Transforming Education Summit & Awards 2023

Introduction

Transforming Education Summit is an annual exclusive platform for education stakeholders to deliberate on education trends and share best practices and recommendations that improve the quality of learning in our institutions.

This summit desires to bring onboard all the stakeholders in the education ecosystem to give their input and focus on their roles in transforming education from different spheres. Distinctively, the major focus in this summit is to identify and give a platform to these education transformers to express the mandate they have to ensure that our education matches the global demands and competences. Notably, education transformation is a gradual process and tends to align with modern technological advancements to realize its mission.

The cornerstone of this forum is based on the Global Peace Foundation's Transforming Education Webinar Series across multiple countries that provide guidance and support for educators to transform learning processes by integrating ethics and workplace skills into secondary education to foster character, creativity, and leadership skills of their students. This focused educational environment prepares students to become successful employees, entrepreneurs, and global citizens who can be change makers and innovators of ideas in the 21st century.

Last year, Global Peace Foundation Kenya organized the first ever education summit and brought on board various organizations cutting-across the education sector to share their journey in supporting education, particularly when Covid-19 was still a big undoing for learners.

As a build up to the summit, Global Peace Foundation Kenya in conjunction with the Standard Group PLC and other key education stakeholders organized more than 10 Transforming Education Virtual Series which aimed at providing an engagement platform for different education stakeholders to share experience in responding to COVID-19 pandemic, provide recommendations and technical support in response to the emergency and beyond.

Some of the topics discussed then include:

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- Engaging Teachers, Students and Parents during the Covid19 Pandemic.
- Continuous Learning for Students and Teachers.
- Alignment of E-learning content with the syllabus and policy formulation prospects.
- The shared responsibility to invest in virtual learning by education stakeholders.
- Reopening of Learning institutions
- Collaboration by teachers and parents in nurturing teen character.
- Reimaging education for peace and development.
- The value of realizing 100% transition to high schools in Kenya.
- The roles of teachers in transforming education.
- Education for creativity and talent development in the 21st century.

TRANSFORMING EDUCATION SUMMIT 2023

The responses, recommendations and policy frameworks deliberated on in the first culmination, triggered a further conversation on the need to annually converge and share common essential ideas in education by stakeholders not only as a tool for peacebuilding, but rather a basis from which civilization, development and diversity is rooted.

The latest trends in education, technological advancements, curriculum development and emerging world concerns, gives us the strength to come together as education stakeholders to further re-engineer and reaffirm our commitment to quality education.

The 2nd Edition of the summit is proposed to take place on **7th July, 2023** at **Panari Hotel**, **Nairobi** under the theme **"Role of Stakeholders Transforming Education for the Future."**

In this edition the focus will be on appreciating efforts from various companies, non-governmental organizations, scholars, policy makers, stakeholders and international bodies which work tirelessly to bring necessary changes in the education sector.

As the summit recognizes such initiatives, the main contribution during the forum by the representatives of these institutions will dwell much on how we can predict the future of learning and prepare our students and the society in general on emerging trends in the field. This will incorporate exhibiting various trends and programs that these institutions and organizations are adopting as their unique mechanisms to influence education outcomes and grow a society which is ready to eradicate their socio-economic challenges.

The alignment of the summit to its vision and mission in the 2nd edition intends to deepen, accelerate and enhance students' learning techniques and how teachers can gain powerful tools, in line with use of technology, to implement the same.

Furthermore, the determinants of how to acquire best skills and knowledge in education such as creativity, scholarship opportunities, use of technology in teaching and learning, social-economic support, employability of the populace and availability of infrastructural facilities will form part of the discussion.

Objectives of the 2023 Transforming Education Summit:

1. To promote inclusivity and equity in education in both private, public and international schools.

2. To promote employability and entrepreneurship among the youth in Kenya.

3. To enhance quality and inclusive education access nationally and globally.

4. Enhance STEM and ICT integration in learning.

5. To promote policy formulations and curriculum development in Kenya.

6. To enhance partnership and collaboration between the state and non- state actors in promoting quality and inclusive education in Kenya.

