

**COL - Sri Lanka:
Country Action Plan: 2006 –2009:
Progress**

**October 29 – 30, 2008
Malaysia**

**SU Wijerathne
Focal Point – Sri Lanka**

Education: Quality assurance (QA)

- Developed 'QA for teacher education and development toolkit'.
- Contributed to the first COL-NAAC joint forum on QA in teacher education.
- Development and adaptation of QA guidelines with OUSL and UGC.
- Conducted workshop on 'performance indicators for QA in distance higher education' organized by DEMP.
- Ongoing work on the quality of external degree programmes.
- Contributed workshop on assessment, standardization and certification of multi-media (MM) materials.

Teacher development

- Expanding teacher education through combination of ODL including appropriate e-learning and classroom focused training.
- The monograph on MA in Teacher Education (MATE) is under preparation.
- Capacity building on teacher education.

Open/Alternative schooling

- Action taken to increase access to basic and secondary education.
- Implementation of Open Schools

Higher education

- Contributed for professional development programmes in higher education.
- Conduct commonwealth executive MBA and MBA.

E-learning for education sector development

- Activities implemented through NGOs and CENWOR.
- Use of COL Wikieducator.

Learning and skills for livelihoods

- Develop vocational education for youth.
- Host a workshop on capacity building in ICT for women using NGO networks.
- COL is partnership with intuitions to develop and adopt VTET programmes for use in other regions.

Rural and peri-urban community development

- Conduct L3 Farmers programme (Weligatta, Hambantota).

National/international community development

- Participate the assembly on Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR).

Trans-National programmes

- Implement trans-national programmes.

Health, welfare and community development

- Working with NGOs.

Good governance

- Provide assistance to OUSL for conducting academic programmes.

Pan-Commonwealth Forum (PCF) and other activities

- Participate PCF4 and PCF5.
- Participate monitoring and evaluation workshop.

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New proposals: Education

Area of activity in COL logic model	Proposed activity in Sri Lanka
E-learning for education sector development: Increasing awareness, building capacity and developing content for e-learning in the education sector facilitating the use of open educational resources.	Formulation of national policy on open distance learning (ODL) in Sri Lanka: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussion with relevant parties (i.e. NEC, MoE, MoHE, UGC) - Obtain technical assistance from the CoL - Formulation of a draft ODL policy and wider-discussion with relevant stakeholders - Further improvements and finalization of the policy - Obtain legal clearance and approval for the policy - Implementation of the agreed policy
	Introduction of e-higher education (e-HE) in Sri Lanka: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Preliminary discussions with relevant parties - Selection of disciplines and development of curriculum - Agreement on the e-HE policy by the government - Discussions/negotiations/agreements with linked universities (especially in commonwealth countries in regionally and internationally) - Enrolment processes - Selection and enrolment of students - Implementation of the programme - Impact evaluation of the programme and further improvements of the e-HE policy

New proposals: Education (cont.)

Area of activity in COL logic model	Proposed activity in Sri Lanka
E-learning for education sector development: Increasing awareness, building capacity and developing content for e-learning in the education sector facilitating the use of open educational resources.	Introduction of e-schools in conflict affected areas and lagging regions in Sri Lanka: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identification of schools in the conflict affected areas in Northern and Eastern provinces, adjoining provinces, and lagging regions - Development of curriculum materials for selected subjects - Introduction of e-schools programme as a pilot basis - Conduct impact evaluation of the e-school programme and extension of the programme
	Using Mobile Phones for e-learning activities in Sri Lanka: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussion with the relevant parties of the education and the mobile phone companies - Agreement of the filed of disseminate data and information with the education experts and the mobile phone companies - Implementation of the programme on pilot basis (selected fields) - Evaluation of the impact of the programme - Extension of the project for another data fields

New proposals: Education (cont.)

Area of activity in COL logic model	Proposed activity in Sri Lanka
E-learning for education sector development: Increasing awareness, building capacity and developing content for e-learning in the education sector facilitating the use of open educational resources.	Expansion of educational opportunities for Science, Technology and Mathematics Programme (STAMP) in Sri Lanka: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Asses and determine the scope of the STAMP in Sri Lanka - Incorporate the programme into the annual and five year plans
	Expansion of educational opportunities in developed countries for Sri Lankan Virtue-tutors (on-line tutors): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussion with the COL and study the Indian model on Virtue-tutor programme - Selected disciplines and establish network in selected countries (i.e. Canada, USA, UK etc) - Invite the teachers and coordinate the programme with relevant parties
	Conduct continue education for school principals and university academic staff in Sri Lanka on governance (including management and funding) issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussion and select areas on continuing education components - Development of learning materials (i.e. CDs and online materials) - Dissemination of learning materials to schools and universities

New proposals: Education (cont.)

