Korea-PASET Partnership

Brief for the “Korea-PASET Partnership in Strengthening Science and Technology in Africa” Event

The Partnership for skills in Applied Sciences, Engineering and Technology (PASET) was launched in 2013 by African governments with facilitation by the World Bank in recognition of the critical need to strengthen science, and technology capability for the socio-economic development of sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). PASET focuses on the continuum of skills from the upper secondary/technical and vocational education and training (TVET) level to higher education and research in applied sciences, engineering and technology (ASET) fields. To achieve these goals, PASET serves as a convening platform to facilitate collaboration between different stakeholders. PASET brings together African governments and private sector as well as global partners, such as Korea, China, Japan, and India to work together to build the skilled human capital that is conducive for economic transformation in SSA.

Republic of Korea has been a close PASET partner since its launch in 2013 and this partnership has only strengthened over time. Collaborations between Korea and PASET have taken place at the government, institutional and university levels for higher education as well as TVET. African countries have been able to leverage Korea’s successful experience in building science and technology capacity to transform the economy. The Government of Korea has supported the Korea-PASET partnership through the Korea-World Bank Partnership Facility (KWPF), which is a Trust Fund administered by the World Bank, and more recently through a grant to the Regional Scholarship and Innovation Fund (RSIF).

Key Milestones of the PASET-Korea Partnership

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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Participation in 1st PASET Forum, Ethiopia</td>
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<td>2014</td>
<td>Participation in 3rd PASET Forum, Senegal</td>
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<td>2015</td>
<td>Co-hosting Regional Conference “Africa’s Transformation: Leveraging the Partnership with Korea” Joint Workshop for “Promoting Korea-Africa Knowledge-based Development Cooperation in Korea”</td>
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<td>2016</td>
<td>PASET Charter adopted and Korea invited to Board of Directors* PASET delegations visit to Korea MOU with KIST KSP with Senegal (FY 16)</td>
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<td>2017</td>
<td>Participation in 4th PASET Forum, Kenya KSP with Rwanda and Senegal (FY 17) Higher Education Workshop with KIST</td>
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<td>2018</td>
<td>MOU with MOE for investment into RSIF (US$10 million Trust Fund) Hosting TVET workshop for Regional TVET Initiative in Korea MOU with Samsung Dream Scholarship Foundation</td>
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<td>2019</td>
<td>MOU with SNU, KIER, KRICT KSP with Ethiopia and Rwanda (FY 19) Participation in 5th PASET Forum, Rwanda and GC meeting 1st cohort of RSIF scholars studying at KIST</td>
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* Board of Directors; now Governing Council (GC)
PASET Governance

PASET has a nimble and efficient governance structure that combines political, operational and advisory bodies – the Ministerial-level Governing Council (GC), the Executive Board (EB) which is the key managing body, the Consultative Advisory Group (CAG) of experts which provides technical guidance, and the Secretariat which coordinates the governance, implements technical assistance and facilitates knowledge sharing.

Korea is represented on each of the governing bodies and provides strategic, operational and technical inputs into PASET’s activities

- **Governing Council**: Ministry of Economy and Finance
- **Executive Board**: Korea Development Institute (KDI)
- **Consultative Advisory Group**: Skills training expert from HRD Korea
- **Secretariat**: Junior Professional Officer

PASET Programs and Partnership with Korea

Regional Scholarship and Innovation Fund (RSIF)
Pan-African science fund for Ph.D. Scholarships, Research Grants & Innovation Grant

Progress of RSIF

- US$ 36 million has been raised from 6 SSA governments, the Government of Korea (US$10 million) and World Bank. Commitments have been made by 5 additional SSA governments.
- 11 SSA universities were competitively selected as host universities and 16 scholars from 8 countries were selected as the 1st cohort (of which 6 scholars are studying at Korea Institute of Science and Technology (KIST), 2 Scholars benefiting from leadership programs and financial support from Samsung Dream Scholarship Foundation.
- Scholars from the 2nd cohort are to be selected to study at Seoul National University (SNU), Korea Institute of Energy and Research (KIER) and Korea Research Institute of Chemical Technology (KRICT).
Regional TVET Initiative
Developing highly specialized TVET programs at selected flagship institutes for TVET

Progress of Regional TVET Initiative
• US$ 293 million is invested to develop 16 regional flagship TVET institutes in Ethiopia, Kenya, and Tanzania. Korean experts participated in the selection process.
• KDI hosted TVET Workshop for the project with Korean TVET experts in 2018 which provided inputs into the preparation of the project.

Regional Benchmarking of SSA Universities Initiative
Equipping SSA universities with the tools to measure performance, identify strengths and weaknesses, and improve capacity

Progress of Regional Benchmarking Initiative
• More than 80 sub-Saharan African universities have participated in the Regional Benchmarking.
• Korean Ministry of Education, Seoul National University (SNU), and Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST) shared knowledge on university level data management systems and policies during the 1st PASET Regional Benchmarking Capacity Building Workshop in 2016.
• Korea Telecom (KT) presented experience on smart campuses and use of technology for improved teaching, learning and data management at the university level during 2nd PASET Regional Benchmarking Capacity Building Workshop in 2019.

Knowledge Sharing Partnership (KSP)
Sharing Korea’s development experiences through policy research, development consultation, and human and institutional capacity building

Progress of KSP
• The Ministry of Economy and Finance (MOEF) launched Knowledge Sharing Program (KSP) in 2014 as a comprehensive research and policy consultation program.
• Three rounds of KSP with PASET have been implemented by Korea Development Institute (KDI); 2016/17 KSP for Senegal; 2017/18 KSP for Rwanda and Senegal; 2019/20 KSP for Ethiopia and Rwanda.
• The policy recommendations have been on Human Resource Development (HRD); TVET; Science, Technology and Innovations (STI); developing sub-sectors of TVET and STI, and institution building.
Knowledge Exchange

Encouraging rich exchange of knowledge and experience between SSA countries and partner countries to learn best practices in higher education and skills development through forums, workshops and study tours.

Progress of Knowledge Exchange

- 30 SSA countries and 900 participants have participated in 5 PASET Forums and several study tours; **Korean representatives participated PASET Forums in 2013, 2014, 2017 and 2019** to share Korea’s development experience in science and technology as well as to strengthen the partnership.

- Korea and PASET co-hosted a Regional Conference in Ethiopia in 2015, **“Africa’s Transformation: Leveraging the Partnership with Korea”**, which was attended by Korean experts in science and technology and leaders from various African countries.

- Several **knowledge sharing visits have been conducted to share Korea’s experience in science and technology** throughout September 2015, February 2016, and September 2017; list of institutions include Korea Institute of Science and Technology (KIST), Science and Technology Policy Institute (STEPI), Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST), University of Science and Technology (UST), Seoul National University (SNU), Korea Institute of Energy and Research (KIER), Korea Railroad Research Institute (KRRI), Korea Research Institute of Chemical Technology (KRICT), Korea Information Society Development Institute (KISDI), HRD Korea-GIFTS, Korea Research Institute for Vocational Research and Training (KRIVET) and so on.