The 2023 summit will be segmented into the following sections:

Session 1.0: The Roots to Inclusivity and Equity in Education

Quality education can better be realized if stakeholders can work on accomplishing personalized education progress for every leaner. There is dare need to minimize barriers to learning, setting a precedence where all learners feel appreciated and given equal opportunity, irrespective of their background. Yes, it is hard to have an absolute or ideal situation for all students to access education but based on Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 4 on education, calls for inclusivity in education remains a promising dream by 2030.

The acquisition of education to the extent where it is regarded as inclusive and equal should consider elimination of hindrances such as discrimination in relation to any form of disability, vulnerability, inequality, violence, diversity in culture and norms among others.

The discussion under this division of the summit sessions will tackle challenges restricting the stakeholders from achieving an equal playing ground for our learners to get quality education within their reach, with no limits.

Distinguished speakers here will dissect ideally how to harmonize our teaching, training models and infrastructural facilities to fit each and every leaner's need while trying to elevate access to education in Kenya and other parts of the world. Moreover, the basis of calling on board institutions and individuals supporting students from various challenging background is to make it known to the public their struggles to maintain such a desire alive. The bottom-line to this session is to draw recommendations that stakeholders can adopt to ensure that education is not only achieved by the few privileged in the society but rather regarded as a necessity to all.

Session 2.0: Employability and Relevance of Education Skills in the 21st Century

The journey of acquiring knowledge and skills is a bumpy one and prepares learners to grow socially, economically spiritually and morally at a personal level. However, the beauty and impact of trainings and sacrifices in education are better felt when the society reap and benefits from an effort made by an individual to be the change maker of their predicaments.

Societies with higher rates of degree completions and other levels of education tend to be healthier, peaceful, experience low rate of crime, and achieve economic stability besides balanced equality. In the contemporary society, lack of education in the 21st century is considered the root of poverty. Students who make it to the list of well-educated members of their respective societies have a voice to listen to, collaborate together across borders, and increase cultural awareness while at the same time initiating ideas meant not only to benefit them but to make the environment around them bigger and better. Despite the numerous fruits that education can yield, majority of parents, teachers and other stakeholders, can testify to the fact that unemployment, poor governance, unrealistic curriculum and rigid education policies, still hinder many promising learners from exploring their potential to the fullest.

It is due to these concerns that we call on the panelist under this session to critically discuss the scenarios which needs review to ensure that the theory we teach in all our learning institutions reflects practically on what we have as our objectives in life.

On the same basis, organizations, companies and other bodies dealing with postgraduate and employability of students after completing their education will give their input on any effort to ensure that our learners are able not only to seek employment opportunities, some through scholarships, but are able to be entrepreneurs and job creators.

The awards and recognitions will be extended to commitments done single-handedly or collectively to open new door to students abroad, nurture and incubate innovators and young talents, shaping their lives and connecting them to their dream destinations. Dealing with massive unemployment in Kenya will also feature in this section of the summit, seeking better ways to ensure that the investment in education by stakeholders does not go in vain.

Session 3.0: Championing for Accessible Education Globally

For decades, learners have to travel to various destinations in quest of quality, recognized and inclusive education which enables them to fit as global citizens. Despite variation in diversity and foundation of learning, every stakeholder in education would wish to see a society where education is accessible and paramount. To achieve such an imagination, individual scholars, writers and world organizations have tried to create a level playing ground to support countries across the world to adjust to the latest education trends to ensure that their graduates are able to work and be productive anywhere in the world.

The desire to offer education without barriers may take years to achieve but the need to lay a foundation for the same in now.

