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**DIRECTORATE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION**

**Press Release Nº163/2018**

### **Ten Innovators Pitch for AU Education Innovation Prizes**

**Dakar, Senegal, 10 October 2018:** The African Union Commission Department of Human Resources, Science and Technology awarded the most innovative enterprises in education in Africa during Innovating in Education Africa Expo 2018 that took place in Dakar from 4-6 October 2018.

Charles Ofori Antipem, a young Ghanaian innovator won the first prize of the most innovative solution in education in Africa through his company Dext Technology Limited.

The young entrepreneur pocketed \$ 100,000, awarded by the Commissioner of Human Resources, Science and Technology to the African Union Commission, H.E. Prof. Sarah Anyang Agbor.

The award recognizes the efforts of this company, which works to make technology more accessible to learners in various schools.

Charles Ofori Antipem is an Inventor of Science Set, an inexpensive, portable and highly scalable science lab that can fit in a student's bag or a desktop with affordable mini Science for students.

Charles Antipem said "I am very passionate about Science education and how it can lead to transformation of minds and African nations".

The AU Education Innovation Prize is an award established by the African Union Commission to recognize and support the work of Education Innovators across the continent. The award is supported by ONE Campaign, UNESCO, GIZ, Ford Foundation, and Ashoka.

The Innovating Education in Africa Expo, an initiative led by the African Union Commission and the Republic of Senegal, as well as other partners aims to create a platform for sharing thematic experiences, highlight and reward the most significant innovations in the education sector.

The goal is to address the challenge of inclusive education and quality training on the continent towards realising the objectives of the Continental Education Strategy for Africa (CESA 16-25).

For this 2018 edition, 8 innovators were awarded:

1st Charles Ofori Antipem - dext Technology Limited, Ghana, Science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) kit for students with a prize of 100,000 USD.

2<sup>nd</sup> Dodzi Aglago - MobileLabo, Togo, Mobile laboratory for schools without access to laboratories with a prize of 40,000 USD.

3<sup>rd</sup> Zinhle Zamokuhle Nkosi - Nal'ibali, South Africa, Promoting the culture of reading through fun stories in native language with a prize of 15,000 USD

Other Awardees included:

Angelin Marius Rafidisaonina - SEEDS LearnShare, Madagascar Teaching soft skills in an innovative way

Doreen Kessy - Ubongo Learning Ltd, Tanzania Deliver fun and animated learning content across platforms including radio, TV, SMS and smartphones, adapting it to local context and languages

Hamidou Soukouna - The Grandmother Project, Senegal Conservation of culture through education and by engaging the community

Messa Blandine Angele - Kamer Big Bang (EduClick), Cameroun Integrated learning management system providing supplement to school work, also provides courses on entrepreneurship and targets refugees and displaced

Nkosana Butholenkosi Dexter Masuku- Phenomenom Technologies, Zimbabwe Providing low cost excursions to schools in Zimbabwe through the use of Virtual Reality

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