Thematic Forum III: Promoting Learning towards Employment & Entrepreneurship

UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning (UIL) Forum

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United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning

: Promoting Learning towards Employment & Entrepreneurship

Introduction

Sophia Bekele

International policy advisor on ICT, Internet and development issues, BS, MBA, C.I.S.A, C.C.S, CGEIT,
CEO/Founder

[DotConnectAfrica Group]
[CBS International]

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Quote

"If you stop learning, you will forget what you already know"

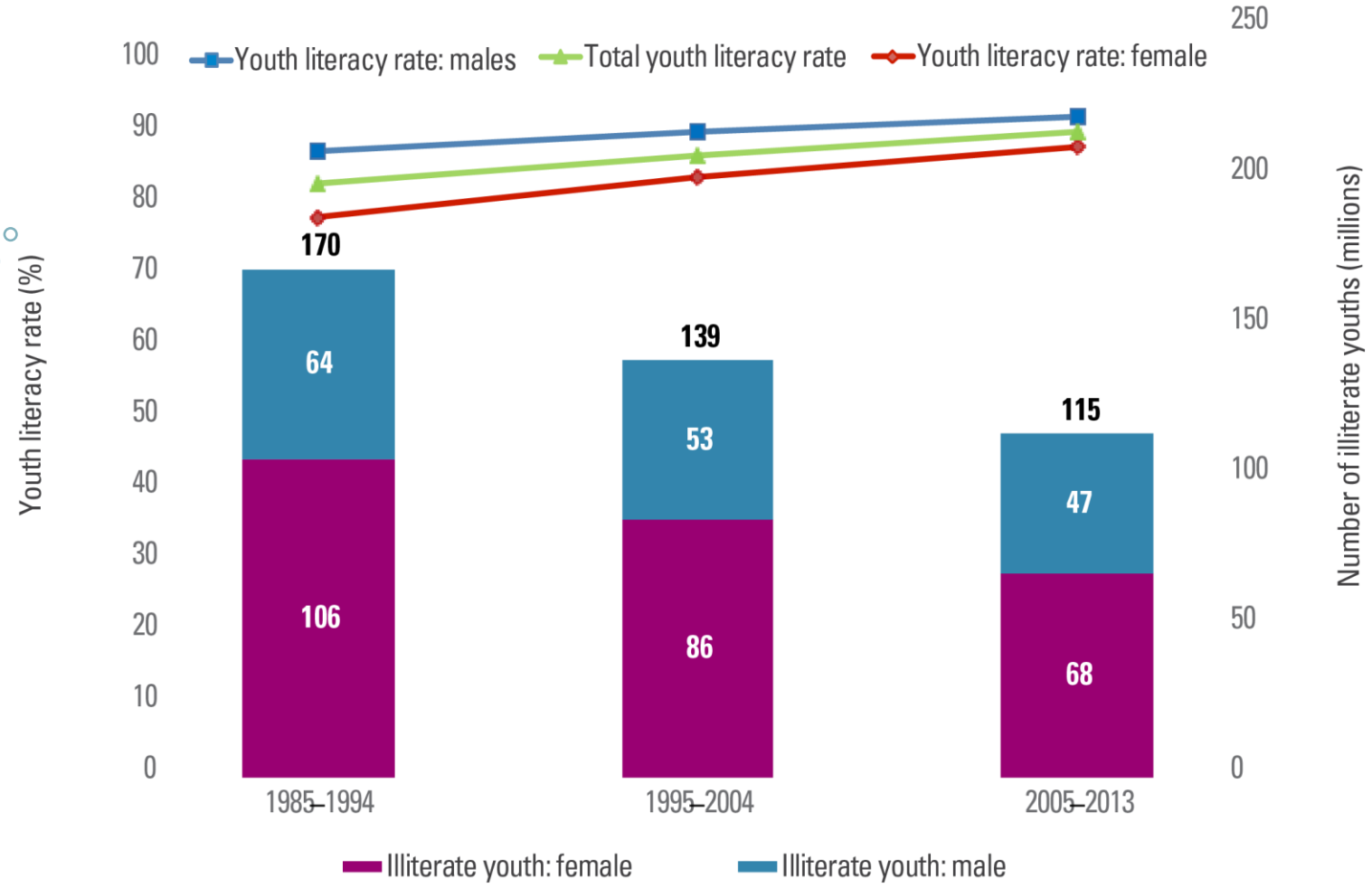
Proverbs 19:27

SDGs and 2030 Agenda

- Lifelong learning is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Global Sustainable Development (SDGs).
- The concept of learning throughout life is deeply rooted in all cultures around the globe in various ways.
- Learning cities at all stages of human development can benefit greatly from sharing ideas with other cities while life long learners get well equipped to adapt with the ever increasing environmental changes.

