

Minute of the RENCP - Meeting held on 15th February, 2012

At 'The Wellspring Foundation premises' – Nyarutarama.

Participants	Agenda
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. PLAN Rwanda - Alfred Mupenzi 2. Wellspring – Jeffery Komant 3. Wellspring – Kirsten Lake 4. Wellspring – Phocas Ngendahayo 5. One Laptop per Child – Julia Reynolds 6. IEE – Nathan Hamilton 7. UNICEF – Hugh Delaney 8. Rwanda Education Commons - Vicky Frantz 9. Rwanda Education Commons - Ildephonse Bikino 10. NUDOR - Gloria Godfrey 11. VSO - Sarah Challoner 12. VSO – Ruth Mbabazi 13. Handicap International - Silas Ngayaboshya 14. BNEP / CPR - Monique Nyirankundimana 15. Millennium Village Project - John Mugabo 16. Art of Conservation - Akuredusenge Valerie 17. Strive Foundation Rwanda - Uwineza Fatuma 18. CHF International / Higa Ubeho – Nicole Mukunzi 19. Save the Children - Elisa Radisone 20. Africa Anchor of Hope - Moses Habarugira 21. Africa Anchor of Hope - Norbert Sangano 22. Concern Worldwide Rwanda - Dieu-Donné Bugingo Kamana 23. Concern Worldwide Rwanda – Donna Ajambo Akaliza 24. EDC – Said Yasin 25. World Vision Rwanda – Laurence Uwera 26. ADRA- Esther Nandudu 27. Kids Learning – Alinda Ware 28. Kids Learning - Catherine Lumasia 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Welcome remark - PLAN 2. Overview of RENCP internal principles and guidelines - Wellspring 3. Updates from Working Group <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Quality Summit / Rwanda Read Campaign - VSO b. Equity and Inclusion WG: Special Needs Education (SNE) – VSO/ ADRA/ Handicapped International c. Community Involvement WG: Concern Worldwide, Wellspring Foundation, Millennium Villages d. In-service Teacher Training (INST – WG : IEE / Wellspring e. ECCD – Save the Children 4. Updates on the meetings and conferences attended by representing organizations <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. JRES (Wellspring) b. Quality Summit (VSO) c. EDPRS 1 : Evaluation and way – forward for EDPRS 2 (UNICEF), Rwanda Reads Campaigns (VSO) d. A word from Education Development Partners Representative - UNICEF

Item	Discussion Summary	Actions	Timing
Welcome remarks from RENCP chairing organization	<p>Jeffery Komant, the Wellspring Country Director warmly welcomed the RECNP members to the 'temporary' Wellspring premises. He informed participants that this meeting was held a day before the cluster meeting of MINEDUC and Development Partners. .</p> <p>Alfred Mupenzi representing Plan as the Chairing organization took the lead for the agenda of the day. He reminded the participants on the objectives and role of RENCP especially for the new participants. He also introduced the working groups and asks for an overview of who they are.</p> <p>Because Nate Hamilton (IEE) had another commitment scheduled for later in the day he gave a brief update on the Teacher Development Working Group. He shared that the group had been mainly focused in communication sharing and information tracking since the last GA. He then proceeded to share about the continued work and progress on the national English mentorship initiative whereby each Rwandan school will receive an English mentor who will be school based in order to provide consistent English support to the school staff. These will be East African English speakers who have been teachers or received some form of teacher training. The timeframe for implementation is still being decided by the Ministry of Education</p>	<p>Those who are not on the RENCP contact list are requested to fill a form providing or updating their contact details.</p> <p>This to be given to Stephane to update.</p>	
An overview of RENCP internal principles and guidelines	<p>Jeffery indicated that there has been a need to have a dialogue, formulating principles and guidelines on how we see ourselves as the RENCP working more effectively.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Small groups were formed and discussed the following questions: How would we like to work together effectively as member organizations? (shared values, perspectives, expectations) 2. Comments concerning the structures of RENCP 3. Evaluation of strengths and weakness 	<p>Plan and Wellspring Foudation will meet to organize and assimilate feedback from member organizations in order to strengthen internal principles, guidelines, structures and draft a code of conduct for the RENCP.</p>	

Updates from the Working Groups			
Quality Working Group Quality Summit/ Rwanda Reads Campaign / VSO	<p>Rwanda Reads is and REB initiative. VSO as part of the QIWG has already been supporting this agenda as it moves forward.</p> <p>ECD and USAID shared about L3 and Rwanda Reads. ECD is the provider of L3 and USAID is the DP co-chair with REB of Rwanda Reads.L3 initiative: Literacy, Language and Learning. The whole concept is to create a culture of reading in Rwanda and to significantly raise the level of literacy ability in basic education. (See powerpoint presentation for details).Thus, the USAID objective is strengthening teaching and learning so that children leave primary school with solid literacy and numeracy skills.</p> <p>Carrie Antal from USAID shared about the REB Rwanda Reads desire to establish a task force that will ensure that this national agenda is effectively moved forward. She expressed the desire for any RENCP members who would be interested in being involved in this process to contact her as she will be putting a list of interested parties together. She would be sending out an email list to the RENCP mailing list with further details, which interested parties could respond to.</p>	<p>RENCP member organizations that wish to be part of the task force for Rwanda Reads should contact Carrie Antal directly.</p>	
Equity and Inclusion Working Group Special Needs Education SNE	<p>The WG is working to support the government's vision for special needs education through inclusive education and specialist provision through activities (training, technical support, advocacy). (see powerpoint presentation)</p>		
Community Involvement Working Group	<p>Concern Worldwide and Wellspring Foundation/ Millennium Village are involved in developing the community involvement. (see power point presentation)</p> <p>There has been representation by members of this working group, as well as others, who have recently been part of the School Leadership and Management training offered by VVOB/MINEDUC. This has shown good partnership and sharing in the area of community involvement and school leadership. Representatives from Concern, VSO and Wellspring took part in week long training alongside the national trainers (cadre of trainers for school leadership) to be further</p>		

