



COUNTRY PRESENTATION – GHANA

By: Paul E. Ackom

Introduction

COL has been very instrumental in ODL programmes in Ghana. The organisation has also supported Ghana's ODL programmes in a great measure. COL's support is hereby acknowledged and appreciated. Four out of the five public universities are currently running ODL programmes.

Below is the report on the various Logic models:

Use of ODL in Ghana

1. Teacher Education

COL, in collaboration with Teacher Education in Sub-Saharan Africa (TESSA), supported a workshop by the West Africa Consortium for Teacher Education Development (WACTED) in Ghana from 19th to 22nd February, 2007. Twenty teacher educators from Benin, Ivory Coast, The Gambia, Ghana, Nigeria, Sierra Leone and Togo attended the workshop. Professor Menon of COL attended. The workshop introduced new teacher educators to TESSA and WACTED and their activities. There was a quality assurance session in teacher education.

TESSA – Claire Hedges, TESSA Programme Administrator at the Open University, UK paid an implementation visit from 4th to 8th February, 2008. Meetings with the Implementation Teams of the University of Education, Winneba (UEW), University of Cape Coast (UCC) and Teacher Education Division (TED) led to the drawing of Action Plans for the implementation of TESSA resources by each institution.

2. Open Distance Learning

The University of Education, Winneba Distance Education programme is making steady progress. There are three sets, that is, Level 100 to Level 300, students currently pursuing the three-year Diploma in Basic Education programme. In addition, the first batch of the Post Diploma,

BEd. students have completed their programme while the second batch students have been admitted in April 2008.

COL provided technical and financial support for a two-year Post Diploma (BEd.) programme in Technical Education. Piloting started with admission of 39 students (but 37 enrolled) in September 2006. No dropout. They are expected to graduate at end of 2007/2008 academic year. Fifty-two were admitted in September 2007 and completed 1st semester.

The University of Cape Coast runs different courses at the Diploma and Post-Diploma, BEd. levels. It has advertised for applications for admission into the 2008/2009 academic year programmes.

The University of Ghana (UG), Legon and Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), Kumasi have also placed their first advertisement for applications for admission into degree programmes, starting in the 2008/2009 Academic Year.

UG is offering programmes in Bachelor of Arts (BA) and Bachelor of Science in Administration.

KNUST is offering:

- Four-year programmes in BSc. Actuarial Sciences, BSc. Computer Science, BSc. Quantity Surveying and Construction Economics (Building Technology), BSc. Construction Technology (Building Technology), and
- Two-year Masters' programme in MSc. Industrial Mathematics, Executive Masters in Business Administration (EMBA) and Executive Masters in Public Administration (EMPA). The EMBA and EMPA programmes are designed by COL and are being offered under Licence Agreement with COL.

3. Open/Alternate Schooling: President's Special Initiative (PSI) on Pre-tertiary Distance Education

The following are the programmes under this initiative:

- TV programmes in English Language, Mathematics and Science for Senior High School students, launched in July 2005.
- Open School in Technical and Vocational Education and Training for Post-Junior High School graduates was launched in September 2007.

4. Higher Education

National Open University – A series of meetings have either taken place or are ongoing to prepare for take-off by the end of November, 2008.

As part of the preparation for the start of the Open University, a team of five, comprising Professor Jophus Anamuah-Mensah (Chairman), Mr. Paul Effah, Executive Secretary of National Council for Tertiary Education (NCTE), Professor Ben Gordor, Dr. Francis Owusu-Mensah and Mr. Abraham (Secretary) visited Tamil Nadu Open University in India and the UK Open University from 23rd March to 5th April, 2008. COL was instrumental in arranging the visits.

After the visits, an Interim Report has been presented to the Government of Ghana.

Top Priorities

The top priorities are:

1. The establishment of the Open University, and
2. Capacity Building in ODL.

What can COL do to further Ghana's Agenda?

COL can assist Ghana in the areas of:

1. Capacity building
2. Material Development
3. Student Support, and
4. The management of student records.