State of facts:

- Today half of humanity already live in cities, and by 2050 an estimated **70%** of humanity will be urban – *(Source: UN Sustainable development knowledge platform)*
- According to the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS), **750 million** adults worldwide, two thirds of them women, still lack basic literacy skills. *(Source: UIS)*
- The global unemployment rate fell from **6.1% in 2010** to **5.7% in 2016**. *(Source:* The *Sustainable Development Goals Report 2017)*
- Almost **10%** of the employed population worldwide lived with their families on less than **1.90 US dollars** per person per day in 2016. Vulnerability was much higher for younger workers:
  - ✓ **9** % of adult workers and their families lived in extreme poverty compared to **15%** of youth workers. *(Source:The World Bank, Understanding Poverty)*



Literacy among youth is rising, but young women lag behind
Youth literacy rate and number of illiterate youth (aged 15 to 24 years) worldwide, 1985–2013
Source: UNESCO Institute for Statistics global databases, 2015

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Learning to promote employment

- Establishment of a digital library and open data center to ensure all information is chronologically kept
- Using the big data to diagnose problem areas and predict the future of the city growth
- Continuous study of the population trends such as consumerism, energy and water needs
- Develop feedback mechanisms to ensure every solution provided is properly analyzed
- Partner with smart city solution providers to create an automated city that can benefit from critical big data collected
- Continuous adoption of modern solutions such as green energy, sustainable recycling of city waste, e.t.c

Role of Governments

- Governments through partnerships can enable learning to develop smart cities through:
  - ✓ Enhancing access to formal education from early education to tertiary levels
  - ✓ Actively supporting startups that drive science, technology & innovation i.e. DCA Academy
  - ✓ Availing easy access to early childhood care and education for all citizens.
  - ✓ Providing support for marginalized groups to ensure access to education. i.e. Women in Tech
  - ✓ extending the use of modern learning technologies i.e. elearning in Africa, IoT Trends

Tackling Global Youth Unemployment Rates

- 71 million youths worldwide are unemployed while 156 million young workers live in poverty.
- Governments can aid in closing the widening unemployment gap by:
  - ✓ The Digital connectivity & IoT plays a critical role in bettering lives, of these youths as it opens the door to unprecedented knowledge, employment and financial opportunities for billions of people worldwide
  - ✓ Boosting stronger aggregate demand & promoting the creation of quality jobs.
  - ✓ Maintaining, and where possible expanding, cost-effective active labor market measures.
  - ✓ Developing an integrated strategy to facilitate the transition of informal enterprises and workers in informal jobs into the formal economy in both rural and urban areas.

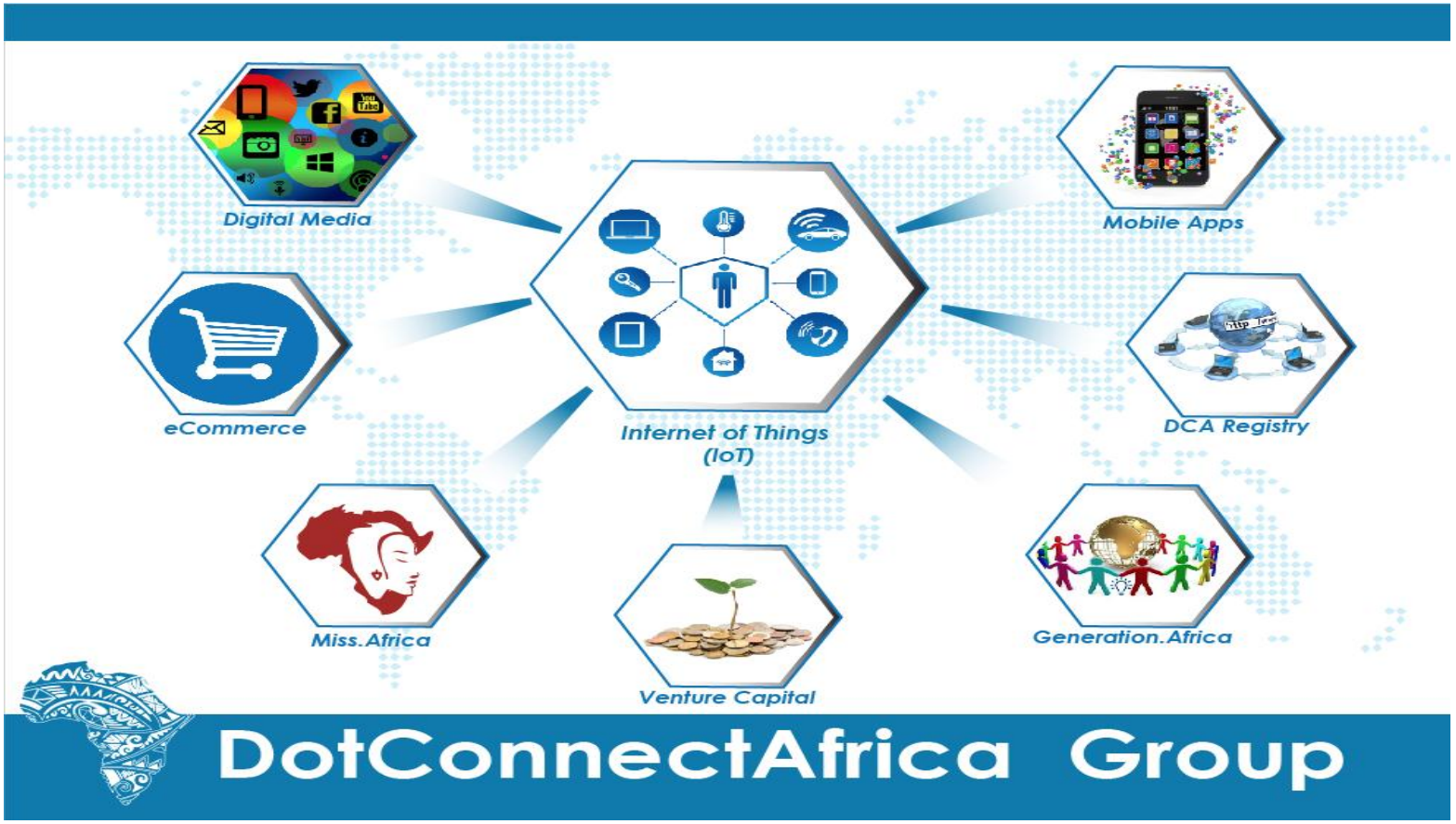
Artificial Intelligence and IoT in modern life long learning

