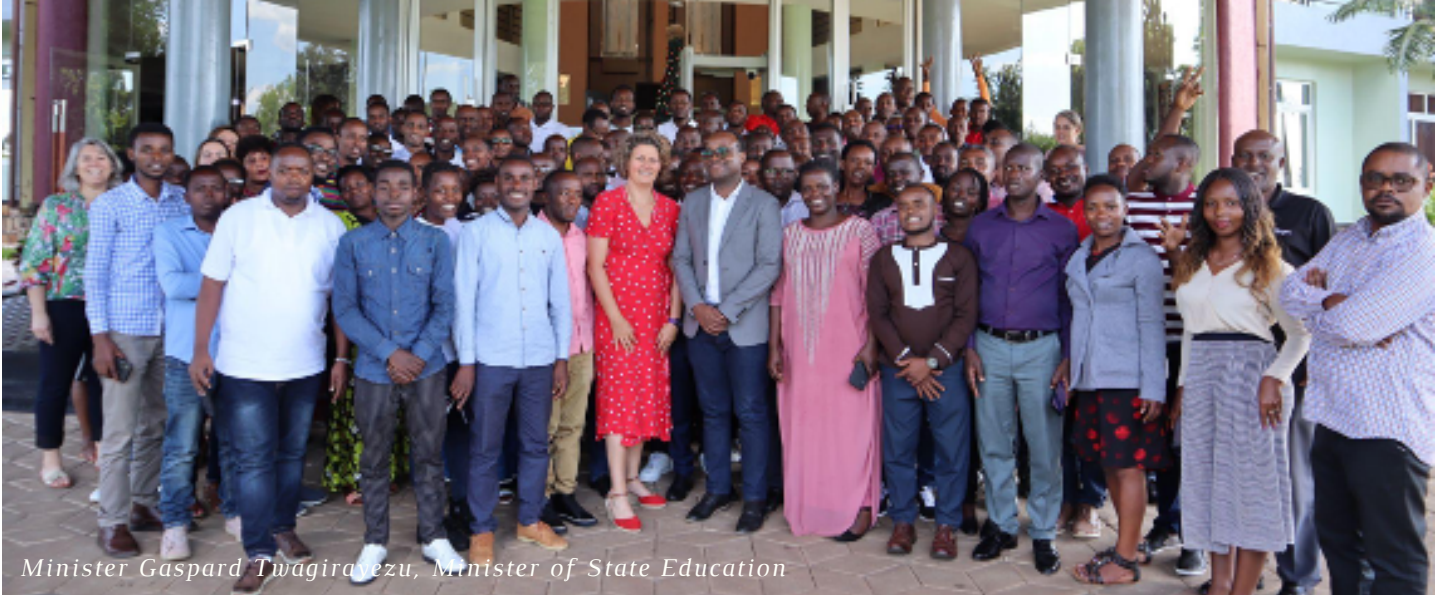


# NEWSLETTER

## Digital Literacy in Education: The Big Win For Employment



*Minister Gaspard Twagirayezu, Minister of State Education*

### Dear Educator,

I hope this letter finds you, your family, and your colleagues in good health. I am delighted to see the progression of this innovative program that we have put in place. You are working hard on the transformative changes we would like to see in our system and, even though it is not always easy, you are the ones that are providing Rwanda with a brighter future.

You do this by training our young students to be responsible citizens, knowledgeable about technology and its place in facilitating solutions to national and global challenges, and competent adults eventually who will be able to continue the development of our Rwanda as productive citizens.

It is very impressive that 10,900 teachers have been onboarded on this pilot journey to accomplish more in the classroom with improved pedagogy and to become digitally literate to use digital tools more effectively to achieve improved learning outcomes.

You are all torchbearers, and we count on you to continue to lead the way for others to follow your light. I can see that the momentum is increasing as many have already completed several modules. Keep up the good work!

At this stage we have started to enroll the first 20,000 students in General and Technical secondary Education into the program allowing them to come out of school with an internationally recognised certification to be better prepared for the next stage in their lives. The future success of Rwanda relies, in large measure, on the quality of the formation of its young people. We thank you for encouraging them and for giving them time to complete the course.

*Minister Gaspard Twagirayezu*

### THE BIG WIN FOR EMPLOYMENT



21st Century Learning and digital literacy for education and employment: Digital literacy is at the core of a country's development and allows access to dignified work opportunities for all. Innovation and disruptions caused by COVID-19 in the education sector proved the importance of upskilling teachers to prepare their students for the evolutions of the workplace adequately. This implies a broader inclusion of digital tools in the classroom and the implementation of new teaching methods.

The purpose of this program is to strengthen ongoing efforts on human capital development through digital literacy in Rwanda. This really means assist the teacher to become aware of the pedagogical changes in teaching & for the student to be provided with the digital competencies to enter either Higher Education or the workplace through internationally recognised certification.

## TRAINING WITHOUT SPENDING MONEY ON DATA...

### HOW DO YOU DO THIS?

MTN and Airtel have agreed to a 0-rated access to the Digital Skills Foundation learning platform. This means that **learning on the DSF platform will not consume any data if the learner has an MTN or Airtel SIM card.** This will allow all students and teachers enrolled in the program to continue learning outside of school if they have a Smartphone. The Smartphone can also be used as a Wi-Fi hotspot to have free access to the platform on a computer. This only applies to the platform and not to any other website or app. More information on how to activate this function will be given soon.



### Here are some activities you can do in class to continue the learning journey



**Present students with the deserted island scenario and ask them what they would do. Each student can share their ideas, then the class has to come to an agreement at the end. The scenario: If your team was stranded on a deserted island, what five things would you bring to help your team survive until help comes along? Why would you pick those 5 things?**

**Put students into collaborative groups and have them think of 3 ways to use rain water creatively. Have them explain how they came up with their ideas and how those ideas might benefit society.**

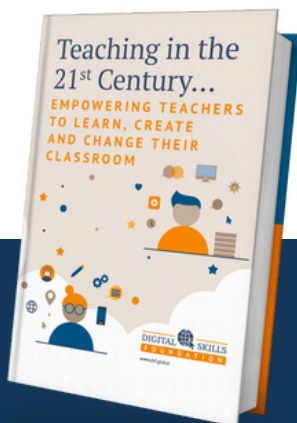
**Class cookbook: Have your students take on the role of dietician and create a class cookbook with their family's favorite recipes. Within the cookbook, have them explain how a well balanced-diet can help people achieve optimal health and reduce the risk of illness. The students will adjust the recipes to make sure they are healthy choices. Once the cookbook is complete, post it on a blog or facebook page for others to see and use.**

### Meet the amazing master trainers who are supporting you with the implementation of the program

200 master trainers have been trained face to face to support the rollout and implementation of the program. In every district you will see them. They are there to support you, help you and answer your questions. Their objective, just like yours, is to improve teaching and learning in Rwanda and more importantly prepare our young Rwandans for the next steps.



*An afternoon with DG REB, Nelson Mbarushimana*



## TEACHERS HANDBOOK

Digital Skills Foundation has provided a Teachers handbook with practical exercises that is available on the REB Moodle site <https://elearning.reb.rw/course/view.php?id=1246> . Download this so you have your own copy which allows you to revert back.

