



Philanthropy in Education

Global Trends, Regional Differences
and Diverse Perspectives

Investing in Education in Africa Diverse Perspectives on Innovative Financing

Venue

April 9, 2019, 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM
Teachers College, Columbia University
Grace Dodge Hall 179

*To request disability-related accommodations,
contact OASID at oasid@tc.edu, or 212-678-3689,
(646) 755-3144 video phone, as early as possible.*

Host of the event



Co-sponsored by

Teachers College Vice President's Diversity and Community Initiatives Grant Fund
Tri-State Area Africa Funders



The George Clement Bond Center for African Education presents:

Investing in Education in Africa

Diverse Perspectives on Innovative Financing

Introduction

Global aid to education is declining, and although innovative financing in development is expected to grow to \$24 billion by 2020 education funding falls behind many other sectors, including energy, environment and global health. One method of innovative financing is the Education Outcomes Fund (EOF), which proposes to raise \$1 billion to make payment-by-results grants to private education providers to improve education outcomes. The EOF aims to attract new funding, stimulate innovation and maximize the efficiency of existing education funding streams. However, critics of the EOF claim that such a fund would give too much power to investors, narrow the focus of education, and exclude society's vulnerable students.

Objective

This panel will explore different innovative financing mechanisms and their impact on education and development in Africa. Our keynote speaker will discuss the topic from a funder's perspective through her work at the Open Society Foundations. We have invited three panelists who will share insights based on their own diverse experiences working in philanthropy and development in Africa. We hope to connect different actors and foster conversation among students, academics, practitioners and funders on the lessons learned, challenges, successes and recommendations for the future of innovative finance in education to ensure equitable outcomes.

April 9, 2019

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| 10:00 – 10:15 | Welcome and Introduction of Keynote Speaker and Panelists <i>Dr. S. Garnett Russell</i> , Assistant Professor of International and Comparative Education and Director of the George Clement Bond Center for African Education at Teachers College, Columbia University <i>Dr. Fabrice Jaumont</i> , Education Attaché for the Embassy of France to the United States, Program Officer for FACE Foundation in New York, and Research Fellow at Fondation Maison des Sciences de l'Homme in Paris <i>Katrina Webster</i> , MA Student and Graduate Assistant, George Clement Bond Center for African Education at Teachers College, Columbia University |
| 10:15 – 10:45 | Keynote Speaker Presentation <i>Dr. Aleesha Taylor</i> , Founder and Principal, Herald Advisors |
| 10:45 – 11:15 | Panel Discussion and Q&A Moderator <i>Dr. Fabrice Jaumont</i> <i>Dr. Marina Avelar</i> , Research Associate, NORRAG <i>Amini Kajunju</i> , Executive Director, IUGB Foundation <i>Barbara Bylenga</i> , Founder and Executive Director, SHE-CAN |
| 11:15 – 12:00 | Roundtable with Panelists Moderator <i>Dr. Fabrice Jaumont</i> |
| 12:00 – 1:00 | Light lunch and networking |

Biographical Notes

Dr. Marina Avelar is Research Associate at NORRAG and she holds a PhD in Education by the UCL Institute of Education. Her work is focused on privatisation and globalisation, looking at the participation of new actors in education policy-making and governance, with special interest on philanthropy and innovative finance. She has written pieces to academic journals and books, and her thesis was the winner of the Peter Lang Young Scholars Competition in Education Studies, in the UK. Prior to the PhD, she completed her bachelors and masters degrees in education in Brazil, with visiting periods at Lund University (Sweden) and University of London.

Barbara Bylenga is a social entrepreneur with 25+ years of experience in the business world. In 2011 she founded SHE-CAN, a non-profit that builds female leadership in post-conflict nations. SHE-CAN engages U.S. professional women and men as mentors who come together in teams of 5-6 to help a young woman from Liberia, Rwanda or Cambodia attend a U.S. college and launch her career as a change-agent at home. Since its inception, Barbara has been responsible for the day-to-day creation and oversight of their vision, strategy, and program development. She also serves as chief liaison in SHE-CAN's fundraising and partnership building.

Before founding SHE-CAN, Barbara spent 15 years running her own market research consultancy. Outlaw Consulting provided companies such as Levi Strauss & Co., Nike, and Nordstrom with intelligence that informed product design, advertising and marketing strategies. Prior to founding Outlaw, Barbara had a successful career at a number of major advertising firms, including Leo Burnett; Foote, Cone and Belding; Chiat Day; and Tatham Laird and Kudner. Barbara is a member of the Executive Council of Bpeace and the International Women's Forum (IWF). She is a graduate of Florida State and Michigan State.

Dr. Fabrice Jaumont currently serves as Education Attaché for the Embassy of France to the United States, a Program Director for FACE Foundation in New York, a Research Fellow at Fondation Maison des Sciences de l'Homme in Paris. He serves on the editorial board of NORRAG, and chairs the Center for the Advancement of Languages, Education, and Communities, a nonprofit organization with a focus on multilingualism, cross-cultural understanding, and the empowerment of linguistic communities. Fabrice Jaumont is the author of several books, including *Unequal Partners: American Foundations and Higher Education Development in Africa* (Palgrave-MacMillan, 2016); *Partenaires inégaux: fondations américaines et universités en Afrique* (Editions Maison des Sciences de l'Homme, 2018); and *The Bilingual Revolution: The Future of Education is in Two Languages* (TBR Books, 2017), which has been translated in 8 languages.