- In modern learning environments, the information & skill-acquisition paradigm has evolved to incorporate technology and a plethora of knowledge sources .
- Access to all the information on the internet and Big Data analytics is actually a faster and more complex process compared to traditional modes.
- IoT opportunity in Africa is of an entirely different nature to that seen in Europe and the West. However Africa has had the chance to build much of its IoT infrastructure from scratch.
- Cities like Rwanda & Kenya have already created an IoT ecosystem where both private and government organizations can experiment with this technology in a vibrant & lively city. i.e. Konza City, Kigali smart city project.

Setbacks Facing the establishment of IoT Ecosystem African Cities

- The application of IoT in Africa can take on greater significance, but the barriers to adoption are also fiercer.
  - Corruption and lack of accountability mechanisms
  - Lack of infrastructure- Big money investors shy away
  - Inadequate Fiscal Support
  - Insufficient Access to Internet Facilities
  - Low education levels
  - Poor electrification
  - Slow Innovation speed & Skills shortage

DotConnectAfrica Group Enables learning through IoT Application



DCA Group Tech activities

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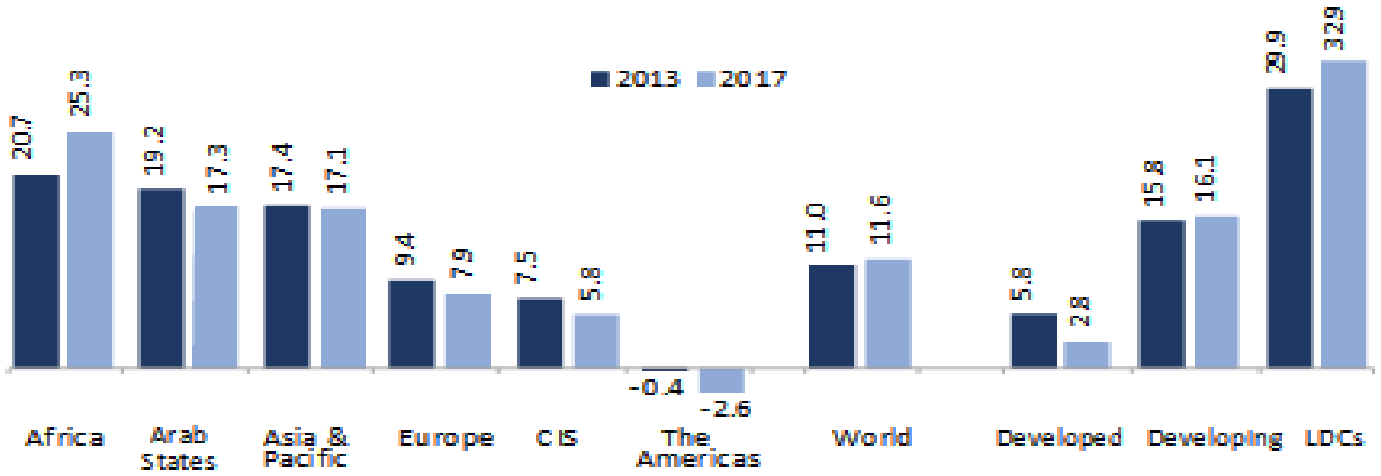
The Great Digital Gender Divide

Internet user gender gap (%), 2013 and 2017*



Source: ITU.

