



RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, AFRICA
Hyatt Regency, Johannesburg, 25 – 27 June 2018

Scaling education access through digital learning

Scheduling

Date: Tuesday 26th June 2018

Time: 14:10 – 15:55 (1 hour 45 minutes)

Venue: Hyatt Regency, 191 Oxford Rd, Rosebank, Johannesburg, 2132, South Africa

Room: Nina II

Speakers

Moderator: Shafika Isaacs, Chair, Telkom Foundation & Technical Advisor, UNESCO

Gossy Ukanwoke, Founder, Beni American University and President, EduTech

Willem Fourie, Associate Professor, Albert Luthuli Centre for Responsible Leadership

Barbara Mallinson, CEO & Founder, Obami

Michele Malejki, Global Head, Strategic Programs, Sustainability & Social Innovation, HP

Synopsis

Education helps young people obtain better jobs and increases their potential earnings by 8 to 10 per cent for every additional year of schooling they attend. In addition to this, countries where students have better education access, have greater economic growth over time. As a result, entrepreneurs are looking to leverage mobile technology to spur literacy rates and improve access to education.¹ The advancement of versatile educational technology in Africa is helping to make education available for all.²

While only 35% of Africans are internet users, nearly 20% less than the global average, this number is growing faster than in any other region in the world. Helped by the affordability of smartphones and mobile data plans, internet penetration in Africa has risen by 20% since January 2017. This provides an unprecedented opportunity to provide education to those who have traditionally been without. Internet access and new educational innovations are providing new learning tools for students in the form of 'e-learning'.

This discussion will focus on how collaborative, multi-stakeholder approaches are helping to '**Scale education access through digital learning**'. It will focus on examples of innovation, youth and technology transforming the continent's development, and incorporate perspectives from a cross-section of stakeholders, including at least one youth perspective and/or an entrepreneur.

¹ <https://www.gsma.com/iot/wp-content/uploads/2012/04/gsmamckinseytransforminglearningthroughmeducation.pdf>

² <https://edtechnology.co.uk/Article/africa-wins-with-edtech>



Format (1 hour 45 minutes)

We kindly request that you do not prepare slides.

1. **Welcome and introduction:** The moderator will briefly introduce each panellist, and provide a short overview to frame the discussion (**10 minutes**).
2. **Panel discussion:** The moderator will ask each panellist for their views and experiences, with examples drawn from practice and current initiatives, before opening up to a wider discussion between panellists (**40 minutes**).
3. **Audience Roundtable Discussions:** Delegates will discuss, share and finally agree on **three** priority recommendations on how organisations can better support innovation, youth and technology generation to drive development (**25 minutes**).

An example recommendation: "Private sector to provide innovation incubator programmes for youth to help develop business skills at the same time as creative solutions."

Panellists are welcomed to join in a roundtable to support the discussions. The moderator may wish to roam among tables as the point of contact for the recommendations.

4. **Feedback from Roundtables:** Each table will assign a rapporteur to stand and share their recommendations with the room (**20 minutes**).
5. **Wrap up:** Moderator will close with a quick summary of the main discussion points and recommendations and select three of these recommendations to report back in the plenary (**10 minutes**).

Thank you again for joining us, and we look forward to the discussion.

Kind regards,

Ria Coburn

Senior Programme Manager
Global Initiatives