

Online learning and quality education for sustainable development

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Overview of SDG4

4 QUALITY EDUCATION



- Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all
- Sustainable Development Goal 4 has 10 targets encompassing many different aspects of education. There are seven targets which are expected outcomes and three targets which are means of achieving these targets.

Outcome Targets for SDG4

- Universal primary and secondary education
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- Early childhood development and universal pre-primary education
 - Equal access to technical/vocational and higher education
 - Relevant skills for decent work
 - Gender equality and inclusion
 - Universal youth literacy
 - Education for sustainable development and global citizenship

Means of Implementation

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- Effective learning environments
 - Scholarships
 - Teachers and educators

Online Learning



Role of online learning in the achievement of quality education for sustainable development

Understanding online learning

- Online learning simply means learning with the assistance of the Internet and a personal computer. They are courses that are delivered completely online, meaning there are no physical or on-campus class sessions (Stanford University, 2019).
- It is also referred to as online education, e-learning, web-based learning, computerized electronic learning, etc.
- The student and instructor do not physically meet but only interacts via computer mediated communication

Types

- Synchronous Online Learning/Live
- Asynchronous Online Learning
- Hybrid courses, also known as blended courses (Fordham University, 2019).

Ways online learning enables achievement of inclusive and equitable quality education

- Eliminating time barriers in education for learners as well as teachers
- Eliminating geographical barriers as learners can log on from any place
- Asynchronous interaction is made possible leading to thoughtful and creative
- Enhanced group collaboration made possible
- It enables speedy dissemination of education to target disadvantaged groups
- It offers education opportunity while balancing family and work life
- It enhances the international dimension of educational services
- It also facilitates inter disciplinary research.
- You'll learn innovative strategies for virtual teamwork (Employers highly value this skill).

Conclusion

- Online education has momentous relationship with the achievement of inclusive and equitable quality education which is the focus of SDG 4

QUALITY EDUCATION AND ONLINE LEARNING: A FOCUS ON NIGERIA.

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Prevailing online learning formats

There are 2 prevailing online learning formats globally. These are:

- The credit course form where students enrolled in tertiary education and take online classes offered by such institutions. Examples include MIT OpenCourseWare, Harvard Online learning, National Open University of Nigeria (NOUN), etc.
- The second form consists of professional training and certification programs. Such online learning is usually targeted at professionals or students seeking training or preparing for certification exams. Popular courses include training in foreign languages, accounting, programming, Massive Open Online Courses (MOOC), etc (Yu and Hu, 2016).

Online learning methods adopted in Nigeria for the achievement of quality education

- Full online course registration, eg. NOUN
- Course content provision using online platform, eg. Moodle
- Teleconferencing
- Webinars
- Mobile Learning.

Challenges

- Computer illiteracy
- Skills deficiency
- Limited technical support
- Poor Internet connectivity
- Power instability
- High cost of data/ Internet subscription
- Funding

Conclusion

- Online learning propels the achievement of inclusive and equitable quality education. For optimal result, the government, International bodies, institutions, with corporate bodies should support online learning by helping in alleviating these factors that pose as challenges to its effectiveness



MAKERERE UNIVERSITY

Online Education in Makerere University

Mary Nalumansi

Presentation Outline

- Introduction
- Features of MUELE that students use
- Benefits of MUELE to students
- Challenges that students face
- Way forward

MUELE

- Stands for Makerere University Electronic Learning Environment
- It was started in 2008 replacing Blackboard and KEWL (Knowledge Environment for Web based Learning)

Features of MUELE that Students Use

- Discussion forums
- Chats
- Personalized dashboard
- Collaborative tools and activities
- All in one calendar

Benefits of MUELE to Students

- Modern, easy to use interface
- Faster receiving of course materials
- Easy communication between students and lecturers
- Students can read ahead when lectures are uploaded
- Timely submission of their work
- Students can send work even when off campus
- Effective delivery and management of courses
- Students are guided on predetermined options

Challenges that Students Face

- Server running out of storage- people uploading content every time
- Database keeps on crashing
- Power instability
- Students register with many accounts and cleaning it becomes a problem
- Access off campus is not easy

Challenges.....

- Hard for students without computing background
- There is a policy for students to use Mak email address causing a challenge of locking out students without such addresses.
- Some students don't use it and miss course works

Way Forward

- Despite several challenges, MUELE has been very helpful to both students and lecturers in Makerere University.
- There is need to curb these challenges and improve on the effectiveness of this learning platform.

Thank You



The State of Online Education at EASLIS: The case For the use of Makerere University E-Learning Environment (MUELE) in LIS Education

**Namujuzi Sylvia
EASLIS, COCIS, Makerere University
March 2019**

Introduction



- Online Education is defined as an education where network technologies such as the internet are used to make connections among students, teachers and educational materials(Haustine,2013).
- In Uganda, over the years, traditional pedagogical methods (class room lecturing, group discussions and group presentations) have been the common mode of instruction in almost all Universities, taking place in a lecture room setting.
- The situation is changing, due to the introduction of ICT's and internet connections. This has led to development of new ways of conducting lectures in the various universities, hence the emergence of online education in the university curriculum.

