



“Transforming Education Outcomes Through Systems Strengthening and Social Accountability Monitoring.” – Global Youth Exchange Webinar

Date: 26th May 2026 – Zoom

Time: 14:00-15:45 PM SAST

Zoom link: https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/xvQAWRZjSR6_t74mWCiYaw

Interpretation: Available in all GCE Languages (Arabic, Spanish, Portuguese, and French).

Young people across different contexts are increasingly engaging education systems not only as learners and rights-holders, but also as community actors, evidence generators, monitors, advocates, and organizers. In doing so, they are confronting a wide range of pressing concerns and proposing reforms towards quality education for all. Globally, networks are emerging to champion youth voices in gender-transformative education, sustainable and equitable education financing through enhanced Domestic Resources Mobilization (DRM), Tax Justice, digital inclusion (EdTech), and many other efforts to transform education systems.

While these issues are often approached as separate thematic priorities, in practice they are deeply interconnected. Persistent education challenges are rarely the result of a single failure. Rather, they are shaped by broader systemic weaknesses across planning, financing, implementation, participation, information flows, accountability relationships, and policy responsiveness. This means that meaningful change requires more than issue-based advocacy alone. It requires stronger understanding of how education systems function, where accountability breaks down, and how young people can engage these systems more strategically.

The [Kuyenda Collective](#) and the [Global Campaign for Education \(GCE\)](#) Youth Network represent growing bodies of youth-led practice committed to advancing more equitable, inclusive, and accountable education systems. In various ways, both groups have engaged with education challenges not only through advocacy, but also through evidence generation, community monitoring, policy engagement, public dialogue, and efforts to strengthen accountability around the delivery of education as a service and as a right. Their experiences point to an inherent shared reality – many of the barriers to education including financing gaps, limited access, gender inequities, learning poverty, digital exclusion, weak policy implementation and responsiveness, are not stand-alone concerns, but manifestations of wider systemic weaknesses. On this premise, the Kuyenda Collective and GCE will convene a global youth exchange to explore how social accountability interventions have been applied to enable systems strengthening, and to enable cross-learning on the practical strategies young people are already employing to engage and influence education systems.

This online learning session themed “**Transforming Education Outcomes Through Systems Strengthening and Social Accountability Monitoring,**” seeks to bring together networks of young people in a bid to deepen their collective understanding of, and action towards, more resilient and fit-for-purpose education systems. By centering social accountability as a practical anchor for systems strengthening, the session will draw on lessons from the Kuyenda Rural Youth Collectives (RYCs) and GCE youth networks where young people are engaging education systems to drive transformative

reform. This brings to the fore stories of community-level education monitoring, youth-led evidence generation, advocacy on education financing and equity, policy engagement, and efforts to strengthen accountability in education systems.

The session is therefore designed to support cross-learning on how youth-led monitoring, evidence, advocacy, and engagement can move beyond identifying education problems to influencing the wider systems that produce and perpetuate them.

Expected Outcome:

The webinar is expected to support an important learning shift among participants – from seeing education challenges as isolated problems to understanding them as outcomes of wider system weaknesses and accountability gaps. In doing so, it should strengthen participants' ability to locate social accountability within a broader systems-strengthening approach, and to recognize youth-led monitoring, evidence-based advocacy, and policy engagement as practical ways of influencing how education systems function and respond. This webinar will thus seek to strengthen youth understanding of how social accountability can be used within a systems-strengthening approach to advance more equitable, accountable, and responsive education systems.

Session Objectives:

The session will seek to:

1. Build a shared understanding of how education challenges are shaped by wider system dynamics rather than isolated failures.
2. Explore social accountability as a practical and strategic pathway through which youth can engage education systems more effectively.
3. Share concrete lessons from Kuyenda Collective youth and the wider GCE youth network on social accountability interventions used in practice.
4. Support participants to reflect on how youth-led accountability work in their own contexts can move from issue-based concern toward more systemic engagement.

Guidance and Framing of the Session

The session will be guided by the understanding that:

- Education challenges linked to exclusion, underfunding, weak implementation, gender inequality, digital divides, and poor accountability are often interconnected;
- Social Accountability is most effective when it is not treated as a one-off act of monitoring or complaint, but as part of a broader effort to strengthen how systems plan, allocate, implement, monitor, respond, and reform;
- Young people are not only affected by education systems, but are also important actors within accountability ecosystems who can shape evidence, participation, public dialogue, and reform processes;
- Peer learning across contexts can help youth better understand both the systemic nature of education challenges and the practical entry points available for action.

