

Conference addresses global education crisis

THERE IS NEED TO RESTRUCTURE THE EDUCATION CURRICULUM AND STRATEGIZE ON HOW TECHNOLOGY CAN BE APPLIED IN EDUCATION. This was said by Prof. Bob Moon, Emeritus Professor of Education, Research Group on International Development in Teacher Education, Open University, United Kingdom, during the official opening ceremony of the 5th Distance Education and Teacher Education in Africa (DETA) Conference.

According to Moon, the reason why there is a global crisis in the education sector is because teachers have to deal with poor training and working conditions, low salary and social status. The reality is that developing nations must begin to appreciate the importance of teachers, which is to play the social mission of moulding young minds into greater ones.

The three day conference was officially launched by Prof. Collette Suda, Principal Secretary, Science and Technology, who noted that the conference was an ideal forum for dialogue on the real issues facing the African education system. As part of the strategies to improve education in Kenya, Prof. Suda shared that the government through the education docket has launched various flagship projects that will see the country achieve its vision of providing well trained teachers.



Participants during the 5th DETA Conference at Kenya Science Campus.

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Speaking on behalf of the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. George Magoha, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Research, Production and Extension, Prof. Lucy Irungu, said that expanding education and improving quality is

central to the development of Africa. She pointed out that if Africa is to realize the goal of quality education for all, faculties of education in the continent need to take the lead in finding African solutions to the existing educational challenges.

The conference which attracted renowned experts, researchers and practitioners in education aimed at looking at the real issues facing the African education system. Themed 'Teacher education and development in Africa: the need for access, equity, sustainability, quality and relevance within the context of globalization,' the Conference was a rich mix of keynote speakers and panelists from various parts of the world giving insights on topical issues, was hosted by the College of Education and External Studies (CEES).

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