Use of ODL in Seychelles

1. Education Sector

Open schooling

While our education system and policy makes provision for education for all students, our venture into the Open Schooling Project is unique. It is used in our conventional school system mainly to address shortage of teachers and to help learners develop a sense of independent learning. It also provides opportunities for parents to be more involved in the learning process of their children. As lifelong learners, parents might even enrol for the courses themselves as they will also be used to offer second chances to one and all.

Seychelles hosted the COMOSA AGM in February 2012.

Two officers from the Adult Learning and Distance Education Centre, Ms. Marie Claire Henriette and Ms. Jacqueline Louange, attended the COL workshop on “Education Services to Prison Inmates” in Namibia in September 2012. The outcome was to develop a unique modular curriculum framework for prison inmates.

OER

Launch of OER for Open schooling

OER workshop in South Africa

Mr. Selby Dora, Special Adviser to the Minister of Education and Mrs. Marie-Reine Hoareau, Technical Advisor for International relations and Seychelles Focal point for COL, attended the regional policy forum on Developing Country Policies on the Use of Open Educational Resources (OER) in Johannesburg, South Africa. May 2013.

Following the OER workshop and further discussion with Dr. Mark Bullen, COL Education Specialist, the Ministry of Education submitted a project to COL on the development of an OER policy and action plan to integrate ICT and ODL policies. This workshop will be attended mainly by lecturers from Seychelles Institute for Teacher Education (SITE) and Centre for Curriculum, Assessment and Teacher Support (CCATS), and Education Programme officers from the Adult Learning and Distance Education Centre (ALDEC). The workshop is due to take place in May 2014.
Higher Education

The eLearning Sustainable Tourism Course was officially launched at the Seychelles Tourism Academy in September 2012 by the Minister of Tourism and Culture, Mr. Alain St. Ange. Twenty-six Tourism and Tour Guiding Advanced Diploma in Hotel Management students from Seychelles have enrolled in the course. The course has been developed and equipment bought but due to infrastructure constraints related to the construction of a new Academy, the implementation of the project has now been pushed to December 2014.

VUSSC

Seychelles is actively involved with VUSSC and has hosted two bootcamps. This resulted in a course in Fisheries and the BSC Environmental Science. Students from the University of Seychelles are currently enrolled in the latter.

Ms. Fiona Ernesta, CEO of the Seychelles Qualifications Authority (SQA) and Ms. Lucy Athanasius, Pro-Vice Chancellor of the University of Seychelles, former Interlocutor for VUSSC in Seychelles, attended the Monitoring and Evaluation workshop in Lesotho in December 2013.

2. Livelihood and Health Sector

Lifelong Learning for Farmers (L3F)

A four-day training workshop on ODL Mobile Learning Development was held in April 2013. Participants included heads and staff of Seychelles Agriculture Agency (SAA) and representatives of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Industry.

Among the recommended activities of the action plan produced at the end of the workshop, the L3F Steering Committee and the L3F Implementation Committee were set up in May 2013. The L3F Steering Committee consists of heads from each section of SAA and other partners in the agricultural sector namely; representatives of the Seychelles Agricultural and Horticultural Training Centre (SAHTC), Seychelles Farmers Association (SeyFa) and Val d’Andorre Farmers’ Association.

A pilot study including a group of around 70 farmers from Mahé, Praslin and La Digue islands was launched to coincide with World Food Day on October 16, 2013. An MOU was also signed between SAA and AIRTEL Ltd. Seychelles, a local mobile phone service provider to facilitate the realization of the project. A follow-up workshop took place in August 2013. In March 2014, the project was launched at a national level involving 700 registered farmers. Provision is being made to reach all farmers in the country.
3. **Seventh Pan-Commonwealth Forum on Open Learning**

Dr. Justin Valentin, Seychelles VUSSC interlocutor, attended the sixth VUSSC meeting and the Seventh Pan-Commonwealth Forum on Open learning in Abuja, Nigeria in December 2013.

Mr. Danny Faure, Vice President of Seychelles, was awarded the COL Honorary Fellowship award for his leadership in the creation and development of VUSSC.

4. **TOP PRIORITIES FOR 2015-2018**

1. Training of TVET instructors to increase access to the development of quality technical and vocational skills.

2. Capacity building in competency based curriculum design for curriculum developers.

3. Training of health promoting School leaders in promoting a healthy school environment conducive to learning.

4. Capacity in assessment techniques for L3F project.

5. Enhance capacity of University lecturers to convert existing programmes, notably local ones, as online materials for greater access.

Africa and the Mediterranean Regional Focal Points Meeting
Ebene City, Mauritius
May 2014