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SAMSUNG AND SAFARICOM FOUNDATION PARTNER TO SUPPORT ACCELERATED LEARNING PROGRAM IN BUNGOMA COUNTY

Samsung Supports 1,250 learners in Bungoma County with 250 Galaxy 8.0 Tablets in a research collaboration with KICD

Bungoma County, Kenya, 20th November 2020..... Samsung Electronics East Africa LTD and Safaricom Foundation have launched a partnership to support the Accelerated Learning Program in Bungoma County.

The Accelerated Learning Program is a partnership between Zizi Afrique Foundation and Safaricom Foundation. The programme being implemented in Bungoma, Turkana and Tana River counties aims to support learners lagging behind to acquire foundational literacy and numeracy skills within a short period of time. Each County has 40 schools participating in the programme and over 7,000 learners in grade 3 to 5 have so far benefitted.

The program has both school-based and community-based approaches. In the community-based approach, teachers have a maximum of 25 children for each learning session known as camps, held in the communities. A full camp runs for 30 days, with each cycle lasting for 10 days. The support from Samsung will see over 1,250 learners access KICD-approved curriculum through 250 state of the art technology Galaxy 8.0 Tablets.

“Technology has transformed many sectors including education. Tools such as mobile learning, cloud computing, and gamification are dynamically changing the learning experience. When a child does not have access to education, it means that they are not operating in an equal competitive environment with other children and are potentially a step behind in life. This gap is reason as to why we are supporting the Accelerated Learning Program in order ensure that our children are well equipped for the future,” said Samsung Electronics East Africa MD. Mr. Seok Min Hong.

“Our investments in education aim to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for Kenyans. However, we understand that we cannot do this on our own and that partnerships are key for us to achieve our ambition. That is why we are proud to be partnering with Samsung to ensure the

Accelerated Learning Programme reaches even more learners in Bungoma County, said Joe Ogutu, Safaricom Foundation Chairman

'In the wake of COVID-19, we have come to appreciate the role that technology can play in sustaining learning. These tablets will support us not only to accelerate the learning of those left behind, and families who would never have dreamt of holding a tablet, but will also help safeguard some children of Bungoma from the massive learning loss occasioned by the prolonged school closure. We are really grateful to Samsung', added Dr. John Mugo, Executive Director of Zizi Afrique.

Recently, findings from a survey in 2018 in three counties in Kenya showed that 1 out of 2 of all children between 6 and 16 years assessed could not read a short text pegged on grade 2 level. The children who continue to attend school, but without the requisites to optimize the learning opportunities available to them, are the focus of the Accelerated Learning Program.

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About Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd.

Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd. inspires the world and shapes the future with transformative ideas and technologies. The company is redefining the worlds of TVs, smartphones, wearable devices, tablets, cameras, digital appliances, printers, medical equipment, network systems and semiconductor and LED solutions. For the latest news, please visit the Samsung Newsroom at <https://news.samsung.com/africa/en/>

About Safaricom Foundation

Building Communities, Transforming Lives.

Safaricom Foundation collaborates with Kenyan communities, organizations and institutions to improve and transform lives.

With a footprint in all of Kenya's 47 counties and a strong history of partnerships dating back to our inception in 2003, the Safaricom Foundation has worked with Speed, Simplicity and Trust to implement over 1,000 community projects, impacting over 3 million people, through our thematic areas of Health, Education, Environmental Conservation, Economic Empowerment, Water, Disaster Relief, and Arts & Culture.

Our current strategy builds on our strong history of results and partnerships and will contribute towards Vision 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals. We will leverage the power of innovation and technology to drive our projects forward; and will offer a blend of grants, equity and ultra-low-cost loans to our partners.

The participation of Safaricom staff in our projects will extend our personalized approach towards partnerships; and our project monitoring and our dissemination forms will provide platforms for technical assistance, learning and capacity building.

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