Area of activity in COL logic model	Proposed activity in Sri Lanka
E-learning for education sector development: Increasing awareness, building capacity and developing content for e-learning in the education sector facilitating the use of open educational resources.	Capacity building for education planning and development: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Staff development programme - Doctoral study (01 programme) on improving learning outcomes of students in Sri Lanka

On-going activities: Education

Area of activity in COL logic model	Proposed activity in Sri Lanka
<p>Quality assurance: Development of quality assurance systems and related professional development of personnel at all educational levels with special emphasis on ODL and technology-mediated approaches. Advice on implementation of relevant guidelines.</p>	<p>Development of a quality assurance toolkit for Sri Lankan Teacher Education Institutions (TEIs):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adapted quality indicators and criteria - Guidelines for users - Best practices (a compilation of case studies from Sri Lankan TEIs. - National symposium on best practices in teacher education in Sri Lanka

On-going activities: Education (cont.)

Area of activity in COL logic model	Proposed activity in Sri Lanka
<p>Teacher development: Expanding teacher education through combinations of ODL and classroom-focussed training. Increasing opportunities and capacity for developing and delivering quality professional development of teachers and other education sector personnel.</p>	<p>Capacity building of teachers and teacher educators in using and developing e-learning resources</p>

On-going activities: Education (cont.)

Area of activity in COL logic model	Proposed activity in Sri Lanka
<p>Open/alternative schooling: Application of ODL and flexible learning to increase access to basic and secondary schooling, particularly for the marginalised and those whose access to education is restricted.</p>	
<p>Higher education: Developing/strengthening systems, models and materials for higher education through open universities and dual-mode operations.</p>	
<p>E-learning for education sector development: Increasing awareness, building capacity and developing content for e-learning in the education sector facilitating the use of open educational resources.</p>	

On-going activities: Learning and Livelihoods

Area of activity in COL logic model	Proposed activity in Sri Lanka
<p>Learning and skills for livelihoods: Identifying where livelihoods can be improved or expanded and creating learning opportunities to exploit them. Increasing access to basic literacy and occupational training for young people and illiterate and neo-literate adults. Developing technical and vocational education and training using ODL methods for low technology environments.</p>	<p>Proposed to give Certificates, Diploma and Degree courses on Agro-technology to farming young community who are willing to pursue higher studies and knowledge-based Agriculture:</p> <p>Methodology: ODL (it includes western materials, digital forms)</p> <p>Online learning: Matching grant already received to commence the programme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Learning material preparation (both digital and written forms) - Designing the course and implementing online - Starting of the course (4 certificate courses) - Conducting 4 certificate course - Offering a Diploma - Starting a new batch - Conducting 4 certificate courses

On-going activities: Learning and Livelihoods (cont.)

Area of activity in COL logic model	Proposed activity in Sri Lanka
Rural and peri-urban community development: Developing ODL and ICT-based teaching/learning models for sustained improvement of livelihoods in rural and peri-urban communities depending on the food and environment sectors.	
National/international community development: Building ODL capacity among strategic national and international agricultural education, extension, research and policy-making bodies with mandates and resources for education, training and research in the food, agriculture and vocational sectors.	
Virtual university for small states of the commonwealth: Development of a collaborative network of 24+ small states aimed at creating and sharing materials for livelihood-related postsecondary programmes.	NA
Trans-national programmes: Developing and managing learning programmes for international organisations and sharing ODL programmes of proven effectiveness with institutions globally.	

On-going activities: The Human Environment

Area of activity in COL logic model	Proposed activity in Sri Lanka
Gender and development: Applying ODL and other technologies to foster the full participation of women and address the unequal gender relations that prevent equitable development. Development of ODL materials and training to address issues of gender in development.	
Health, welfare and community development: Equipping and training government services, NGOs and community groups to use video and audio technology for local production of educational materials related to health, welfare and community development.	
Environment education: Expanding environmental education at all levels. Adaptation and use of existing ODL programmes. Development of learning materials for sharing across the Commonwealth.	
Good governance: Development and adaptation of ODL materials and training for strengthening democracy and good governance through the public sector, the educational system and NGOs.	
Educational use of mass media and ICTs: Policy, strategy, capacity-building and models for the educational use of mass media and ICTs through broadcast, cable and satellite channels, community radio, village cinema, telecentres, community media centres, ICT kiosks, internet, etc.	

Thank you