**SUMMARY ON RWANDAN EDUCATION SECTOR STRATEGIC PLAN ( 2013-2018)**

The Government of Rwanda aims to transform Rwanda into a middle income country by 2020.

Achieving Rwanda’s social and economic development objectives is largely dependent upon its most

valuable resource – its people. To achieve these goals, the Rwandan people must be provided

opportunities to develop knowledge, skills and attitudes to compete in the labour market and

contribute to the social and political life of their country. The mission of the Ministry of Education

(MINEDUC) 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 Education Sector Strategic Plan (ESSP) outlines how the education sector will strive to achieve

this mission over the next 5 years. It has been developed in line with Rwanda’s second Economic

Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy (EDPRS) to support Rwanda achieve national

aspirations for economic transformation, rural development, accountable governance and improved

productivity and youth employment. The plan is centred on three overarching goals: expanding

access to education at all levels, improving the quality of education and training, and strengthening

the relevance of education and training to meet labour market demands.

Based upon these goals and priorities, 10 outcomes have been developed for the education sector:

1. Increased equitable access to 9 years of basic education for all children and expanding

access to 12 years of basic education.

2. Increased equitable access to education for students with special educational needs

within mainstream and special schools.

3. Improved quality and learning outcomes across primary and secondary education.

4. Qualified, suitably-skilled and motivated teachers and trainers to meet the demands of

expanding education access.

5. Increased equitable access to relevant, high-quality, demand-driven TVET programmes.

6. Increased equitable access to affordable, relevant, academically excellent higher

education that also delivers quality research outputs.

7. Improved access to school readiness programmes by 2017/18, accompanied by

expanded access to three-years of early learning for four-to-six-year olds.

8. Strengthened performance in science, technology and innovation at all levels of

education, and application of science, technology and innovation in relevant sectors of

the economy.

9. Increased access to Adult Basic Education to improve adult literacy and numeracy.

10. Improved administrative and management support services, including the

management of policy, information, finances, and human resources across the

education sector.

 **Education Sector Policies**

The ESSP reflects a number of sub-sector policies, strategic plans and cross-cutting issues developed

over recent years. The systematic and effective implementation of these policies will contribute to

the operationalisation of the ESSP, and ultimately to the achievement of the objectives of the EDPRS

 **These policies include the following:**

* Girls Education Policy (2008)
* Higher Education Policy (2008)
* Quality Standards in Education (2008)
* Special Needs Education Policy (2008)
* ICT in Education Policy (2008, and being reviewed in 2014)
* Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Policy (2008)
* Teacher Development and Management Policy (revised 2011)
* Early Childhood Development Policy and Strategic Plan (2011)
* Youth and Adult Literacy Strategic Plan (awaiting approval)
* School Health Policy (in development)
* Draft Policy on Teacher Incentives (in development)
* National Science, Technology and Innovation Policy (2005 and being reviewed in 2013/4 to

 also include a five year strategic plan)

**In addition to these policies, the following strategic plans were also developed:**

* Nine-Year Basic Education Strategy (2008)
* Draft Strategic Plan for Technical Education (2008-2012)
* Draft Higher Education Strategic Plan (2009)

In August 2010, the President of the Republic of Rwanda made a new commitment to increase access

to education to twelve years to enable all Rwandan children to complete full secondary education by

2018. Implementation of this policy began in 2012 with increased access to upper secondary being

phased in over three years.