The Internet and Education: Case Studies from around the World

The Realities of Operating an Open University in Sub-Saharan Africa

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- OUT perspective
  - Background
  - Government funding
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  - Multi-stakeholders partnerships
  - Engagement with local community
  - Economic opportunities
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- Future
Background

- Total population: 44.9 mil
• OUT established 1992
• First university in the country to offer open and distance learning programs
• 29 regional centers, envisioned to be regional colleges by 2015
• Coordination centers in other EA countries
• Has RSP which guide its activities, reviewed twice a year.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Before 1961–1974 | • Government responsibility  
                  • 2 years working in public sector                        |
| 1980       | • Economic crisis  
                  • Government financing reduced                             |
| 1988       | • Cost sharing adopted  
                  • Not formally assigned                                       |
| 1992/93    | • Formal cost sharing announced  
                  • Phase I—fare to and from domicile                           |
| 1993/94    | • Phase II—food, accommodation, caution, student union  
                  • Privately sponsored students enrolled                        |
| 1995 to date | • Phase III—Included tuition fee, exams, etc  
                  • Higher Education Students Loan Board (HESLB)—2005            |
Decline of government support

- Zero development funds have been given to OUT since 2010/11 academic year.
- Funds for “Other Charges” have fallen from TZS 1.14 billion per year in 2011-2012 to only 678 million in 2012-2013.
- Funds for Personal Emoluments include, and not limited to salaries and allowances.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Other Charges</th>
<th>Personal Emoluments</th>
<th>Development</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2001-2002</td>
<td>1,104</td>
<td>605</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>1,909</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002-2003</td>
<td>983</td>
<td>913</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>1,976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003-2004</td>
<td>1,163</td>
<td>1,296</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>2,509</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004-2005</td>
<td>1,090</td>
<td>1,090</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>2,230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005-2006</td>
<td>1,490</td>
<td>1,540</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>3,130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006-2007</td>
<td>1,304</td>
<td>3,999</td>
<td>692</td>
<td>5,995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007-2008</td>
<td>1,017</td>
<td>4,759</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>6,276</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008-2009</td>
<td>1,017</td>
<td>4,735</td>
<td>1,041</td>
<td>6,793</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009-2010</td>
<td>1,017</td>
<td>6,390</td>
<td>2,241</td>
<td>9,648</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010-2011</td>
<td>1,017</td>
<td>8,920</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>9,937</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011-2012</td>
<td>1,141</td>
<td>10,055</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>11,196</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012-2013*</td>
<td>678</td>
<td>6,589</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>7,267</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ICT facilities and Local expertise

- The educational model of open and distance learning has a heavy reliance on ICT infrastructure for its core functions.
- OUT equipped 14 regional centers out of 29 with ICT labs
- Development of systems in-house
- Consultancy (skilled staff difficult to maintain due to low wages)
- Trained staff
- These initiatives need sustainability, which means more funds
Donor funded projects

- Provide great support to the University, but
- Their sustainably beyond donor funds seems daunting

Multi-stakeholders partnership-seems promising

- NSRC and Cisco – Capacity building
- TERNET and Internet2 – Capacity building
- Google – through education apps
Engagement with local community

- As part of its agenda of giving back to the community, OUT has established 11 ICT community labs where the general public attend basic, intermediate, and advanced ICT skills.

- Underserved professionals take up this opportunity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>OUT Students Lab</th>
<th>ICT Community Skills Lab</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kinondoni</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mbeya</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shinyanga</td>
<td>Nil</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mwanza</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iringa</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kilimanjaro</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Nil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arusha</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Nil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kigoma</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ruvuma</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Nil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mpanda</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Singida</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanga</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Nil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manyara</td>
<td>Nil</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temeke</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Nil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ilala</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Nil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OUT HQ</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>14</strong></td>
<td><strong>11</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
- Economic opportunities

### 2. Voice TeleCom Subscriptions

#### 2.1 Subscriptions per Operators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Vodacom</th>
<th>AirTel</th>
<th>Tigo</th>
<th>ZanTel</th>
<th>TTCL</th>
<th>Benson</th>
<th>SasaTel*</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 2012</td>
<td>8,565,430</td>
<td>7,694,586</td>
<td>5,736,112</td>
<td>2,417,999</td>
<td>224,219</td>
<td>1,054</td>
<td>5,448</td>
<td>24,644,848</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 2012</td>
<td>8,780,620</td>
<td>7,865,441</td>
<td>6,164,518</td>
<td>2,435,846</td>
<td>222,393</td>
<td>1,007</td>
<td>5,148</td>
<td>25,474,973</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 2012</td>
<td>8,967,269</td>
<td>8,001,689</td>
<td>6,244,050</td>
<td>2,488,458</td>
<td>220,899</td>
<td>924</td>
<td>4,810</td>
<td>25,928,099</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 2012</td>
<td>9,132,703</td>
<td>8,121,079</td>
<td>6,295,765</td>
<td>2,835,829</td>
<td>218,792</td>
<td>872</td>
<td>5,448</td>
<td>26,610,488</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 2012</td>
<td>9,246,578</td>
<td>8,232,258</td>
<td>6,332,990</td>
<td>3,039,265</td>
<td>218,792</td>
<td>744</td>
<td>5,148</td>
<td>27,075,775</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec 2012</td>
<td>9,357,672</td>
<td>8,356,095</td>
<td>6,370,796</td>
<td>3,083,889</td>
<td>221,663</td>
<td>725</td>
<td>4,810</td>
<td>27,395,650</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* The statistics are as of March 2012

- OUT and SUA using Moodle and mobile learning to train agricultural extension officers
- ICT and entrepreneurship short course
Ultimate barrier to change

- Lowering the barrier to Education and Jobs in Tanzania
- Mind set (culture)
- Skill set (human resource)
- Technology
- Funding sources
Future

- 29 Regional centers to be regional colleges
- District centers within the regions
- Capacity building in ICT and entrepreneurship skills at the district level.
- Regional development planning (ownership by the local government)
- Self income generation
- Multi-stakeholders involvement