Science Education and Literacy in Africa through NASAC

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Outline

Network of African Science Academies (NASAC)

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# About NASAC

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Founded in Dec. 2001 as independent network for African science academies to:

“provide authoritative science advice for policy formulation for development in Africa”
Governance

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
(Presidents or their Representatives from all member academies)

BOARD
(President, 3 VPs, Treasurer, Secretary and Immediate Past President)

AD HOC COMMITTEES

STANDING COMMITTEES

NASAC SECRETARIAT
(Director, Programme officers/assistants)

EXECUTIVE OFFICIALS
(From all member academies)

Unique Niche

Facilitate Establishment Science Academies

Independent platform for credible advise

NASAC

Voice of Science thru’ academies in Africa

Strengthen Existing Academies
Flagship programmes and outputs

Programmes and outputs
Other programmes and outputs

SDGs dimension

Science Education Programme (SEP)
Science Education Programme (SEP)

• NASAC’s flagship programme since 2007 and SEP Working Group members appointed by the Board as an advisory group

• Regional and international collaboration on SEP (jointly hosted SEP events in Cameroon, Chile, Finland, France, Kenya, Senegal, South Africa, Uganda)

• Enhanced capacity to deliver on SEP Mandate
  ➢ Terms of reference for governance and role
  ➢ Hold face-to-face meetings
  ➢ Adopt training-of-trainers activities for teachers
  ➢ Engage students and early career researchers for posterity
  ➢ Support IBSE pilot schools in Cameroon and Uganda

Partnerships for SEP
IAP partnership for NASAC-SEP

• **Workshop** on Gender Mainstreaming for Science Education in Africa *in April 2017 in Nairobi, Kenya* (joint event for WfS and SEP working groups)
• Training **Seminars** for science teachers in partnership with French Academy’s *La main à la pâte*
• Academy **mentorship** on SEP for new NASAC members (encourage peer to peer learning and sharing of practical experiences)
• **Meetings** of the SEP Working Group members on 8-9 October 2019 in Nairobi, Kenya - ‘*Promotion of Climate Change Education in Africa*’

Chinese and French Academies Partnership

**BRISECC**
- Member of Belt and Road International Science Education Coordinating Committee (BRISECC) and Partner
- Fostering IBSE (Inquiry-based Science Education) for African *students, science teachers and scientists* through Belt and Road Teenager Makers Camp and Teacher Workshop by CAST/CYSC
- Encourage the participation of NASAC members and involvement in Science for students

**AEMASE**
- Co-organized [with the French Academy] and supported the participation of science education experts to the African European Mediterranean Academies for Science Education (*AEMASE*) conferences
- Supporting the participation of African scientists to CESAME centers and at AEMASE activities
Spin-offs from SEP initiatives

Enhanced science culture in Africa

- Popularization of science at community and policy levels targeted at improved science teaching and learning
- Championing pursuit of science careers among students in general and girls in particular
- Engaging with young researchers and early career scientists in transdisciplinary research (LIRA2030)
- Facilitating a SEP community of practice among teachers and scientists
- Utilization of local materials for science lessons with an emphasis on relevance for place-based knowledge
Linking science education and literacy to global UN-SDGs and regional AU-STISA

- Contextualize global issues in local environments e.g. Climate change education
- Focus on solution-oriented science education to reduce resource duplication and wastage (relevance)
- Secure SEP buy-in by involving all stakeholders from the onset (academia, policy, public) to factor SDG/STISA
- Attempt to address sustainability issues upfront (acknowledging in-kind contributions by schools and the private sector)
- Consistently applying gender lens

Thank you for your continued support