



AU THEME OF THE YEAR 2024 - EDUCATION

GLOBAL URGENCY FOR EDUCATION

- UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres prioritizes education at the Transforming Education Summit (September 2022).
- Education crisis globally prompts a "one-in-a-generation" opportunity for collective commitment and joint action.



AFRICAN EDUCATION DISPARITIES

- Africa, lagging in SDG4 progress, is reflected in the Continental Education Strategy (CESA).
- Alarming figures: 98 million out-of-school children, 90% learning poverty rate, and a need for 17 million additional teachers by 2030.



HIGH-LEVEL ENGAGEMENT

- AU High-level side event on Transforming Education (September 2022) chaired by President Macky Sall and attended by African leaders.
- AU Chair Moussa Faki Mahamat proposes Education as the AU Theme of the Year 2024, echoing widespread support from global leaders and partners.



URGENT NEED FOR TRANSFORMATION

- Despite progress, the education system faces challenges exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Multiple emergencies impact educational provision, posing long-term negative effects on children's life outcomes.



A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY

- The dedicated year offers a one-time chance to galvanize Member States towards CESA and SDG4 targets.
- Focus on effective, long-lasting, system-wide transformational strategies for resilient education systems post-COVID-19.
- Activities at national, regional, continental, and global levels to drive momentum and spotlight recovery efforts.



PROPOSED THEME: "EDUCATE AN AFRICAN FIT FOR THE 21ST CENTURY"

- Sub-themes cover the entire education spectrum, emphasizing inclusive, lifelong, quality, and relevant learning.
- Celebratory activities to be implemented globally, coordinated by the AU Commission, to spotlight recovery efforts and build momentum.



Education takes center stage in 2024, offering a transformative opportunity to address challenges, drive recovery post-COVID-19, and build resilient education systems for a brighter future in Africa.

