



## Message From The Executive Director

We celebrate the many wins that brought us a step closer to our vision; and the challenges that, though demanding, strengthened our resilience. What connects them all is the enduring dream that, in our generation, Africa's children and young people will read and understand stories, delight in playing with numbers, and grow in the life skills and values they need to navigate the world.

This is not just a dream we hold for the future; it is a dream we live every day. In governing Zizi Afrique, we steward a space filled with ambitious people committed to making a meaningful difference in education.

The year 2024 was a transformative one. While we achieved many things, three milestones stand out:

### **1. Connecting to drive system-wide change**

We deepened our work with education systems in Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda; reaching the space we had long envisioned. By strengthening curricula, teacher training, and assessment, we are reaching millions of children across the region. Yet, one challenge remains central; keeping our focus on those children being left behind. We also affirmed our identity as an African organisation by expanding our work beyond East Africa into Cameroon and Malawi.

### **2. Finding our place in a busy space**

We marked our seventh anniversary and reflected on how far we have come. Our role within the education ecosystem is collective impact; building resilience to support systems that serve children better. We celebrate both the milestones reached and the mutual growth experienced with our community of 21 partner organisations.

### **3. Clarifying our way into the future**

As we approach the final year of our current strategy, our direction is becoming clearer. The lessons of the past four years are guiding our next chapter. In 2024, we began developing our 2026–2030 Strategy by harvesting 100 outcomes from our work. We look forward to launching the new strategy by August 2025.

Lastly, we share with sadness that we lost one of our founding board members, Professor Emeritus Daniel Sifuna. We hope that, if there are children and schools in heaven, he has found a new home to pursue his signature passion.

*Dr. John Mugo*

Executive Director