TANZANIA
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AREAS OF FOCUS

1. Highlights and Challenges of Education and Training in Tanzania
2. Status of Collaboration Activities with the Commonwealth of Learning (COL)

Highlights/Opportunities and Challenges

- The country is making social and economic progress and advancing towards universal primary education with 96% NER
- Has developed secondary education plan (SEDP) and higher education development plan to address the primary education achievements, pressure and expansion to increase access to education and training at the higher level.
- Growing huge demand for continuing and higher education
- Limited capacity and access to quality education and training (space)
- Lack of learning and training resources (content, facilities and expertise)
- Acute shortage of qualified teaching and training personnel sector wise (PE, SE, TE, TVET and HE).

Status of ODL activities conducted jointly with COL in country during the three year plan of 2009 – 2012 periods

Policies/Quality Assurance

- Tanzania was represented at the 6th Pan Commonwealth Forum on open learning that focused on Access and Successes in learning, held in Kochi, India 24 – 28, November, 2010 by IAE, OUT and Mbeya Institute of Science and Technology (MIST).
- IAE participation in the formation of Commonwealth Open Schooling Association (COMOSA) New Delhi, India in November, 2009, at the National
Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS). An association with diverse membership across Commonwealth Countries.

- The Institute of Adult Education also participated in the development of COLs Quality Assurance kit for open schools, under Col consultant Dr. Ephram Mhalanga from SAIDE in South Africa, 2010.

Open Schooling (SE)

- Tanzania represented by Institute of Adult Education in the Pre-PCF6 International workshop on Research in Open Schooling and launching of COMOSA, organised by NIOS in India and COMOSA which was sponsored by COL, held in Delhi, 21-23 November, 2011. The two day conference was well attended and ended with Assembly General meeting (AGM) of COMOSA on 23rd December, 2010 which deliberated on the constitution and Financial rules of COMOSA. Action Plan was drawn and activities identified for the year 2011. The main agenda was Open Schools Research. Countries were encouraged to develop National ODL research policies and collaborate in action research activities. Tanzania was listed under vocationalisation of secondary education research activity.

E-learning and Application of ICT in Teaching and learning Process (TE & HE)

- Three IAE tutors participated in E-learning and multi-Media development Strategy at Maputo in Mozambique, March 18 – 19, 2010. A multi-media strategy was developed by IAE and submitted to COL. A consultant is to be identified with COL support to assist in the implementation of the strategy.
- ODL practitioners trained in designing, development and management of study materials for distance learners using COL Template in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, 17 – 28 May 2010. The workshop was successful as 20 participants were trained and able to produce modules, one of which is currently used to teach upgrading tutors of Folk Development centres, from the Ministry of Community Development, Gender and Children.
- Open University of Tanzania conducted a follow up course on E-learning to 26 participants from universities and other institutions, IAE inclusive in June 30 – July 2009. Courses were developed by participants as the outcome of the training in their area of specialisation.
- Enhancing E learning department at OUT to enable smooth operation of E-learning since 2010. This is an ongoing activity.
• Support for ICT programme for IAE Academic Women. COL supported a five (5) days workshop on capacity building in ICT application to learning and teaching conducted at Morogoro Vocational Training (VET), 8th – 12th November 2010 with assistance of COL’s ICT consultant from South Africa. Twenty four Women attend the Workshop and were trained on how to use ICT to search knowledge, develop power point presentations, use Skype, Emails, access base camp, internet and blog. The workshop has generated demand for ICT training and application at the IAE.

• COL in collaboration with UNESCO facilitated Tanzania Media association members and IAE Mass Education Department staff to participate in development of Community radio programmes in Pemba Island, Sengerema and Kagera in 2009 and 2010. Programmes with great demand in peripheral communities where communication, education and information is not easily accessible.

• E-learning for education sector Development. The Ministry of education is developing secondary education by ICT under Tanzania beyond tomorrow project as a way of improving quality and expanding access to education since 2010. Use of internet, computers and other ICT facilities encouraged in teaching and learning processes.

• Preparation of a Guide for establishment and Registration of ODL study centres in Tanzania with COL’s support. COL sent a consultant to conduct needs assessment and assist in development of the guide in 2009. The guide has been submitted to the Ministry of Education and Vocational Training for approval.

TOP PRIORITIES FOR 2012 – 2015 (FIVE ONLY)

1. E-learning for education sector development support is needed for Open Schools practitioners who develop ODL study materials and curriculum, Teacher professional development in Science and language subjects (SE) to improve education quality and pedagogical skills through ODL upgrading programmes.

2. Training in E-learning and use of ICTs including mobile phones in teaching and learning process (TE & SE)

3. Developing National ODL quality Assurance system to support delivery of quality ODL programmes.


5. Collaborative Open Schooling Research in use of Mobile phones and vocationalisation of secondary education.