



COMMONWEALTH OF DOMINICA

Focal Point: Ms. Marcella Powell

GUIDELINES FROM COMMONWEALTH OF LEARNING (COL)

1. Key challenges and opportunities (not more than 3 each) for 'learning for development' in your country
2. Status of distance education/elearning in your country
3. Identify (not more than 5) top priorities that you would like COL to take up during the next Three Year Plan 2012-15.

DOMINICA

Key Challenges

- Lack of professional training available to the technical staff e.g. video training and instructional design for on-line learning.
- Creating content that is accessible via simple mobile devices.
- Setting up of appropriate structures for the furtherance of COL's objectives.

Key Opportunities

- The development and use of on-line technologies to communicate with stakeholders. Most schools have computer laboratories but the equipment and internet needs upgrading.
- Use of video technologies and live streaming to facilitate the dissemination of best practices in Agriculture, Education and Health.
- Creation of an education center in two rural communities where the stakeholders can access the relevant information.

Status of ODE in Dominica

- The University of the West Indies Open Campus is delivering all its courses on line.

- The Dominica State College currently offers two (2) of its courses on-line.
- *Digital Portal Classroom Project*

This is a pilot project to facilitate the delivery of courses on-line. It has been piloted at two secondary schools. Currently there are eight partial courses on-line. Each course has a number of piloted video lessons which can be accessed by logged in users. The courses are namely: - mathematics, Spanish, electricity, literature, chemistry and physics and social studies. In total there are 21 video lessons on-line linked to the online portal where the content has been organised in structured lessons. So far two teachers from the Dominica Grammar School continue to use these with the classes.

The project is now looking for funding for the furtherance of the project.

TOP PRIORITIES FOR 2012-2015 (NOT MORE THAN FIVE)

1. Development of on-line delivery content system for distributing flash videos and lessons to stakeholders e.g. Youtube type system.
2. Training of teachers in instructional design for on-line learning and videography.
3. Development of National Qualification Framework.
4. Training of teachers to teach the courses online e.g. Sustainable Agriculture.
5. Developing the capacity and skills of teachers to use ICT in the teaching and learning process.
6. Training teachers to develop supportive online materials at various levels.