

PRESS RELEASE

Attn: News/Business Editor

March 21, 2016

For Immediate Use

ICT Ministry unveils digital devices for the Digital Literacy Programme at the Connected Summit 2016

Diani... The ICT Authority today unveiled the devices that will be used by primary teachers and pupils, bringing closer to reality the Digital literacy Programme.

The devices were unveiled at the Connected Summit 2016 and are loaded with content for standard 1. The Digital Literacy Programme is running on a pilot basis in 150 select public primary schools across the country, after which it will be rolled out to more than the 22,000 public primary schools.

The learners will get a tablet while the teachers will get a laptop. The Learners will get a luminous green learners digital device (LDD) while teachers will get a blue teachers digital device (TDD). Also among the delivery to schools are a Special needs learners device which will be luminous green laptop adapted for special needs. In addition each school will receive a projector, server and router.

Joe Mucheru Cabinet Secretary Ministry of ICT reported that the programme will be fully rolled out to all public primary schools by August 2017. He added all requisite preparations are being undertaken to ensure all the schools are ready for the programme implementation. The pilot is also being undertaken in eight special schools.

“To date, 60 000 teachers have been trained. Further training will be provided by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology through the Kenya Institute of Curriculum development (KICD) through online training courses on ICT integration for the teachers,” said Mr Mucheru.

In addition, a total of 20 622 schools have been connected to the national electricity grid while Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development (KICD) has launched online content for standard one , which is available online, as it works towards liberalisation of learning content and it’s availability on multiple platforms.

The Cabinet spoke after he officially opened the Connected Summit 2016 in Diani.

Present at the meeting were Rwanda PS, Youth and ICT, Ms Rosemary Mbabazi, South Sudan Minister representative, Kenya PS’s Ministry of ICT, Victor Kyalo and Sammy Itemere, Governor Kwale County, Salim Mvurya, and Governor Bungoma, Ken Lusaka who represented the Council of Governors. Also present were ICT Authority, Acting CEO, Robert Mugo. The conference has attendance from more 600 top ICT executives from the private and public sector.

Connected summit is an annual gathering of public and private sector players organised by the ICT Authority. This year's summit is the eighth edition and is themed '**Bridging the Service Gap.**' Delegates are expected to explore modalities of bringing services closer to the people through innovative application of technology.

ICT Authority acting CEO, Robert Mugon noted there is need to involve both Government and private sector players in coming up with ideas that would push the industry forward.

"ICTA is embarking on three critical projects for the national Government namely the Presidential Digital Talent Programme, Digital Literacy Programme and Enterprise Kenya," he said.

"To achieve our goals, we treasure partnerships with the private sector, national and county governments, academia and bilateral organisations. You are all very important to us in our delivery model."

Notes to Editors

The Connected Summit, first held in 2009, aims at establishing a platform for collaboration, capacity building and knowledge sharing between government and the ICT sector with a view of linking and hastening implementation of government IT projects to world-class standards.

Some of today's leading government projects have links with Connected Kenya. With its remarkable mix of decision-makers from government and leading ICT thinkers from industry, the Summit has enabled its participants to develop unique insights that allow them to successfully respond and design their engagement in Kenya's vibrant ICT sector.

Projects such as Kenya Open Data Initiative, Huduma citizen's portal and the development of a national Information Security Policy were informed or refined from discussions and panels held at Connected.

The government also adopted a recommendation from the 2015 Connected in the Digital Literacy Programme, which called for support of locally assembled devices through the review of the taxation policies on components.

Connected Summit 2016 has been sponsored by Microsoft, Dimension Data, Cisco, Oracle, Airtel Business, Seacom, Huawei, Konza Technopolis Development Authority, Telkom Kenya, Intel, Safaricom and Compulynx.

More information: www.connected.go.ke

#connected2016

@ICTAuthorityKE

Ends