



# The Ethiopian Herald



NEWS Highlight  [rice](#) - Wednesday, 20 June 2018 17:41

Thursday, 21 June 2018

## Transforming STEM for innovation

21 Feb 2018 National-News

Experts in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics said that STEM Synergy in Ethiopia has been making a lot of investment to promote innovation across the country.

STEM Synergy Country Director Getachew Gezahegn told The Ethiopian Herald that STEM Synergy has about 14 stem centers across the nation, Science Museums operating in Addis Ababa, Science and Technology University (AASTU), Axum, Mekelle, Bahir Dar, Gonder and Hawassa Universities.

The Country Director highlighted that shared science high school campuses are providing top quality education for children, he said adding that “the Science Fairs by the Synergy is also scaling up from regional to national level in a manner of contributing to sector's GTP II targets.”

Getachew added that the visualized computer labs which are installed on a large scale towards computer literacy nationwide are also giving high tech services that are cost effective and less energy consuming computers to promote literacy program.

Mentioning the motto ‘Inside every child, there is a scientist’, the Director urged every healthy, sustainable community to create equitable and inclusive opportunities for high quality Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Education by empowering all students’ especially girls.

Coordinator of Bishoftu's Foka Science and Engineering Center Anteneh Fisseha also said that the program is highly benefiting students of the area. And those students who are trained from the Center are creating a lot on the stream and are becoming effective in their higher learning carrier as well.

The Center has a free access to latest technologies and materials which are



### EPA PHOTO

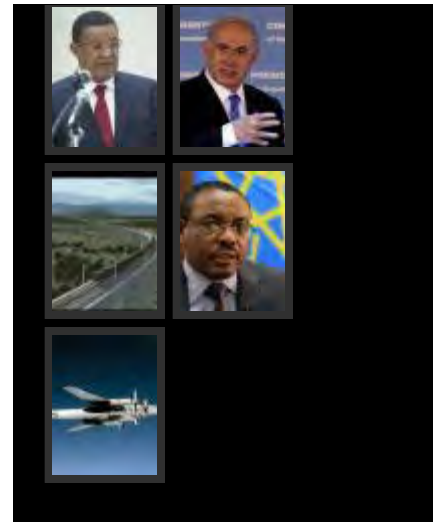


donated and funded by the Gelfand Family Charitable Trust. In turn, many students and experts are getting practical hands on practice on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics subjects on the ground.

Abate Kassa, Electronics and Electricity Coordinator with the Center said that many students are benefiting from the hands on training given by the Center.

He suggested that teachers at various levels need also to use this opportunity to gain practical experience to their theoretical knowledge as many of them learn in situations where there are no sufficient labs for practical demonstrations.

STEM Synergy has developed six effective models for STEM in Africa: STEM Centers, Science Fairs, Science Museums, University STEM Outreach programs, Virtual Computer labs, Science Shared Campus and Robotics Competition. Moreover, the Synergy has also intended to commence science TV series which is currently on the track to production.



BY YARED GEBREMEDEN

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