A case study in Kenya, for example, shows that a total of 30,000 students among them top students in Kenya Certificate of Primary Education and Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education do travel abroad every year to further their studies and subsequently look for greener pastures to venture into. Based on this background, the panelist under this sub-theme will deliberate on how their institutions, companies or individual efforts have played a role in promoting education not only in Kenya, but also in other countries in Africa and the world.

More significantly, this segment under transforming education for the future will also highlight challenges which still makes quality education limited to a few in the society and leaving majority to only access basic knowledge and skills. The need to strengthen our education institutions to match with what other countries are doing to make theircurriculum attractive and resonates well with job market demands will form part of this panel session too.

In a nut shell, we look forward to hosting key education agencies to appreciate, award and recognize their effort in appealing for worldwide quality education as we learn from them recommended best practices that if adopted can make this a reality.

Session 4.0: Incorporating STEM and ICT Integration in Learning

This session will provide a window and platform for technology-based organization, companies and institutions in STEM education to share a panel and ventilate through various technology influencers in learning and teaching profession. The deliberation will extend further to recognize how significant innovation, through technology and sciences has made teaching an all-round process that seeks the involvement of the entire stakeholders and not only teachers and administrators. Gate keeping concerns and risks that come with use of technology in this sector, especially to the learners will feature in the recommendations that stakeholders can work on.

Session 5.0: Policy Formulations and Curriculum Development

Since the introduction of 8-4-4 education system in Kenya in 1985, the curriculum implementation and assessment, has been reduced to memorization of knowledge and facts. Most learners have gone through the system and became giants in different fields of specialization and division of work with admirable experience while many, at the same time, have been rendered unproductive, upon failing to get direct entry to university or other TVET institutions. For more than 3 decades now, the Kenyan people have struggled to understand the most suitable way to explore other perimeters to measure the ability of students to understand theoretical and practical application of contents acquired in school. The curriculum modules have been more academically oriented as the surest way to success, limiting many learners who are talented in other areas.

The introduction of Competency Based Curriculum and its subsequent roll-out in 2018 in our schools portrayed a vision with a light at the end of the tunnel to many school going children. Policy makers from government bodies, consultants and NGOs have also assisted in tuning the nobles to fit our needs in this era.

Despite the turbulence experience that stakeholders in education have gone through in implementing the syllabus, there is still room to make it better, especially at this time when junior secondary learners are testing the waters on our behalf as pioneers of the curriculum. There is also an option of adopting some part of internationally recognized and regulated curriculum in our institutions, blending them with those envisaged in our education policies to achieve quality education.

Rooted on this genesis, the invited speakers, representing various institutions in this segmented plenary, will give their in-depth input on best practices, suitable policy frameworks, moderated curriculum developments and elaborate 21st century learning and teaching methods that can grow holistic learners and citizens in Kenya and across our borders.

Session 6:0: Influence of Non-governmental Organizations in Provision of Quality Education

There are currently more than 10,000 Non-Governmental Organizations operating in Kenya, with majority supporting education and other social-economic challenges in remote parts of the country. Most of these organizations are typically non-profit organizations that operate independently or with the support of government to achieve their vision in improving learning in our schools and changing fortunes of individual learners. These bodies sometime extend their support to deal with common challenges such as human rights violations, advocacy, retrogressive norms and traditions, health and environments issues, affecting education directly or indirectly.

The summit therefore, will give a platform for such organizations to share their journey of interacting and influencing the education achievement in the country and how they view the future of realizing a fully transformed education in the country.

As we appreciate their input in education and award them, the untapped andunder-utilized potential of our education system will be shared to the forum. Notable, this session will exclusively give organizations a chance to share with Kenyans various programs and initiatives that they carry out in the country, areas of collaborations and achievements realized over the years.

