Workshop template

Title of the workshop:	AI hands-on for Young Learners in Africa
Date:	5 March 2019 10.00 – 11.30 ROOM 7
Name of organizer/presenter:	Communication and Information Sector, UNESCO Presenters: Davide Storti - Ida Ng'ang'a
Time allotted:	1 hour 30 minutes
About workshop:	The workshop will focus on informing educators and other actors in the education and ICT fields on the advantages of early adoption and understanding of AI concepts by young learners in Africa. The workshop will be delivered by Ms Ida Ng'ang'a, who will use her wealth of experience to deliver insider knowledge to enable participants to integrate AI into learning in Africa and other regions. The workshop relates to the MLW 2019 theme by focusing on equipping young minds with the knowledge of AI that can unlock intelligence and human experience that offers unlimited potential. Global trends in education are moving from basic digital literacy towards essential computational skills – teaching children to design, program, and debug software. Furthermore, it is critical to incorporate AI concepts for young learners. This is important in the African context as technology plays a vital role in Africa's transition from the sidelines of the global economy to the forefront, and young people will be the drivers of the future economy. The workshop is relevant to the third subtheme, as we must prepare younger generations to an AI-ubiquitous life, impacting the future of jobs, using today's technologies to solve tomorrow's problems. There is a need for

	understanding machine learning in virtually any industry. Africa has the world's youngest workforce, yet many companies on the continent today are struggling to fill job vacancies with local and qualified labour. In collaboration with UNESCO's YouthMobile, Africa Code Week initiative is already setting the stage by teaching millions of young learners and educators basic coding skills, but it is necessary to engage young people in more sophisticated skills, including machine learning and AI, for modern jobs.
Objectives of the workshop:	Objectives: - Make learners comfortable with AI and equipped for future labour market demands. - Prepare young learners to switch from being consumers to creators of technology. - Diminish the literacy gap in the AI field, by training educators. The workshop will focus on the use of educational programming languages designed for beginners, to teach basic coding and machine learning concepts, and used for training.
Activity layout:	The workshop will start with a presentation from Ida Ng'ang'a. Then there will be a demonstration of educational software with basic Machine Learning techniques, and participants will be guided to test the programs on their own devices. Finally, the participants can discuss their experience, and propose how the tools can be used for educating young people in AI.