



**ACA 2023**  
4TH AFRICAN CURRICULUM  
ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE



# 4<sup>th</sup> African Curriculum Association (ACA) CONFERENCE

## THEME

**Learning for Sustainable Futures –  
Connections between Curriculum, Cognition and Context**

**HOST COUNTRY: Kenya**

**DATE: 23rd – 27th July 2023**

### Concept Note

Africa countries have continued to experience successes and challenges in a bid to adjust and respond to the national requirements to provide relevant curricula within the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the fourth industrial Revolution (4IR) demands. The goals promote a vision of sustainable futures which are people-centred, just, equitable and inclusive, and which involve sustained and inclusive economic growth, social development and environmental protection that benefit the children, youth and future generations of the world.

Goal number 4 (SDG 4) is fully captured by the Education 2030 agenda as “Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote life-long learning opportunities for all”. The implementation of this Goal has faced many challenges including the challenges that were brought along with COVID 19 pandemic. The COVID 19 pandemic prompted new thinking about the need for Technological advancement in the education sector. Globally, the milestones achieved by countries in the use of technology were a breakthrough in discovering the capacity of the education systems in Africa. Planning for the reopening and return to education and training provides an opportunity to rethink the way we educate the next generation, and how to prepare learners for unpredictable futures in a rapidly changing society.

The process of high technological advancement has led the world to become a global village where collaboration and networking are key for success. The 4<sup>th</sup> Continental curriculum conference through the use of advanced technologies, shall be able to make it possible to dialogue and share good practices with all the education practitioners to ensure that steady progress in the area of education and curricula that benefit the African child reaches all countries.

Within this global context, education is not only expected to meet the fresh demands, but also to prepare students for a future where the competencies they will need in order to succeed are constantly changing. Thus, it is essential to rethinking the curriculum; design, development and implementation strategies which could transform learning to ensure it meets current needs. ACA is committed to supporting countries in the novel demands, of preparing students to acquire high order skills for a future where the competencies they will need in order to succeed are constantly provided through the curriculum.

### The Conference

Based on the above background, the 4<sup>th</sup> African Continental Conference on Curriculum is conceived, to discuss the connection or lack of it, between the intended, the implemented, and the achieved curriculum while reflecting on the context within which the implementation was

undertaken. Additionally, through discussions and sharing good practices, participants will have the opportunity to explore the potential of technology and innovations to enhance curriculum processes and products.

The conference will be co-organized by the African Curriculum Association (ACA), in liaison with partners such as **UNESCO IBE**, the CESA Curriculum cluster of the African Union (AU), **Organization of Education corporation (OEC)** and the Ministry of Education of Kenya

The 4<sup>th</sup> African Continental Conference on Curriculum will bring together curriculum developers, implementers, education administrators, partners, teacher trainers, and other key stakeholders to discuss and share experiences, achievements and good practices in an effort find possible solutions to the various education challenges faced by various African countries. The discussions are hoped to lead to recommendations on how Africa can make progress towards developing holistic, quality learner-centred curricula. This may assist countries to re-design their national curricula in order to prepare young people for critically addressing current and future challenges.

The Conference will also provide an opportunity to demonstrate good practices in curriculum matters including considering Afri Centric necessities in the curricular that translate global goals into national contexts to benefit the African child.

## Objectives

The objectives of the Conference are to:

1. Achieve a shared understanding of the importance of aligning basic education curriculum, teacher education, and learning assessment to improve the learning outcomes;
2. Reflecting on innovations on how to integrate technology in the process of aligning curriculum, teacher education, and learning assessment;
3. Simulating the potential of technology and innovation in enhancing curriculum development, implementation, and

evaluation;

4. Discuss the role of IR in implementing the hybrid modes of education, learning, and assessment combining in-person and distance learning;

## Expected Outcomes

1. Participants' knowledge and experience will be shared on the different themes presented;
2. Participants will have better understanding of strategies to align curricula, teacher education, learning assessment
3. Recommendations will be made on the application of technology in curriculum, teacher education, learning assessment and other related processes, as well as in the process of aligning them;
4. The Conference will also lay the foundation for long-term partnerships between the co-organizers and other institutions.