The session is targeted at all youth interested and engaged in education advocacy. This includes members of the GCE global youth network and other Education Out Loud (EOL)-supported Alliances, youth leaders, and young people engaged in education justice, financing, accountability, reform, and systems-change work across national, regional, and global contexts.

The session will also intentionally draw on contributions from the Kuyenda Collective RYCs, while making space for mutual learning with the wider GCE youth network.

Proposed Format and Agenda

The session will take place as a 1hr 45-minute online interactive learning exchange. Given the virtual format and global audience, the meeting will prioritize concise framing, practical examples, active participation, and facilitated reflection to showcase youths in action championing systems strengthening through social accountability.

Time	Session	Lead	Purpose/Notes
2:00-2:10pm	Welcome, Introductions and Opening Interaction (10 minutes)	Facilitator/Host	Welcome participants, frame the session, and surface initial reflections on where education systems most fail according to young people. The Chat function/Mural/Word Cloud will be used to gather introductions and areas of interest for addressing education sector problems. This will help ground the discussion in participants' own concerns and provide an entry point into the systems lens.
2:10-2:20pm	Social Accountability and Systems Strengthening Framing (10 minutes)	PSAM Facilitator/Speaker	Introduce the core premise of the session: that education challenges often reflect broader system weaknesses, and that social accountability can provide a practical and strategic means to address those weaknesses.
2:20-2:40pm	Breakout group reflection (20 minutes)	Youth Facilitator for each group (KC and GCE Youths)	Participants move into breakout groups for a focused reflection exercise. Each group discusses one education challenge affecting young people in their context, what wider system factors sustain it, where accountability is weakest, and what forms of youth-led social accountability could help address it more strategically. Groups should be encouraged to identify one key systems insight and one possible accountability entry point to share back in plenary. Breakout Groups can be determined by thematic areas established through the interests expressed at the start of the session.
2:40-3:15pm	Youth practice Show and Tell: Kuyenda RYC Stories (25 minutes)	3 GCE Youth Speakers (TBC)	Moderated practice-sharing segment to kickstart plenary session featuring social accountability in action stories from Kuyenda Rural Youth – 3 stories, 10 minutes each (see key questions for story framing).
3:15-3:35pm	Plenary and Feedback Synthesis (20 minutes)	Facilitator/Co-Facilitator	Open discussion to connect breakout reflections and youth practice stories, highlight common bottlenecks, and consolidate shared learning on systems-oriented social accountability. This segment should reinforce the systemic nature of many education challenges and underline the value of linking youth-led evidence, strategy, and engagement across different points in the system.

3:35-3:45pm	Closing Reflection and Next Steps	Facilitator/Host	Closing – short reflective prompt inviting participants to share one shift in their thinking, one key takeaway, or one systems question they will pay closer attention to in their work in a poll/word cloud activity. The facilitator closes by reinforcing the central message: youth-led social accountability is most powerful when it goes beyond naming education challenges and begins to engage the broader systems and accountability relationships that shape education outcomes.
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Facilitation Notes/Guide

Given the online and global nature of the meeting, facilitation will need to be participatory, concise, and well-paced. To support this, the session should:

- keep conceptual framing brief and accessible;
- prioritize youth voice and lived practice;
- use simple online participation tools such as polls, chat prompts, or word clouds;
- provide clear and manageable breakout and translation instructions;
- ensure balance between structured guidance and open exchange;

A lead facilitator, a co-host or moderator, and selected youth contributors will support smooth delivery.

Proposed Contributors/Resources

The session could be supported by:

- one lead facilitator to guide the overall process;
- one short framing contributor;
- Three Kuyenda Collective youth speakers and 1 moderator for Show and Tell session
- one or two GCE youth contributors from other contexts;
- one co-host or rapporteur to support participation and synthesis.

Session Anchors

Breakout Prompts – The breakout rooms may be determined across key themes or issues in education systems based on the interest areas. Participants will be encouraged to reflect in groups on the following questions:

- i. What does this issue reveal about how the education system is functioning – or failing to function?
- ii. Where is accountability weakest in relation to this issue?
- iii. What kinds of youth-led action, monitoring, or engagement could help shift it?

Youth Practice Show and Tell Story Framing Prompts – 3 Kuyenda RYC stories can be showcased here (7 minutes each) based on the following framing:

- i. What education challenge were you seeking to address in your context?
- ii. What did this reveal about the wider education system and its accountability gaps?
- iii. What social accountability strategy or intervention did you use?

- iv. How were young people involved in generating evidence, monitoring realities, or engaging decision-makers?
- v. What responses, shifts, or lessons emerged from this experience?
- vi. What does this experience teach us about building more resilient and fit-for-purpose education systems?