



OCTOBER 2023

World Teachers' Day



The teachers we need
for the education we want:
The global imperative to
reverse the teacher shortage

In partnership with

About IICBA

The International Institute for Capacity Building in Africa (IICBA), a category 1 UNESCO institute, is based in Addis Ababa. Founded in 1999, it aims to inform education policies, strengthen teacher professional development, and build capacity in education institutions, including Ministries of Education. To provide innovative solutions and scale-up efforts to improve educational outcomes in Africa, IICBA works with a range of partners, including the African Union, UN agencies, other international organizations, development banks, bilateral donors, foundations, teacher organizations, school networks, and non-profits. IICBA's strategic plan for 2023-25 is built around three main lines of action: (i) Research and knowledge; (ii) Policy dialogue and advocacy; and (iii) Capacity enhancement.

About the Executive Education and Policy Academy

Education systems in Africa are in crisis. Learning poverty, defined as the inability for 10-year-old children to read and understand an age-appropriate text, affects nine out of ten children in sub-Saharan Africa. Teachers are key to improve educational outcomes, but many lack the training they need to ensure that children learn. Beyond the current learning crisis, education systems face a range of medium- and long-term challenges, including changing labor markets that require individuals to acquire new skills, climate change, and conflicts. Education systems have a fundamental role to play for sustainable development, but often fall short. IICBA's aim is to empower teachers for all learners to thrive. Through a range of courses of various lengths, the Executive Education and Policy Academy targets officials in Ministries of Education and other education and civil society leaders to equip them with the knowledge they need to improve teacher policies and education systems in Africa.

About this Event

World Teachers' Day is celebrated every year on October 5. IICBA is organizing various events with partners to celebrate the Day. This includes (i) organizing with the African Union Commission and the Teacher Development Cluster under the Continental Education Strategy for Africa (CESA) a webinar for the African Union Continental Teacher Award; (ii) holding sessions on teacher-related topics at the KIX research and policy symposium to be held in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, on October 3-5; and (iii) contributing to other events including a webinar organized by UNESCO Dakar and another webinar organized by UNESCO Paris. For World Teachers' Day, IICBA will also release analyses related to teacher professional standards and competencies, teacher education, and teacher working conditions.



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List of events

Several events with a focus on Africa will be held for World Teachers' Day 2023.

Event 1: African Union Continental Teacher Award Ceremony 2023 and Webinar on "Investing in Our Teacher: Professional Standards and Competencies, Working Conditions, and Teacher Education". Teacher Development is one of the key strategic objectives of the Continental Education Strategy for Africa (CESA 16-25). The African Union and the Teacher Development Cluster under CESA 16-25 coordinated by IICBA are organizing a webinar from 2 pm to 3:45 pm (Eastern African Time) with (i) introductory remarks; (ii) a brief presentation of a report on professional standards, teacher education, and working conditions; and (iii) the award ceremony for the winners of the Continental Teacher Award. Please register at <https://shorturl.at/gryEM>.

African Union
Continental Teacher
Award Ceremony
2023 and webinar

Event 2: Roundtable on teacher policies at the KIX Symposium. The 2nd KIX Continental Symposium on Educational Research in Africa will be held on October 3-5, 2023, in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire. It is organized jointly by the KIX Africa 19 Hub whose Secretariat is managed by IICBA and the KIX Africa 21 Hub. The theme for October 5 is "The teachers we need for the education we want: The global imperative to reverse the teacher shortage." This will include a session with teachers' voices, a presentation by Dr. Christian Addai-Poku, Secretary General of AFTRA, Chief Executive of the National Teaching Council of Ghana, and President of Education International, and other speakers. This will be followed by a roundtable on professional standards and competencies, teacher education, and working conditions.

Roundtable on
teacher policies at
the KIX Symposium
2023

Event 3: Other events. The UNESCO Multisectoral Regional Office for West Africa based in Dakar is organizing an event to which IICBA will participate on "Reflection on the teacher shortage and questions about the attractiveness of the teaching profession in West Africa." The event runs from 10 am to 12:30 pm (West Africa Time). Registration is available [here](#). At the Global level, UNESCO in Paris is organizing several events on both October 5 (registration [here](#)) and October 6 (registration [here](#)) with IICBA contributing to the session on "Global pathways to an attractive teaching profession".

Other events for
World Teachers' Day
(Africa and global)

IICBA Research. IICBA will release several studies for World Teachers' Day, including a study investigating the state of professional standards and competencies for teachers and school leaders in West Africa. The study considers: (1) the national frameworks of professional standards and competencies and their implementation; (2) teacher education, both pre-service and in-service; and (3) the working conditions of teachers and school leaders. The analysis relies on a mixed quantitative and qualitative approach that includes analysis of nationally representative household surveys, online surveys, key informant interviews, and focus groups. In addition to analysis across West African countries, more detailed analysis is also conducted for Sierra Leone and The Gambia to illustrate differences between countries in approaches and policies.

IICBA research on
teachers and
teacher policies

IICBA Research for World Teachers' Day

In 2023, IICBA launched several new series of publications, including Studies, Reports, Training Guides, Discussion Papers, Knowledge Briefs, and Interviews. All publication series are on IICBA's website in open access under "Research". Publications being released specifically for World Teachers' Day 2023 include the following:

 **UNESCO IICBA**
Empowering teachers for all learners to thrive

Study **2023-4**


West Africa – Investing in Teachers and School Leaders: Professional Standards, Teacher Education, and Working Conditions

October 2023
Steve Nwokeocha, Ebrima D. Kah, Hungi Njora, Aminata Sessay, and Quentin Wodon



In partnership with
- Shanghai Municipal Government of the People's Republic of China
- Africa Federation of Teaching Regulatory Authority
- The African Union Commission





 **UNESCO IICBA**
Empowering teachers for all learners to thrive


Training Guide **2023-2**


Strengthening Mental Health and Psychosocial Support for Pre- and in-Service Teachers in Africa

October 2023



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Study **2023-3**


Republic of The Gambia: Situation Analysis of the national framework of professional standards and competencies for teachers and school leaders

October 2023
Steve Nwokeocha, Ebrima D. Kah, Njora Hungi, and Quentin Wodon



In partnership with
- Shanghai Municipal Government of the People's Republic of China
- Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education of The Gambia




 **UNESCO IICBA**
Empowering teachers for all learners to thrive

Study **2023-2**

Republic of Sierra Leone: Situation Analysis of the national framework of professional standards and competencies for teachers and school leaders

October 2023
Steve Nwokeocha, Aminata Sessay, Njora Hungi, and Quentin Wodon



In partnership with
- Shanghai Municipal Government of the People's Republic of China
- Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education of Sierra Leone
- Teaching Service Commission of Sierra Leone