## Sub-Themes

The Conference presentations will address curriculum development and implementation for all levels of basic education and focus on the subthemes.

### Sub-theme 1: Curriculum and Pedagogy

*Exploring the processes of designing and implementing learning experiences, including decisions regarding content (curriculum) and strategies for instruction (pedagogy).*

- Pedagogical theory and instructional practice
- Curriculum as a program of learning
- Educational reform in curriculum and instruction
- Differentiating and personalizing instruction
- Teachers' content knowledge or pedagogical knowledge

### Sub-Theme 2: Classroom Based Assessment and Learning

*Investigates the processes of specifying educational outcomes and designing methods for measuring student learning, evaluating the*

*effectiveness of educational interventions, or assessing the impact of educational programs on learner's acquisition of knowledge, skills and values*

- Purposes of assessment (diagnostic, formative, summative)
- The politics and practice of educational accountability
- Intelligence or ability, competence or capacity: what are the measurable ends of education?
- Assessment strategies (portfolio, adaptive, computer)
- Types of educational measurement (qualitative, quantitative; cognitive, affective, performance)

### **Sub-Theme 3: Educational Organization and Leadership**

*Inquiries into the organization of formal systems of education and their impact on the teaching and learning process. Examines issues of professionalism in education and the roles of administrators and governing bodies on the educational institution and environment.*

- Learning environments: the changing shape of educational institutions, and changing sites of learning
- The role of educational organizations in society and/or social change
- The teaching profession: teachers' work, roles, and responsibilities
- Educational policies
- The changing purposes of education: shaping new kinds of worker, citizen and personal identities
- Educational administrators: effective leadership in a changing society

### **Sub-Theme 4: Early Childhood Learning**

*Investigations of learning and development in the first eight years of life, and the impact of formal, family, and socio-cultural influences on early learning.*

- Influences of family and social/cultural environments on early learning

- Early childhood education: the roles of daycare, preschool, kindergartens
- Early childhood literacies, arts and communications
- Early childhood numeracies and science

### **Sub-Theme 5: Learner Diversity and identity**

*Focuses on recognizing and responding to individual diversity in learners and on the dynamics of teaching and learning in diverse communities and classrooms. Considers issues of learners' identities capabilities and inter-relationships among students, as well as strategies for promoting social justice, multicultural understanding, and disability mainstreaming*

- Inclusive education
- Equity, participation and opportunity
- Minorities and Majorities: how these are changing
- Special education, learning difficulties, disability
- International, global, multicultural and cross-cultural education

### **Sub-Theme 6: Technologies in Learning**

*Explores the role of technologies in learning, and processes of learning about and through technologies.*

- Technology and human values: learning through and about technology
- Crossing the digital divide: access to learning in, and about, the digital world
- New tools for learning: online digitally mediated learning
- Virtual worlds, virtual classrooms: interactive, self-paced and autonomous learning
- Ubiquitous learning: using the affordances of the new media

### **Sub-Theme 7: Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts Mathematics (STEAM) and Learning**

*Studies of best practices in teaching and learning Science, Technology, Engineering,*

## Arts and Mathematics

- Disciplines: teacher's pedagogical content knowledge in Sciences (pure, applied) and the Arts (Languages, Humanities, Creative Arts)
- Learning in and about the natural environment
- Modes of instruction (didactic, inquiry, collaborative)
- Learning about and through technologies

## Conference Participants

The Conference will bring together education and curriculum experts from across the international space with the goal to share experiences and best practices on curriculum-related issues. Additionally, this congregation is intended to build communities of practice to continue the conversation with a view of documenting information to facilitate continued improvement of curricula in order to achieve the tenets of SDG 4.

## Conference Format

1. Keynote address
2. Plenary sessions
3. Presentations
4. Panel discussions (Curriculum Directors, Partners)
5. Breakaway sessions
6. Workshops
7. Exhibitions

## Conference Modalities

The event will be held in Kenya from 23rd to 27th July 2023 hosted by the Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development.

