

## TALENT and GPE partnership to support African countries in developing quality learning assessment systems

**The Secretariat of the Teaching and Learning Educators' Network for Transformation (TALENT) is pleased to announce that the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) has approved a partnership agreement with the network to strengthen countries capacities, and produce and share knowledge on learning assessment systems in Sub-Saharan Africa.** The collaboration agreement, which runs from April 2018 until June 2020, is framed within the "Assessment for All (A4L)" initiative and it is aligned with the GPE Strategic Plan 2016-2020 (GPE 2020).

**"Although many countries are involved in learning assessments there isn't any clear sense that the data they collect is used to inform policy. In many cases learning assessment is conducted in isolation from the policy and planning process"**

Talia de Chaisemartin, GPE, at the Pan African Conference on Education 2018

During the following two years, TALENT will develop a comprehensive intervention that aims to support Sub-Saharan African countries in developing or improving already existing learning assessment systems, looking at quality, design, relevance and alignment issues, among others. The intervention will relate to class-based test as well as national examinations and large-scale assessments.

The project will encompass I) four regional capacity development workshops focusing on different aspects of learning assessment systems; II) the design and dissemination of three analytical research studies; and III) a regional knowledge portal on learning assessment systems together with a series of discussion forums and webinars on enabling environments for effective learning assessment systems. The project will work to achieve improved and more equitable learning outcomes in Sub-Saharan Africa through strengthening countries' learning assessment systems within the region.

TALENT will facilitate knowledge exchange and south-south cooperation through the set-up of an online community of practice, so all Sub-Saharan African countries can benefit from this initiative. This approach is in line with UNESCO's coordination role (hosting TALENT's Secretariat) for the SDG-4/Education 2030 agenda monitoring as well as the African Union Vision 2063 and Continental Education Strategy for Africa (CESA 2016-2025). The set-up of relevant, quality learning assessment system is critical to both CESA '16-'25 and SDG4, particularly in the CESA Strategic Objective 4 and in terms of reporting on SDG 4.1.1 and the related efforts of the Global Alliance to Monitor Learning (GAML).