



## **GUYANA**

Focal Point: Ms. Inge Nathoo

### **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.

### **GUYANA**

#### Key Challenges and Opportunities

- Lack of local expertise
- Lack of content
- No supportive local network of users.

#### Status of ODE in Guyana

##### *Policies*

- A Policy Document for Open and Distance Education for Guyana was developed.
- Guyana was represented at the 6<sup>th</sup> Pan-Commonwealth Forum in Kochi, India.

##### *Teacher Education*

- Work was advanced on the development of an ICT Teacher Competency Framework for Guyana:
  - Visit by Trudi van Wyk (COL), Anthony Ming (ComSec), and Greg Butler (Microsoft) to meet with officers of MOE to determine ICT CPD needs and how the UNESCO framework could be used to guide the use of ICT in the sector. Agreement was reached for collaboration between the organisations for adapting the UNESCO framework for ICT Professional Development Strategy for teachers in Guyana. It was agreed that a

Specialist Consultant will be sent to do a detailed study and make recommendations on the steps to be taken.

- Mr. Neil Butcher visited Guyana and prepared a report An ICT Professional Development Strategy for Teachers in Guyana
- The COL/ComSec/MOE team worked with World Bank consultants to develop the ICT component of the Improving Teacher Education project for Guyana. Possible support by COL for this project was identified.

#### *Infrastructure*

- MOE set up a new unit at NCERD called the Multimedia Unit with the skills and resources to develop and deliver content in all areas of the curriculum across all levels. Activities were advanced in the establishment of a national education TV channel.
- A Pilot online delivery platform for supporting students in Math and English at lower grades of the Secondary level was developed.

#### *Content*

- A workshop was conducted by a team of consultants from COL for Education Professionals from CPCE, UG and NCERD in the use of ICT in the delivery of content. The workshop was very successful with 25 persons attending and a variety of educational software and websites explored. Several CPD sites were introduced to the participants so that they can continue to learn online.
- Workshops were held locally by NCERD to train teachers to develop online materials for the teaching of Math and English at Grades 7 and 8.

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

1. Development of core modules for ICT Teacher Education to be delivered at CPCE as well as CPD through NCERD.
2. Developing the capacity and skills of teachers to use ICT in the teaching and learning process.
3. Training teachers to develop supportive online materials at various levels.
4. Creating a support unit which can provide pedagogical as well as technical support to teachers using ICT in delivery of curriculum.