



THE AGA KHAN UNIVERSITY

Institute for Educational Development, East Africa

REGIONAL LEARNING EXCHANGE CONFERENCE 2026

*Reimagining Teacher Preparation:
An East African Learning Exchange on Innovation and Practice*

DRAFT PROGRAMME

19 – 21 August 2026
Salama House, 10 Urambo Street,
Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

DAY 1 · BUILDING CONNECTIONS AND EXPLORING CHALLENGES		
Understanding the Landscape of Teacher Preparation		
8:00 – 8:30 am	Conference Registration	Student Court
8:30 – 10:00 am	Opening Ceremony Welcome · Tanzania National Anthem & East African Anthem (AKES, T Orchestra) Prayers Speech — Prof. Fortidas Bakuza, Associate Dean, Research & Partnership Entertainment — AKES, T Orchestra	Tanzanite Hall
10:00 – 10:30 am	Setting the Stage: <i>“Why Reimagine Teacher Preparation?”</i> Prof. Jane Rarieya, Vice Provost QTL-Net & Dean, AKU-IED East Africa	Tanzanite Hall
10:30 – 11:00 am	Tea Break & Photography	
Concurrent Sessions — Storytelling Circle: Voices from the Field: Innovative Practices in Teacher Preparation 11:00 am – 12:00 pm		
Room 1	<i>“An Unlikely Journey: From Running Out of the Classroom to Leading Innovation in Teacher Education”</i> Ms. Noreen Kwezi Moderator: Faustinah Wakio Mwabili	
Room 2	<i>“The Lasting Legacy: The FIRE within a teacher (F-Find potential, I-Inspire dreams, R-Restore hope, E-Empower Future)”</i> Mr. Lucas Daudi Pinda Moderator: Ms. Kessiah Kiwia	
Room 3	<i>“The Train That Led Me Home”</i> Ms. Mubanga Mulenga Moderator: Asma Twaha	
Room 4	<i>Beyond Compliance: Turning Classrooms into Innovative Labs</i> Ms. Esther Kamau-Thogoto, TTC Moderator: Evelyn Sanga	
Room 5	<i>Unlearning the Shallows: A Literacy Teacher’s Journey of Growth and Innovation</i> Ms. Fatma Mnubi Moderator: Ms. Blandina Duwa	
12:00 – 1:00 pm	The Power of Storytelling: <i>Driving Interactive Learning and Innovation</i> Moderator: Dr. Andema Sam Andema	Tanzanite Hall
1:00 – 2:00 pm	Lunch Break	
Concurrent Sessions — Implementation Lab: Evidence, Insights, and Future Action 2:00 – 3:30 pm		
Room 1	<i>Teacher Agency: Bridging Research, Intervention and Practice in Teacher Education</i> Dr. Winston Massam (Research Lab) · Dr. Paskali Hegwa (Intervention Lab) · Dr. Blandina Mazzuki (Practice Lab) Chair: Dr. Jacqueline Onyango (Consolidation)	

Room 2	Education Innovation for Improved Practice Dr. Nicholas Wachira (Research Lab) · Mr. Shaibu Athman (Intervention Lab) · Mr. Boniface Lyimo (Practice Lab) Chair: Dr. Neema Matingo (Consolidation)	
Room 3	Inclusion and Diversity in Teacher Preparation Dr. Nipael Mrutu (Research Lab) · Prof. Fortidas Bakuza (Intervention Lab) · Ms. Esther Kamau (Practice Lab) Chair: Prof. Betty Ezatti (Consolidation)	
3:30 – 4:30 pm	Social Event & High Tea Entertainment — Jazz	Student Court