The participation fee for the Conference is USD250 physical USD100 online

For more information

Contact: ACA Secretariat at [info@acuass.org](mailto:info@acuass.org)

Relevant links for the Conference:

- <http://www.oicgambia.org>.

- [www.edugambia.gm](http://www.edugambia.gm)

- [www.acuass.org](http://www.acuass.org)

## ACA- ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The ACA Annual General Assembly will be held on 27<sup>th</sup> July from 9.00-12.00 pm. Currently ACA is being administered by an interim executive committee which was mandated to carry out ACA functions during the 3<sup>rd</sup> ACA Conference in Gambia in 2022. During this congregation, ACA members will carry out elections of the ACA officials. Only bonafide ACA members will be eligible to participate in the elections. This will be by having fully paid the membership fee for the years from the time of joining ACA.

## CALL FOR PAPERS

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Conference of the African Curriculum Association will be held from 24<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> July 2023 in Kenya. The Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development will host the annual conference. The Institute hereby extends the invitation to all persons involved in education to participate and present papers during the conference.

The Conference is convened in recognition of SDG 4 which seeks to "Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote life-long learning opportunities for all". While the implementation of this Goal has faced many challenges including the effects of COVID 19 pandemic, the experiences have prompted new thinking about the need for Technological advancement in the education sector. Globally, the milestones achieved by countries in the use of technology were a breakthrough in discovering the capacity of the education systems in Africa.

Nevertheless, even with the new opportunities available, there are age old challenges that are still faced by most countries in the development and implementation of curricula for different levels of education. These include early childhood education, primary education secondary education and teacher education in diverse contexts. This annual conference,

therefore offers a platform to share experiences and learn from best practices in order to reshape education in our varied contexts.

## THEME:

### Learning for Sustainable Futures – Connections between Curriculum, Cognition and Context

#### Sub-themes

- a) Curriculum and Pedagogy
- b) Classroom Based Assessment and Learning
- c) Educational Organization and Leadership
- d) Early Childhood Learning
- e) Learner Diversity and identity
- f) Technologies in Learning
- g) Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics (STEAM) and Learning

## SUBMISSION FORMATS

The abstract, not exceeding 300 words, should consider the following format:

- a) Author(s) (Name, Organization & email for each one)
- b) Title
- c) Sub-theme
- d) Abstract
- e) Keywords

Once the notification of acceptance of the abstract has been received, authors will be required to submit the full paper and presentation in the following format:

- a) Name of the main presenter (please note that you can only be the main presenter for one paper during the conference)
- b) Font type: Times New Roman 12
- c) Line spacing: 1.5
- d) References: APA 7<sup>th</sup> edition

The abstracts and papers should be submitted to [www.acuass.org](http://www.acuass.org) and upload to <https://www.aeafrica.org> in adherence to the timelines.

## IMPORTANT DATES:

**Conference dates:** July 24<sup>th</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> 2023

Submission deadline for paper abstracts: 8<sup>th</sup> June, 2023 (200-300 words)

Deadline for Notification of Acceptance: 8<sup>th</sup> June, 2023

Deadline for submission deadline full papers: 7<sup>th</sup> July 2023 (3000-3500 words)

Registration deadline for presenters: 14<sup>th</sup> July, 2023

Close of online registration: 14<sup>th</sup> July, 2023

## CONFERENCE FEES

Registration fees:

**ACA members:** USD 250;

**Non members:** USD 300;

**Students:** Kshs. 6000 (This fee includes conference materials, refreshments and some meals.

**Exhibitions:** Kshs. 20000 per booth with additional fees of Kshs. 9000 per person for meals.

Excursion Fee: US\$60 Delegates will be taken on guided tours to various places of tourist attractions in the Nairobi

**Accommodation:** Participants will find own accommodation within reach of the conference venue. A range of hotels will be provided for individual choice. Transport to and from the venues will be provided.