Communiqué Presentation	Presentation of findings, policy communiqué highlights (From the Ministerial Roundtable) & stakeholder commitments.	Darren Kyeyune & Ednar Nankya		Jorram Paul Ssonko

16:35 – 16:45	Program Launch	African Future Skills and Innovation Network (AFSIN)	Min of Education & Sports, National ICT Innovation Hub, AAYC, ACYDEAI, UNDP, Germany Institute of Applied Sciences, Refactory, Trade Afrika Group.	5-year program connecting African leaders, educators, employers and innovators for the future workforce	Ednar Nankya
16:45 – 17:00	Closing Ceremony	Closing remarks, vote of thanks, group photograph	OPM		Darren Kyeyune & Nankya Ednar

EVENING EVENT — AWARDS & GALA DINNER

Friday, 13th November 2026

🕒 19:00 – 23:00 PM | Silver Springs Hotel, Bugolobi

TIME	ACTIVITY	
19:00 – 19:30	Red Carpet Arrivals & Networking	Darren Kyeyune & Nankya Ednar
19:30 – 19:30	Opening Remarks (Guest of Honor) - OPM	
19:30 – 20:15	Dinner	
20:15 – 20:30	Cultural Presentation (Ubuntu Cultural Troupe)	
20:30 – 21:45	Awards Presentations.	Darren Kyeyune & Nankya Ednar
21:45 – 21:55	Entertainment Performances	

21:55 – 22:30	Recognition of Partners & Sponsors	
22:30 – 22:40	Grand Finale & Closing Toast	ED - ACYDEAI

CONFERENCE FEATURES

High-Level Panel Discussions.
 Ministerial Roundtable.
 Technical Workshops.
 Research & Academic Paper Presentations.
 Innovation & Exhibition Spaces.
 Networking Sessions.
 Awards & Recognition Ceremony.
 Cultural & Tourism Experience.

ORGANIZED BY:

African Center for Youth Development, Education and Advocacy Initiative (ACYDEAI)

CONTACT INFORMATION

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