Amini Kajunju is the executive director of the IUGB Foundation. The Foundation is dedicated to empowering students and helping to develop the necessary resources to make the International University of Grand-Bassam (IUGB) a center of excellence for higher education in West Africa.

Kajunju served as director of strategic partnerships at Africa Integras, a New York-based firm that invests in the development of education infrastructure, including academic facilities, student hostels and faculty housing at African universities. Prior to her role with African Integras, Kajunju was the president and CEO of the Africa-America Institute (AAI), a New York-based non-profit dedicated to strengthening human capacity in Africa. She is the first African to serve at the helm of the oldest non-profit organization of its kind in the United States. A native of the Democratic Republic of Congo, Kajunju also founded the Bashi Group, an international consultancy focused on education and entrepreneurship in Africa in 2016. She was honored as "Advocate of the Year" at Applause Africa's African Diaspora Awards 2013 and was named Forbes' 20 Young Power Women in Africa 2013.

Dr. Aleesha Taylor has worked with governments, nonprofits, international networks and the private sector to transform crises and critical turning points into opportunities for greater impact. She is the founder and principal of Herald Advisors, a strategic advisory firm that helps clients shift systems and resources to address their challenges and better serve the socially and economically disadvantaged. As a former deputy director at the Open Society Foundations, Aleesha has a decade of experience in philanthropy. Aleesha has been essential to the exploration and implementation of innovative partnerships and funding arrangements in the education sector. She was central to the creation of the Private Sector/Foundations constituency of the Global Partnership for Education Board of Directors and served as its representative on the Board's Financial Advisory Committee, which provided \$1.2 billion in grant funding to developing country governments during her tenure. Aleesha is committed to unlocking the potential of leaders and organizations to help systems work more effectively in serving the marginalized. She is an outcome-oriented thought partner, facilitator and strategic coach who enables organizational alignment that allows for systemic transformation. Aleesha has worked with leaders in the fields of philanthropy, education and international development. Her clients include the Open Society Foundations, Porticus Foundation, Bernard van Leer Foundation, UN Girls Education Initiative, DFID, International Education Funders Group, Oxford Policy Management and Chemonics. Originally from the Bronx, NY, Aleesha brings a critical global perspective that is informed by her travel to over 60 countries, particularly the years she lived and worked in Kenya, Tanzania, England and Liberia.



Organizations

The George Clement Bond Center for African Education

The George Clement Bond Center for African Education promotes research and teaching about education in Africa and in the African diaspora, including Latin America and the Caribbean. We do this by creating communities of students, alumni, faculty, and staff with common interests in the fields of education and African studies. In particular we seek to promote interdisciplinary study and discussion at Teachers College and throughout the Columbia University community through collaborative research projects, conferences, lecture series, and courses.

The Center also promotes exchanges and partnerships with African universities by hosting visiting scholars, African educators, researchers, policy makers, practitioners and activists. The Center provides different forums for these varied constituencies to discuss their research and other collaborative projects. In accordance with Teachers College's education mandate, the Center highlights challenges within this domain with a particular focus on the understanding and promotion of educational equity.

www.tc.columbia.edu/cae

NORRAG

NORRAG is a global membership-based network of international policies and cooperation in education, established in 1986.

NORRAG's core mandate and strength is to produce, disseminate and broker critical knowledge and to build capacity among the wide range of stakeholders who constitute its network. These stakeholders inform and shape education policies and practice, both at national and international levels, and are united by a shared commitment to principles of social justice, equity and quality in education.

Through its work, NORRAG actively contributes to critical dialogue on global developments in education by mobilising and disseminating diverse voices, multiple perspectives, facts and evidence.

www.norrag.org

The Tamer Center for Social Enterprise, Columbia Business School

Columbia Business School has long been committed to advancing the practice and understanding of social enterprise having trained leaders with a commitment to solving social and environmental issues for over three decades. By supporting new ideas from faculty and industry leaders, as well as the curricular and extracurricular opportunities of students, the Business School educates leaders to use business knowledge, entrepreneurial skills, and management tools to address social and environmental challenges.

The Tamer Center for Social Enterprise expands on Columbia's Social Enterprise Program, whose mission was to advance the understanding of how business can contribute to society and the environment, by emphasizing the vital role that social enterprise plays in transforming communities.

www8.gsb.columbia.edu/socialenterprise

Tri-State Area Africa Funders

The Tri-State Area Africa Funders was established in 2015 by a group of Tri-State area based funders, including the Issroff Family Foundation and the Segal Family Foundation. The group was created to provide a consistent informal gathering of like-minded funders – including individuals, foundations, corporations, and consultants – based in the Tri-state Area who fund throughout Africa. Through bi-monthly gatherings providing both learning and networking opportunities, the Tri-State Area Africa Funders aspire to increase capacity for engaged and thoughtful partnership. By sharing and learning best practices about philanthropy and Africa, we gather together to create a supportive community and to improve relationships with grantee partners. We host gatherings throughout the year on a variety of topics, seeking to appeal to funders across various geographic priorities within Africa, program operations, and funding vehicles.