**Education Sector Strategic Plan (ESSP) 2013/14-2017/18**

The mission of the Ministry of Education is to transform the Rwandan citizen into skilled human capital for the socio-economic development of the country by ensuring equitable access to quality education focusing on combating illiteracy, promotion of science and technology, critical thinking, and positive values.

The publication of the new Education Sector Strategic Plan (ESSP) 2013/14-2017/18 marks the update of the ESSP 2010-2015 and alignment of plans for Rwanda's education sector in line with the Economic Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy (EDPRS 2).

This ESSP inform and guide the development of the education sector during 2013/14-2017/18 to ensure that the investments the country works our children today supports our national priorities and goals. The plans are ambitious, but focused on addressing challenges and achieving results to provide the children with the skills and knowledge they need to become productive members of our society and economy.

The concepts of universal equitable access and quality education provision underpin this ESSP, and will always occupy the most important place in the sector’s planning and implementation activities. The ESSP builds upon our national priority of making quality twelve-year basic education available for all our children and also reflects our overarching mission to make education at all levels more accessible and more relevant to our national needs.

There are three identified goals to support MINEDUC in achieving its mission of facilitating the development of human capital for the socio-economic development of Rwanda: *promoting access to education at all levels, improving the quality of education and training, and strengthening the relevance of education and training to meet labor market demands* by emphasizing on equity in access to education to all Rwandans.

access to education, and to extend this by increasing the coverage and the quality of twelve-year basic education and school readiness programs, to prioritize skills development to strengthen the quality and relevance of education and to better equip our students to meet the requirements of the diverse labour market.

The ESSP aimed to build on progress made in recent previous years and provide a planning framework that will enable the education sector to improve the provision of education, including skills development, in order to better meet the requirements of the diverse labor market, by increasing the coverage and the quality of 12YBE. In addition to strengthening TVET and higher education provision, the plan also aims to improve preprimary education, teacher education and adult literacy provision.

This ESSP provides the overarching framework for a holistic sector-wide approach to the development and delivery of education services in Rwanda. The Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) will be used as a tool to ensure that budget allocations follow medium and longterm paths. The use of the MTEF also ensures that educational proposals are set within the national fiscal planning and management framework, with close monitoring and regular evaluation. The ESSP will provide the overarching and guiding framework for the elaboration of logically consistent and sequential annual operational plans and budgets for each of the five years of its duration.

The annual Education Sector Action Plan covers all the activities carried out by the central administration and its affiliated institutions and agencies (REB, WDA, HEC etc.). MINEDUC supported by a number of semi-autonomous bodies who have mandates to implement specific education policies REB, the Higher Education Council (HEC), the National Council for Science, Technology and Innovation (NCSTI), the Workforce Development Agency (WDA), the Rwandan National Commission for UNESCO (CNRU) and public Tertiary Education Institutions (TEIs) are responsible for ensuring the implementation of the ESSP. The relationship between these institutions and other actors in the education sector is depicted in Figure 2 below: