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KIX Africa 19 Hub

MEETING REPORT

KIX Africa 19 Hub Meeting Reported by the KIX Hub Secretariat

Date: Monday, 21 September 2020

Time: 14:00 – 15:00 EAS

Participants: 44 participants representing the following countries and organizations: ADEA; East African Community; Elimu Yetu Coalition; FAWE; IDRC; IFEF; IICBA; Ministry of Education representatives from Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Sudan, The Gambia, Uganda and Zambia; SEACMEQ; UNESCO; UNICEF and UWC.

Meeting Objectives:

The virtual meeting aimed to:

- Ensure Hub members have a clear understanding of the baseline survey tool and how fill out the tool properly and timely
- Discuss Hub engagement among members and country representatives

I. Introduction, Dr. Tilaye Kassahun, IICBA

Dr. Tilaye welcomed all participants, including new members to the meeting. As part of its responsibility, the KIX 19 Hub is planning to conduct the baseline survey for setting a benchmark for the project's logframe. This is a continuation of the In-depth country mapping that was conducted in July 2020. Argaw Korssa, the KIX Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Consultant will present the Hub's baseline survey tools, followed by a question and answer session to gain members' feedback. He encouraged everyone to participate and not to hesitate to share their insight.

II. Orientation on the Baseline Survey Tool, Argaw Korssa, IICBA

Argaw presented the Africa 19 baseline survey tool. After introducing himself, Argaw noted that this survey takes about 15 minutes to complete and has three sections: Background information; Basic education statistics and Knowledge sharing.

Argaw's presentation provided details on each of the survey's questions. The notable points include:

- The survey is available online (via this [link](#)) and in hard copy (attached). To complete the statistics section, respondents will need to reference the hard copy.
- Data from 2019/2020 should be used. If it is not yet available, please use data from the most recent available year.
- **Question 9c** asks for "Accepted/standard age range (in years)." Please indicate the age range of students at each level (pre-primary, primary and secondary) as prescribed by the government. For example, the government may mandate two years of pre-primary education to begin at age 4 until age 6. The answer to 9c would be 4-6 years in this case. **Question 9d** asks the "Accepted/standard age range (in years)" at "Grade 1." "Grade 1" is the first available grade for children to enter primary school in your country.



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- **Question 9e** asks for the transition rate from “primary to secondary.” Each country designates primary and secondary grades differently. For example, primary school in Ethiopia is from grade 1 to the end of grade 8. Therefore, the transition rate in Ethiopia would be the number of students moving from grade 8 to grade 9. Please indicate the transition rate based on the way your country differentiates between primary and secondary education.
- In **section III, question 1** refers to networks that could be composed of government representatives, NGOs, UN, civil society or others. Conversely, **question 2** is specific to cooperation between governments in the education sector.
- **Section III, question 4** asks you to describe a knowledge sharing approach that you would like to see for this KIX project. Please do not hesitate to suggest new and innovative ideas.
- If available, please email the latest cohort analysis, as well as the latest education statistics/abstract manual (2018/2019 and/or 2019/2020) from your country to Argaw – ak.sapane@unesco.org.

III. Discussion Question and Answer, Chelsea Lavallee, IICBA

Participants posed the following questions in relation to the baseline survey:

Question 1: When is the deadline to submit the survey?

- **Response:** Based on feedback from participants in the meeting, **the survey deadline is set at Monday, September 28, 2020.**

Question 2: Should the information reported in the survey be from government?

- **Response:** Section II asks for statistics that should be provided by the government. Each country team should work together to submit one survey with the most recent statistics from the Ministry of Education. Section III, which asks about knowledge sharing and networks, can be completed by both governmental and non-governmental members. A consolidated data set deliberated and endorsed by the country team should be submitted to the Hub Secretariat. But the KIX country team members can submit their reflection regarding Section III separately.

Question 3: At what levels do we focus on, particularly on the cooperation with other countries?

- **Response:** Each question should specify the level within the question, either pre-primary, primary or secondary. You may contact Argaw if a particular question requires clarification. In terms of “cooperation” this can be any kind of cooperation in education at any level with other countries.

Question 4: The question on – “Proportion of children who scored 50% and above in the latest standard test at primary by sex and grade?” Is it for grade 4 or Grade 8?

- **Response:** The grade will depend on the standardized testing system in your country. If there are standardized tests at more than one grade level, please include all levels.

Question 5: Can you recall the main goals and indicators in the result framework of KIX and more specifically of KIX Africa 19 so that we can see the alignment with the survey questions address. What you are measuring now should speak to the indicators you have defined to measure your success.

- **Response:** The KIX results framework is currently in draft stage and will be uploaded on the KIX and IDRC websites. This baseline survey is needed for completing some of the remaining indicator values in the framework. You are welcome to take a look at the framework once it is published and please don’t hesitate to pose any questions to us.



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Due to time constraints, the presenters could not respond to any additional questions. Participants were encouraged to leave questions in the chat or to email Argaw directly. Please see the annex (page 3 below) for the responses to the remaining questions.

IV. Conclusion, Dr. Tilaye Kassahun, IICBA

Dr. Tilaye thanked everyone for their participation and for all the important questions posed. He urged members to please submit the baseline survey by the due date of September 28th. In addition, he mentioned that members' participation is critical for the Hub's activities. The Hub is meant to address the policy and evidence needs of countries and that can only be done together. He invited members to reach out with emails or ask for virtual calls and meetings if they have ideas or questions to discuss. In addition, the countries can identify potential researchers, education centers of excellence, consultants and others who can support or contribute towards promoting knowledge and innovation in order to facilitate policy dialogues and evidence-based education sector programming.

KIX Secretariat and Consortium Contact Information:

Africa 19 Secretariat

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Annex: Question and Answer for the Baseline Survey Tool

The following is a list of additional questions that were posed during the meeting, with their corresponding responses:

Question 6: It seems most actions are at national level. So RECs (regional economic communities) could mainly do sensitization within their regions for more responses from member countries?

- **Answer:** Yes, that is correct. RECs can urge the Ministry of Education focal points to compile the data and send to the Secretariat by September 28, 2020. If possible, it is advisable for all KIX focal points and country team members to review the data prior to sending them to the KIX Africa 19 Hub Secretariat.

Question 7: If our country has not yet finalized statistics for 2019/2020, can we use that of 2018/2019?

- **Answer:** Yes, for now, please use the most recent data that is available, even if it is from 2018/2019. Please send an updated version of the 2019/2020 data once it is available.

Question 8: It is difficult to get data on the proportion of children who scored 50% and above because of different grading systems.

- **Answer:** Please use data from international standardized exams, if this is applicable to your context. If your country does not participate in an international standardized exam, the standardization and scoring of exams may not be same across schools within the country or among countries in the region. In that case, you can consider the proportion of children who scored a minimum average pass mark (grade) and above in a public standard exam while transiting from lower cycle (primary) to the higher cycle (secondary).

Question 9: For the 50% score, are you referring to promotional examinations or public examinations conducted by the West Africa Examinations Council (as in the case of Sierra Leone, the Gambia, Liberia, Nigeria and Ghana)? You need to clarify this better.

- **Answer:** We are referring to international standardized exams, like the WAEC as you stated above. If a country is not using the International exams, a national (public) standardized exam can be considered for this purpose.