Transforming Education Summit & Awards 2022 Reminiscence

The 2022 summit planned in collaboration with Oracle Academy, the Standard Group PLC, World Vision Kenya, SKY Girls Kenya, Plan International, Usawa Agenda, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office, and Moringa School and other partners was held on 27th July, 2022 at the BOMA Hotel, Nairobi from 9:00 AM-5:30 PM under the theme "Role of Stakeholders in Transforming Education for the Future."

The discussion focused on the following areas:

1. Policy Frameworks and Curriculum Development

The session discussed and elaborated on concepts of developing viable policy frameworks that fit Kenya's education curriculum. It also extended further to look at strides that have been made in the sector and necessary reforms that can make our education more competitive.

Ms. Martha Odundo, Deputy Director Ministry of Education; Mr. Frank Otieno, Manager, Newspaper in Education, Standard Group PLC; Ms. Jane Nyaga, Assistant Director, Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development; and Dr. Philliph M. Mutisya, Ed.D. Professor of Education, North Carolina Central University during the 1st Panel Discussion.

2. Role of Non-Governmental Organizations in Aiding Education Transformation

The session discussed, elaborated and gave recommendations that can elevate the quality of education in our schools and offer equal access to a brighter future.

Mr. Bharat Tavares, Co-Founder and Director, Tandem; Ms. Ellenah Wangui, Project Manager for Let's Play and Learn Project, World Vision Kenya; Mr. Suraj Shah, Lead, Regional Centre for Innovative Teaching and Learning, Mastercard; Ms. Ida Nganga, Regional Head, UNESCO Emerging Technologies for Developmentand; and Ms. Sofina Merinyo, Education Champion, Inspire Teenagers Foundation during the 2nd Panel Discussion

3. Use of Technology in Aligning E-Learning Implementation

The panelists focused on how technology can be fully integrated in our learning institutions. The discussion enhanced the vital role that technology and innovation playsin simplifying teaching processes and practicality of concepts in real life. Panelists with a background in technology took the attendees through various programs and initiatives that they are running to fully incorporate technology in education.

Ms. Faith Gathungu, Chief Executive Officer, Young Engineers Kenya; Ms. Lydia Muriithi, Deputy Director, Centre for Mathematics, Science and Technology in Africa; Mr. Snehar Shah, CFA, Chief Executive Officer, Moringa School; Mr. Kaitan Mbuya, Ubongo Country Representative, Kenya; Ms. Bekere Amassoma, Oracle Academy, Program Manager, Sub-Saharan Africa; and Ms. Sheila Waswa, Project Officer, Kilimanjaro Blind Trust Africa during the 3rd Panel Discussion.

4. Trends and the Future of Learning and Workforce

The panelists discussed at length how we can blend our academic excellence with talents, innovation and ensure that classroom skills and knowledge match our workforce requirements and international standards.

Ms. Mutheu Kasanga, Deputy Vice Chancellor, Lukenya University; Ms. Linah Anyango, Chemistry and Biology Teacher, Merishaw School; Mr. Patrick Teyie, Headmaster, Greensteds International School; Mr. Felix Malombe, Executive Director, STEAMLabs Africa; and Mr. Ed Magema, Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Univus during the 4th Panel Discussion.

5. Accessibility and Inclusion in Education

The speakers addressed the major concern on how to offer equal opportunity to all learners irrespective of their social economic background.

Ms. Eva Naputuni Nyoike (OGW), Chairperson, Special Needs Education, Kenya Private School Association; Mr. Maxwel Ojuoga, Program Manager, East Africa & Malawi, Kilimanjaro Blind Trust Africa; Ms. Faith Chelang'at, Head of Programs, Inuka Foundation for Development; and Mr. Charles Otine, Innovation Manager, UNICEF Kenya during the 5th Panel Discussion.

> The climax of the summit was the *award and recognition of H.E Uhuru Kenyatta, E.G.H Former President of the Republic of Kenya and Commander –In –Chief of the Defense Forces* for his effort in transforming education through embracing the Competency-Based Curriculum.

