



Boeing empowers African youth to pursue aerospace careers

Since 2008, Boeing has invested more than \$22 million in community partnerships with over 40 organisations in Africa, contributing to systemic improvements in education and the empowerment of African youth. Almost 60% of Africa's population is under 25 years old, which means that these initiatives directly contribute to a brighter future for the continent.

At the heart of Boeing's strategy lies a commitment to nurturing 21st century skills. It's not just about textbooks and classrooms; it's about forging pathways to success. From workforce preparation, STEM education, and entrepreneurship to social equity and women empowerment, these community programmes span across Algeria, the Democratic Republic



of Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritania, Morocco, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, South Africa, Sudan, and Tanzania.

Nurturing long-term partnerships with universities across Africa, Boeing is laser-focused on building a strong talent pipeline for the aerospace industry, enriching engineering curricula and fostering research and development. Two great examples are Boeing's partnerships with the Addis Ababa Institute of Technology in Ethiopia and Cairo University in Egypt. Every year, around 200 students from each university engage in activities funded by Boeing grants.

Preparing the aviation workforce in Africa is crucial, as Boeing forecasts a need for 69,000 new aviation professionals over the next 20 years. An important element of the company's outreach efforts is the STEM School in Ethiopia, a collaborative endeavour with Ethiopian Airlines and ThinkYoung. Hosted at the Ethiopian Aviation University, this programme imparts practical insights from Ethiopia's flagship carrier, inspiring school students to pursue further education and careers in aviation.

Additionally, Boeing's partnership with Digital Divide Data (DDD) in Kenya underscores its commitment to enhancing the employability prospects for the youth aged 18-24. Through the Employability in Aviation training programme, Boeing and DDD empower young Kenyans with digital literacy, communication and aviation-specific skills, laying a robust foundation for internships and entry-level jobs in aviation.

It's no secret that individual entrepreneurs and small businesses are the bedrock





of economic growth, innovation, and transformative change within their communities. Boeing's partnership with Junior Achievement Africa has empowered 5,000 young people across the continent with entrepreneurial and problem-solving skills, fostering grassroots economic revitalisation and real-world business solutions.

Looking beyond terrestrial realms, Boeing collaborates with the Future African Space Explorer's STEM Academy (FASESA) to nurture interest in space education and careers among African youth. The Pathways to Space programme, launched in 2024 in Ethiopia, Nigeria and Tanzania, harnesses Boeing's 60-year experience in space exploration and FASESA's educational methodologies

to inspire budding space engineers, scientists and maybe even astronauts.

Joining hands with additional partners, Boeing supported the setup of STEM Centres, coding schools, STEM fairs and other activities to boost STEM education across Africa.

As the impact of climate change becomes more pressing worldwide, Boeing and non-profits have spearheaded educational initiatives in Egypt, Morocco, and Senegal, emphasising the nexus between STEM education and environmental stewardship. Kuljit Ghata-Aura, president of Boeing Middle East, Türkiye, Africa, and Central Asia, said: "Our programmes aim to provide the youth with the required know-how to become catalysts for sustainable development, driving change

in their communities and beyond. We strongly believe in the pivotal role that education and youth empowerment play in promoting sustainable practices".

Empowering women is a central focus of all Boeing's community initiatives, with an average female participation rate of 50%. In Ethiopia, Boeing and Link Community Development helped improve learning for over 60,000 girls, while in Tanzania, Boeing and Hand in Hand provide entrepreneurship training for women farmers. Talent diversity is non-negotiable for a sustainable future in Africa.

Boeing and its partners continue to expand the geography and reach of community efforts across Africa, ensuring that more people have access to quality education and career opportunities.