	<p>equipped and trained for the delivery and support of the School Management and Leadership Training.</p> <p>There is an understanding that the PTC manual, as part of MINEDUC's School Leadership and Management department, will be transferred to the TDM as the REB department responsible.</p>		
Marketing presentation from visitors	Alinda Ware, representing Kids Learning Company Limited in Kenya was given the opportunity to present Africanized game based education software for kids. She is in process to introduce it to MINEDUC		
ECCD Working Group (updates on the Workshop of 26 th Aug 2011)	Elisa from Save the Children presented the report of the ECCD working group (see powerpoint presentation). She also briefly shared about the outcomes of the World Bank – Save the Children study on ECCD – Preschool Africa in rural area. This new research shows that 'early education helps children thrive and learn more in rural Africa'. There is need to contact MINEDUC and involve the Civil society, share with them about the findings to explore how to apply this ECCD preschool program in Rwanda.	The Global Campaign for Education (GCE) Action Week is planned on April 22 nd – 28 th , 2012 with the theme: "Rights from the start! Early Childhood Care and Education Now! RENCP chair and co-chair should seek to have this week highlighted at the Cluster Meeting.	April 22 th – 28 th , 2012.
Updates on the meetings and conferences attended by representing organizations			
a)JRES (Wellspring) b) Quality Summit (VSO) c) EDPRS 1 Evaluation and way-forward for EDPRS 2 (UNICEF) Rwanda Reads Campaigns (VSO)	<p>The Teacher Development Group (as well as Community Involvement and SEN) had been actively involved in supporting certain logistical and technical aspects of the JRES and Quality Summit.</p> <p>The Teacher Development WG was also involved in the formation of the TTC curriculum at the invitation of KIE. This workshop took place in late November with the purpose of reviewing the TCC curriculum in order to incorporate some new curricula (ECCD and Leadership) but also to ensure that all the curricula was more practical and less knowledge based. With a greater focus on practice and teaching techniques rather than simply subject knowledge. This was then approved and launched at the end of January 2012.</p> <p>There was a brief update of the key issues arising in the Sept 2012 JRES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of 9YBE to then inform 12YBE presentation • 12 YBE, but no formal plan in place • SEN, especially highlighted by VSO and concerns in particular that there is no real data on SEN needs 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Innovation and best practice presentation (information rather than an action point forward) <p>Quality Summit: Quality Education for All Children</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECCD • Teacher motivation and training (including use of ICT) & structures for in-service and pre-service • Leadership motivation and professionalism • Learner Assessment tools and approaches • Literacy • SEN • Research informed policy formation and implementation • Rigorous monitoring and evaluation of policy implementation and its successes <p>PLAN, VSO, Wellspring and IEE all have copies of all the presentations given. If anyone desires one or a number of these please contact a member of these organizations within the RENCP.</p>		
<p>A word from Education Development Partners representatives at the Platform meeting</p>	<p>Hugh Delaney from UNICEF gshared some key points on behalf of the DPs and national level agenda.</p> <p>Tomorrow there will be the Cluster meeting with GoR and Partners. He asked if there was any pressing issue to be raised at this meeting. It is an opportunity to voice and raise questions on one or two priority issues. He highlighted the need for RENCP to use this opportunity on the Cluster meeting agenda to raise key concerns or issues that need to be raised. There was likely to only be the possibility of raising one key issue if it was to be well received and addressed.</p> <p>.</p> <p>There will be a revision of ESSP and EDPRS in order to include 12YBE and to strengthen ECCD (and SEN?). This will be taking place around April 2012 as will the mini review of the Education sector. The strategic plan has to be revised to accommodate and reprioritize the 12 years basic education which is at the beginning of its implementation phase.</p> <p>This is an area in which RENCP could be involved in order to strengthen, inform and enhance this process.</p>		
<p>AOB</p>	<p>Concern was raised about the involvement of non RENCP members in RENCP activities and contributions. It was recognized that this is also part of the reason for a code of conduct or values that would ensure best practice. It was also highlighted that government partnership and involvement and ownership in activities is always</p>		

	<p>ideal as this ensures the best partnership and development practice. The more there is collaboration in this the better. Additionally it was highlighted by HUGH (Unicef) that the RENCP is well recognized and respected at the government level and that individuals and organizations representing the RENCP have done a good job at ensuring ownership and credit it given to RENCP. They have acted as credible and good representatives for RENCP.</p> <p>Alfred and Jeff asked to the participants if there is any RENCP organization member that has budgeted the RENCP activities and that needs complementarities and support.</p> <p>. Ruth / VSO : gave a reminder and update : From the last meeting GW what was the priority of the REB (Rwanda Education Board), Curriculum, the use of ICT, Teacher training : English teaching for Teachers, Assessments, students loans for higher education learning.</p> <p>. The need to fund the platform was raised to support initiatives such research, working groups,, networking etc</p> <p>. GETEM: : There will be a research supported by UNESCO for research on Gender</p> <p>. Alfred conveyed the DFID invitation to RENCP representatives to attend their reading workshop. This is a regional workshop and is part of the fast track initiative.</p>		
Conclusive Remarks	The next meeting will be held in May 2012.	RENCP chair organization to send out an invitation two weeks before the next general assembly.	May 2012

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