

An extrabudgetary programme created in 2003 with the objective of strengthening national capacities in key areas of education: sector-wide policies and plans, literacy, teachers and skills for the world of work.

## **HIGHLIGHT OF THE MONTH - Teachers**

## Burundi



The reform of the basic education cycle instituted by the Sectoral Development Plan for Education and Training will come into force in Burundi in September 2013, bringing important changes to the country's educational landscape. This will include setting up a nineyear educational cycle, expanding

basic education to incorporate junior secondary education.

Through its Capacity Development for Education for All (CapEFA) programme, UNESCO is accompanying the Government of Burundi in this reform. Many activities have been implemented in advance to prepare teachers, trainers and supervisors. An in-service training module for pre-school, basic and secondary school principals was validated in June, and a manual for advocacy and South-South cooperation in teacher motivation, attractiveness of the teaching profession and retention was finalized and disseminated.

In early July 2013, officials from the Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education, together with directors of decentralized pedagogical offices, school principals, regional and provincial inspectors, and the Belgian Technical Cooperation (BTC), took part in a technical workshop facilitated by the UNESCO office in Bujumbura and by the International Institute for Capacity Building in Africa (IICBA) to review and validate the in-service training module for teachers of the seventh year of basic education. This module is of the utmost importance for the effective implementation of the school curriculum, as the seventh year now marks the entry point for the new system.

With a content divided into 13 learning logs, the module will be implemented through both face-to-face and

In July, a technical workshop was organized in Burundi in the framework of the CapEFA programme to review and validate the in-service training module for teachers of the seventh year of basic education.

distance training sessions, including monthly educational workshops, in order to reach the largest number of teachers. By completing the training, participants will receive a certification of teaching skills for basic education, which, according to the national general statute on civil servants, entitles holders to an accelerated career development.

The workshop was also the occasion to create synergies with development partners. BTC has offered to contribute, with the support of IICBA, to activities related to the initial training of teachers and of trainer-of-trainers in four regional centres. A Memorandum of Understanding will be signed to formalize this cooperation between UNESCO's CapEFA programme and BTC's FIE project.



Participants at the workshop (©IICBA/Mame Omar Diop).