Ms. Martha Odundo, Deputy Director, Ministry of Education; Ms. Mutheu Kasanga, Deputy Vice Chancellor, Lukenya University; and Mr. Major William Kanmunge, Chief Executive Officer, Vera Beauty College receiving an Award on behalf of Uhuru Kenyatta, the former president of the Republic of Kenya and Commander – In – Chief of the Defense Forces from Mr. Daniel Juma Omondi, Executive Director, Global Peace Foundation Kenya

The same was extended to Prof. George Albert Omore Magoha, CBS Cabinet Secretary-Ministry of Education and Dr. Julius Jwan, Principal Secretary, State Department for Early Learning and Basic Education, Ministry of Education in their bold efforts in transforming Education in Kenya through 100 per cent Transition from Primary to Secondary schools and the rollout of the Competency-Based Curriculum and other key partners including Oracle Academy, Moringa School, the Standard Group PLC, SKY Girls Kenya, Plan International, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office and Usawa

About Global Peace Foundation:

Global Peace Foundation (GPF) is an international non-sectarian, non-partisan, non-profit organization that promotes an innovative, values-based approach to peace building.

Founded in the year 2009, the foundation has its international offices in Washington DC and operates in more than twenty countries engages and organizes a global network of public and private sector partners who develop community, national, and regional peace building models as the foundation for ethical and cohesive societies. GPF convenes and implements development projects and conferences on grassroots peace building, education, entrepreneurship, and youth leadership development. The organization works with government agencies, multilateral and corporate partners who share similar values.

In Kenya, GPF has partnered with different education stakeholders to champion for a transformed education system through its key programs such as Leadership and Entrepreneurship (Leap) Hubs, Great Places To School, Transforming Education Series and Character and Creativity Initiative.

The Global Peace Foundation has been at the forefront helping educators, ministries of education, communities, students and parents navigate the unprecedented challenges in education. Providing forums, expert opinion, training, connection, and a refocus on character education in Asia, Africa, Europe and the Americas, GPF is working together to transform education to be more relevant in the twenty-first century.

3. Sponsorship Packages

Package	Sponsorship Amount	Value Proposition
Platinum	Khs. 500,000	• Participation in the panel discussion (live coverage on KTN News) • Company Logo on all our marketing materials • High Social media exposure on our Facebook, Instagram and Twitter handles • 1 corporate table during the summit (8 participants) • An exhibition booth (3x3 meters) with a name, lighting, source of power, table and chairs • 2 stand-up banners inside and outside the conference venue
Gold	Ksh. 300,000/-	• Participation in the panel discussion (live coverage on KTN News) • Company Logo on all our marketing materials • High Social media exposure on our Facebook, Instagram and Twitter handles • 2 stand-up banners inside and outside the conference venue • 1 corporate table during the summit (6 participants) • An exhibition booth (3x3 meters) with a name, lighting, source of power, table and chairs

Sponsorship Packages

Package	Sponsorship Amount	Value Proposition
Silver	Ksh. 250,000/-	• Company Logo on all our marketing material • High Social media exposure on our Facebook, Instagram and Twitter handles • 2 stand-up banners inside and outside the conference venue • 1 corporate table during the summit (5 participants) • An exhibition booth (3x3 meters) with a name, lighting, source of power, table and chairs
Bronze	Ksh. 100,000	• Company Logo on all our marketing materials • High Social media exposure on our Facebook, Instagram and Twitter handles • 2 stand-up banners inside and outside the conference venue • 1 corporate table during the summit (2 participants) • An exhibition booth (3x3 meters) with a name, lighting, source of power, table and chairs

Sponsorship Packages

Package	Sponsorship Amount	Value Proposition
Exhibition	50,000	• Company Logo on all our marketing materials • High Social media exposure on our Facebook, Instagram and Twitter handles • 1 stand-up banner outside the conference venue • An exhibition booth (3x3 meters) with a name, lighting, source of power, table and chairs