DAY 2 · CO-CREATING SOLUTIONS AND INNOVATIONS		
From Challenges to Possibilities		
8:00 – 8:30 am	Conference Registration	Student Court
8:30 – 9:30 am	<i>Interactive Keynote & Panel Discussion:</i> <i>Preparing Teacher Educators</i> Keynote — Prof. Yusuf Sayed Panelists: Dr. Bronwen Magrath · Dr. Nicholas Wachira · Dr. Winston Massam · Ms. Winfred Wachira · Dr. Col. Didas Chambulila Chair: Prof. Fredrick Mtenzi	Tanzanite Hall
Concurrent Sessions — Master Class: Aligning Innovation and Teaching 9:30 – 11:00 am		
Room 1	Ms. Benazir Kurji & Dr. Howard Omukami	
Room 2	<i>Design Thinking Sprint</i> Dr. Nicholas Wachira (Lead) · Mr. Emmanuel Mutura · Ms. Winfrida Mrope · Ms. Lydia Njake · Ms. Nooreen Kwezi	
Room 3	<i>ICT Integration</i> Prof. Fred Mtenzi (Lead) · Dr. Edward Missava · Dr. Gioko WaMaina	
Room 4	<i>Inspiring Curiosity, Creativity, and Innovation in STEM Classrooms</i> Dr. Esther Kibga (Lead) · Dr. Judith Pande · Mr. Joseph Muthama	
Room 5	<i>Reimagining the School Library for Competence-Based Learning: A Strategic Partner in Developing 21st-Century Learner Competencies</i> Dr. Jackline Kiwelu	
11:00 – 11:30 am	Tea Break	Student Court
11:30 am – 12:00 pm	<i>Entertainment</i> Tambaza Secondary School	Tanzanite Hall
Concurrent Sessions — Round Table: Empowerment Clinic: Focus on Solutions, Teacher Agency-Building 12:00 – 1:00 pm		
Room 1	<i>Competency-Based Assessment and Inclusive Teacher Education: Advancing Quality Teaching for All</i> Dr. Winston Massam (Lead) · Dr. Nkuba Mabula · Dr. Jacqueline Onyango	
Room 2	<i>Teacher Agency</i> Ms. Mary Oluga (Lead) · Dr. Rehema Japhet · Dr. Tage Biswalo	
Room 3	<i>Climate Change</i>	

	Dr. Esther Kibga (Lead) · Dr. Nicholas Wachira	
Room 4	<i>Beyond Access: Tackling the New Frontiers of Gender Equity and Inclusion in Education in East Africa</i> Dr. Mweru Mwingi (Lead) · Dr. Wango Nyagwegwe · Dr. Catherine Fulgence	
Room 5	Dr. Joviter Katabaro (Lead) · Dr. Nipael Mrutu	
1:00 – 2:00 pm	Lunch	<i>Student Court</i>
2:00 – 4:30 pm	<i>Site Visits:</i> <i>Teacher Development Innovations in Action</i> Moderator: Dr. Mweru Mwingi & Dr. Winston Massam Site Leads: Site 1: TIE — Ms. Nooreen Kwezi Site 2: DUCE — Mr. Emmanuel Mutura Site 3: AKEST — Ms. Blandina Duwa / Ms. Mubanga Mulenga Site 4: Karume PS–Temeke — Ms. Kessiah Kiwia / Ms. Evelyn Sanga	

DAY 3 (HALF DAY) · SHOWCASING INNOVATION AND COMMITMENT TO ACTION		
Scaling What Matters		
8:00 – 8:30 am	Conference Registration	Student Court
8:30 – 9:00 am	Panel: <i>Reflection on Site Visit — Interactive Café</i>	Student Court
9:00 – 10:00 am	Innovation Marketplace: <i>Display of Tools and Innovative Teaching/Learning Resources — Exhibition & Demonstration Stations</i> Room 1: Dr. Nicholas Wachira & Prof. Fredrick Mtenzi · Young Engineers · Tanzania STEM Foundation · Hassanali Damji · Young Scientists of Tanzania Room 2: President's Environmental Challenge Winners (AKU Students) · Shule Direct · AKU Library · UWEZO · Sam Andema Chair: Dr. Tage Biswalo	Mandela Hall & Student Lounge
10:00 – 10:30 am	Panel Discussion: <i>"Bringing It All Together"</i> Prof. Lyambwene Mtahabwa · Ms. Anne Gachoya · Mr. Hajj Muzamiru Mukwatampola · Dr. Shelina Wali Chair: Dr. Joviter Katabaro	Tanzanite Hall
10:30 – 11:00 am	Tea Break	Student Court
11:00 – 11:30 am	Entertainment: <i>"Voice of Change" — Poetry, Reflection, and Inspiration</i>	Student Court
11:30 am – 12:30 pm	Closing Ceremony Reflection — Dr. Sam Andema Vote of Thanks — Dr. Nipael Mrutu & Dr. Fortidas Bakuza Closing Remarks — Prof. Jane Rarieya Tanzania National Anthem & East African Anthem (AKES, T Orchestra) · Prayer	Tanzanite Hall
Onward	Lunch, Entertainment and Departure	Student Court