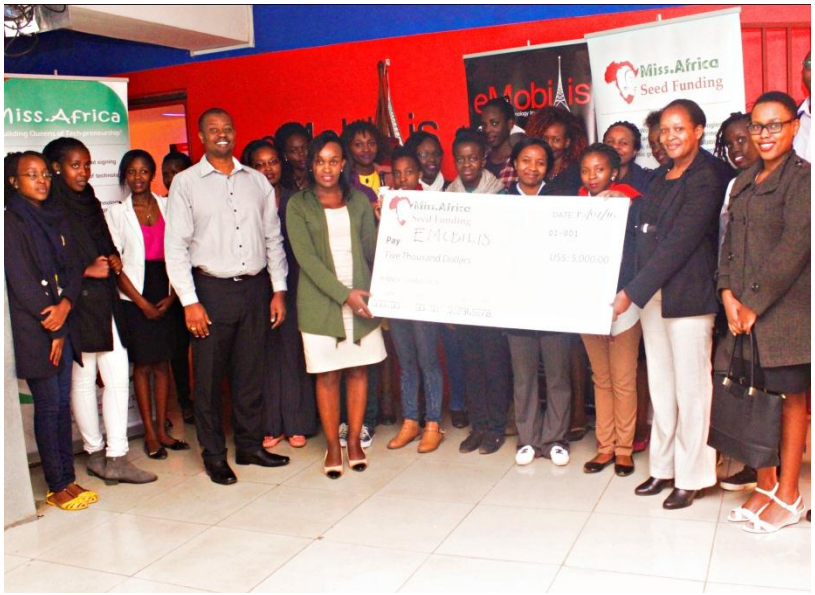
Note: * Estimates. The gender gap represents the difference between the Internet user penetration rates for males and females relative to the Internet user penetration rate for males, expressed as a percentage. **CIS** refers to the Commonwealth of Independent States.

The Great Digital Gender Divide

- Addressing the digital gender divide is critical to realizing the significant potential benefits that the Internet can bring for women & the broader economy.
- In LDCs, only one out of seven women is using the Internet compared with one out of five men.
- Despite worldwide efforts, the global Internet user gender gap grew from 11% in 2013 to 12% in 2016, with the estimated gap highest in Least Developed Countries (LDCs) (31%) and Africa (23%).

DCA Empowers women in tech through IoT *(Miss.Africa Digital)*

- Through the annual Miss.Africa Seed funding project DCA attracts young girls & women to the Internet platform by involving them in complementary gender development initiatives that improve their lives.



- Hundreds of Women have so far benefited directly by receiving Mobile App Development training from the Miss.Africa Seed Fund Winners.
- The program expects the number to increase by the end of the year when the 2016/17 cohort graduate.

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Achieving SDG 4 Through DCA Digital Academy

- DCA Digital Academy provides training on various topics, all related to the Internet so as to increase Internet literacy and promote lifelong learning in Africa.
- The Academy provides the tools & skills to foster entrepreneurships & also connecting youth and women to innovation highways, this way Africa can be part of the foundations of a developed technologically aware society, this is inline with SDGs 8 and 9 goals
- The academy conducts trainings, both online and on the ground which supports the SDG 4 goals
- Members get to be given the opportunity to nurture their skills and talents through continuous assessment and awarding of certificates.

Achieving SDG 4 Through DCA Digital Academy

- With support to women and girls, our program is in tandem with SDG 5 to Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls and SDG 10 to Reduce inequality within and among countries.
- By providing opportunities, we therefore create and environment that promotes peaceful and inclusive societies, in line with SGD 16

Benefits of lifelong Learning on sustainable Development of cities

- ✓ Addresses inequalities in the various sectors of the economy
- ✓ Provides beneficiaries with the opportunity and knowhow to pilot SMEs through entrepreneurship.
- ✓ Enables job creation through innovations and creativities
- ✓ Enables beneficiaries to obtain employment in the formal sector.
- ✓ Contributes to improved living standards from high entrepreneurial activities.
- ✓ Builds a feedback mechanism to enable critical analytics

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