Methodology used: Interview method & Focus group Discussion

State of Online Education at EASLIS



- EASLIS is one of the schools in Makerere University.
- Makerere University (since 1922), Nine Colleges, COCIS having 2 Schools: SCIT & EASLIS.
- Introduced E-learning platforms in 2008: Blackboard, KEWL (Knowledge Environment for Web based Learning) and now MUELE (Makerere University E-Learning Environment) on Moodle) <http://muele.mak.ac.ug>)
- EASLIS – 4000 students, 20 fulltime staff, 12 part-time staff (12 use MUELE in teaching).

The screenshot displays the MUELE Moodle dashboard. At the top, there is a green header bar with contact information: "Call us : (414) 531343/437 (DICTS)" and "E-mail : elearning@cees.mak.ac.ug". The user's name, "Sylvia Namujuzi", is visible in the top right corner. The dashboard is divided into several sections:

- Left Sidebar:** Contains navigation links: Dashboard, Site home, Calendar, Private files, and My courses. Under "My courses", two courses are listed: BLS 3116 and BRM 1101.
- Course Overview:** A central section showing a grid of course cards. The cards are titled: "BLS 3116: Preservation and Conservation", "BRM 1101-1: Principles of Records and Archives ...", "BRM 1101: Principles of Records and Archives ...", and "BRM 3202: Management of Records and Archives ...". Each card has a color-coded background and a three-star rating.
- Private files:** A section on the right indicating "No files available" and providing a link to "Manage private files...".
- Latest badges:** A section indicating "You have no badges to display".
- Calendar:** A section showing a calendar for March 2019, with days of the week (Sun, Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat) and dates (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9).

The bottom of the screenshot shows a Windows taskbar with various application icons and the system clock displaying "7:09 PM 3/12/2019".



Features Commonly Used

- News /Discussion forums
- Course management
- Student management
- Course enrolment
- All in one calendar

Benefits

- Easy communication to students.
- Students can easily inbox any areas where they need clarity and a response sent
- Easy tracking of students progress
- Lecturers can access MUELE anywhere anytime and so they can upload course materials from anywhere at any time.
- Saved from manual printing of slides
- Easy management of assignments
- Faster delivery of course materials



Challenges

- MUELE is more of a file management system than a live teaching platform
- Some lecturers are technophobic
- Makerere university policy of students using makerere email.
- Students get blocked when they take long to register.
- At times, the system is off and sometimes internet is slow.
- Limited technical support
- Lack of training
- Lack of connectivity in lecture room

Way forward

- Management should invest more in MUELE.
- Sensitization of lecturers and students
- Training of students and lecturers
- Provision of ICTs
- The University should encourage on-line teaching & learning.

Conclusion



“Great things happen to those who don't stop believing, trying, learning, and being grateful. Never stop dreaming, never stop believing, never give up, never stop trying, and never stop learning.”

- If all challenges connected to e-learning are solved, I believe there isn't any other better way of learning than this in our century.
- Remember, it's always the season for the old to learn! Even our great Grandparents will embrace it.

Thank you



QUALITY EDUCATION & ONLINE EDUCATION IN UGANDA

BY
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Introduction

Quality Education enables people to develop all of their attributes & skills to achieve their potential as human beings. The government of Uganda considers education a basic human right and is dedicated to providing equitable access to quality and affordable education to all Ugandans, hence:

- Universal Primary Education (UPE)
- Universal Secondary Education (USE)

Challenges faced by Uganda's Education Sector

High level of teacher and student absenteeism, weak school level management structures, inadequate availability of learning materials, limited funds and large class sizes. A major issue is also the availability of teachers in disadvantaged areas and a lack of accommodation for teachers in rural, hard to reach areas etc

BENEFITS

- Convenience and flexibility.
- More comfortable venue for shy students to participate in course activities and discussions.
- Addresses shortage of teachers and classrooms/ lecture rooms
- Provides students information and communications technology skills.
- offers the opportunity for information to be presented in various forms – text, sound, pictures, etc.

CHALLENGES

- Limited access to computers
- Need for face to face interaction
- Computer illiteracy
- Power supply
- Lack of Fast Internet Connection
- limited funds and high software costs.
- Expensive Data/internet etc..

Online Education in Uganda

- Kaino tablet; Tablet crafted for the Ugandan primary pupils.
- Video Conferencing lessons
- E-learning Inclusiveness
- Integrating e-learning in university programmes
- Introducing the e-library (eg ISBAT University)
- Digital learning platform for primary schools

Recommendations

Adopt Online education into the curriculums, Training in ICT skills, Provision of steady power in all learning institutions, Improve internet connectivity and make internet cheaper, setting up adequate ICT and physical infrastructure, Improve the welfare of the teachers, Exploit the range of technologies used in the e-learning context and partner with different organizations etc.

Conclusion

Realizing the SDG4 of ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education as well as promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all by 2030 may not be easy but can be achieved through partnerships and exploring different innovations.

THANK YOU