### Empowering Education Data Systems Across Africa Issue: July – October 2025 | Published by AU-IPED under the GPE-KIX Africa 19 Hub



### 1. Strengthening EMIS through Peer Learning and Collaboration



### **Liberia EMIS Peer Review and National Dialogue**

In September 2025, AU-IPED, through the KIX Africa 19 Hub, convened a peer review of Liberia's Education Management Information System (EMIS). The process brought together counterparts from Nigeria, The Gambia, and Sierra Leone who shared practical experiences on EMIS financing, geomapping, and digital learner IDs.

The outcomes were transformative — Liberia committed to developing a comprehensive EMIS policy that integrates gender and equity indicators, mandates school-level data submission, and aligns EMIS reforms with the national Education Sector Plan. The follow-up National EMIS Dialogue institutionalised these insights, marking a decisive policy shift from fragmented data efforts to a coherent national framework.

- "Sustainability begins when EMIS has its own line in the national budget."
- Emmanuel Dolokelen, Ministry of Education, Liberia

### **Key Highlights:**

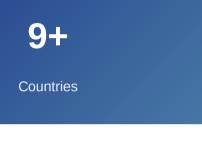
- New regional peer networks established between Liberia, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, and The
- Gambia for ongoing collaboration. • EMIS policy commitment signals a shift to sustained, country-owned reforms.



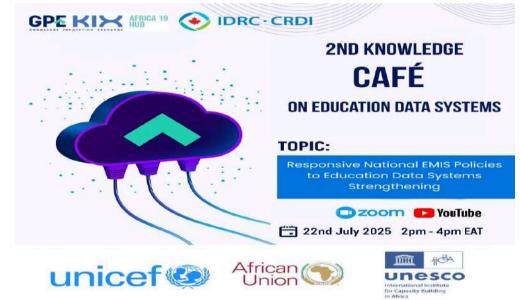
### 2. The 2nd KIX Knowledge Café: Data Systems for Education Reform

Date: 22 July 2025 | Platform: Zoom | Theme: Strengthening National EMIS

25+ Participants



The 2nd Knowledge Café gathered participants from Nigeria, Mozambique, The Gambia, and South Sudan to discuss education data systems reform. The event, moderated by AU-IPED's Lukman Jaji, focused on country-led innovations and peer-driven learning.



### **Country Innovations:**

- Nigeria introduced a feedback mechanism connecting teachers to national dashboards.
- **Mozambique** showcased DHIS2-based digitisation and offline dashboards.
- The Gambia presented its SOFIA platform for gender-disaggregated data and real-time analytics.
- South Sudan shared lessons on rebuilding EMIS in post-conflict contexts.

## **Key Takeaways:**

- Develop national EMIS policies and clear data standards.
- Train school and district-level EMIS staff.
- Scale open-source platforms such as DHIS2 and SOFIA. • Establish data feedback loops to empower schools with evidence for planning.

# 3. The 3rd KIX Knowledge Café: Financing Education Data Systems

Date: 7 October 2025 | Platform: Zoom | Theme: Financing EMIS Sustainability





Discussions led by AU-IPED, APHRC, UNICEF, and Liberia's Ministry of Education revolved around transitioning from donor-dependent projects to country-owned and funded data systems.





### **BUILDING FINANCIALLY SUSTAINABLE EMIS FOR AFRICA'S FUTURE** "EMIS finance must

**3RD KIX KNOWLEDGE CAFÉ:** 



national education budget otherwise it will never be sustained." Safia Abdi, Ministry of Education, Somalia

mainstream through

# **Key Insights:**

# • APHRC underscored treating education data as a public good, not a donor product.

- **Liberia** shared practical lessons on budgeting for EMIS sustainability.
- **UNICEF** urged governments to finance both operations and people, not just platforms.

"Financing EMIS is not an expense—it's an investment in Africa's future."

— Adoumtar Noubatour, Head, AU-IPED

**Recommendations:** 

- Create explicit EMIS budget lines within national expenditure frameworks. • Establish inter-ministerial steering committees linking Education, Finance, ICT, and Statistics.
- Adopt open, low-bandwidth solutions (e.g., DHIS2) to include remote schools. • Maintain aggregate EMIS while piloting learner-level data where ready.

**4. Emerging Outcomes and Lessons Learned** 



## Government Officials Participated in KIX Knowledge Cafés Across all events, the focus on inclusive data systems—such as offline dashboards and gender-

those in marginalised and rural settings.

disaggregated indicators—continues to ensure that data reflects the realities of all learners, including



• Support Member States to institutionalise EMIS budget lines. • Host the 4th Knowledge Café in early 2026 focusing on Data Governance and Protection.

• Launch a comparative Total Cost of Ownership (TCO) study on EMIS evolution.

- "Our collective task ahead is to convert today's consensus into next year's budget lines, teams, and systems that endure."
- Adoumtar Noubatour, AU-IPED

**5. Looking Ahead** 

**Upcoming Initiatives:** 

and implemented in partnership with GESCI and IDRC, supports 19 African countries in sharing and scaling solutions for education data, policy, and innovation.