

June 26, 2014

On the Occasion of the Replenishment of the Global Partnership for Education (GPE)

The MasterCard Foundation today pledges to commit \$100 million over the next three years to increase access to quality, relevant secondary education for disadvantaged young people across Africa.

A total of \$75 million will enable youth in Kenya and another country in East Africa (still to be determined), to complete secondary school and develop the leadership skills necessary to contribute to the economic and social progress of their communities. These commitments build on the Foundation's current support for comprehensive secondary school scholarships for 16,000 students in Kenya, Ghana, Uganda, Rwanda and Ethiopia as part of The MasterCard Foundation Scholar's Program – a global education initiative.

The Foundation will also provide \$15 million to the Partnership to Strengthen Innovation and Practice in Secondary Education (PSIPSE) to support innovative models and approaches that enhance employability skills, reform teaching, help transition students into secondary education and explore cost-effective, alternative models for secondary education delivery. As part of this initiative, the Foundation will scale up proven models or pilot new approaches that address key challenges in secondary education access, quality and relevance. Countries that will be part of PSIPSE include Uganda, Tanzania, Kenya, Malawi and Ethiopia.

An additional \$10 million will be committed to secondary education teacher training with a focus on improving skills in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM), employability skills and leadership development.

The MasterCard Foundation partners with local and international organizations that are aligned with our vision and values. Partners are selected based on their capacity to advance our Youth Learning strategy, their strong track record in education and their ability to engage and collaborate with national Government counterparts. Our programs are aligned with national government priorities to improve access, quality and relevance of education and to advance employment opportunities for youth in the countries where we work.