



Kenyan partnership leads national drive to harness ICT in education

Just one year after establishing a public-private Leadership Forum to build ICT capability in its schools, Kenya's government is effectively driving change, defining a clear strategy and making real headway in developing the skills the country needs to compete in the new global economy.

Kenya's goal is to build 21st Century schools. But no single stakeholder, not even government, has the resources to plan, fund, implement and control successful, scalable and sustainable ICT deployments across an entire country. Inclusive partnerships that combine the vision, resources and experience of the public and private sectors are vital, and leadership is key. "Mobilising resources from the private and public sectors is just part of the story", says Professor Karega Mutahi, Kenya's Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Education and Chairman of the Leadership Forum. "To achieve real change, guiding and leading the process is also essential."

Kenya's National Education ICT Strategy builds on Microsoft's ICT Framework for Schools which combines the critical components for the successful development and implementation of a national ICT strategy into a comprehensive, tried-and-tested methodology for realising the vision of 21st Century learning. The first steps in the implementation of the strategy will focus on Kenya's 4,000 secondary schools. Computer laboratories are being set up, Microsoft has delivered training to over 500 secondary school teachers, and donations of more than \$80,000 from Leadership Forum members have been collected. The next steps for the partners include the development of a national ICT curriculum and the creation of digital content for use in the classroom, providing a 21st Century education to school children across the nation.

For more information on Microsoft's commitment to education in Africa see <http://www.microsoft.com/emea/education/emergingmarkets.mspx>