Skills Development

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The New Zealand Context

- Unemployment rate of 6.4% vs. OECD average of 8.5%

- 70% of population in employment

- Still face increasing skill shortages

- Aging workforce

- $12.4 billion spent on education in 2009-2010 year

- Public service expected to do more with less

- Significant numbers of the population still need upskilling in language, literacy and numeracy skills

The World Bank View

"Education enhances people's ability to make informed decisions, sustain a livelihood, adopt new technologies, be better parents, cope with shocks, and be responsible citizens and effective stewards of the natural environment."

- World Bank draft education strategy for 2020

The Challenge

- World-wide student numbers are growing

- 28.6 million in 1970

- 152 million in 2007

- Average annual increase of 4.6%

- Average number of tertiary students doubles every 15 years

Access, Quality, Efficiency

- Global shift focusing on outcomes, effectiveness and more value from existing resources

- To date, access has not been equal across:

➢ Income

➢ Gender

➢ Other population groups

- Government spending on education significant, but outcomes 'disappointing' according to World Bank

- Many countries face simultaneous challenges

- The challenges facing skills development are huge - collaboration key.

- Excellent examples of collaboration already occurring in the Commonwealth

Blended Delivery

- Governments cannot afford to build enough bricks and mortar institutions to meet learner demand

- ODL can extend its potential contribution through blended delivery

- Pure ODL can be constrained where there is a need to 'learn by doing'

- Blended delivery has the potential to bring together the best of ODL and face-to-face delivery

  ➢ ODL institutions can develop high quality learning resources

  ➢ ODL can disaggregate the value chain to suit different partners

  ➢ Basic blended model can be deployed in many different variations

  ➢ Blended model generates greater return on investment

Blended Delivery

- Blended model can be deployed to suit local conditions

- Cost effective way to extend the reach, scale and benefits of ODL

- High quality learning design which encompasses management of blended delivery system is crucial

- Learning design should be driven by the needs of the learner and the local context

- Need context driven learning solutions for unemployed youth

- Partners in collaboration need to combine their respective strengths

The Open Polytechnic – Drainlaying to Degrees!

- Offering TVET to hundreds of thousands since 1946

- Wide and diverse course TVET portfolio :

Business and Management	Early Childhood Education
Engineering	Plumbing, Gasfitting & Drainlaying
Real Estate	Small Business
Construction	Social Sciences & Communication
Retail	Information and Library Studies
Environment and Sustainability	Computing & IT
Foundation Learning	Psychology, Health & Well-being
Law	Electro-technology
Horticulture & Agriculture	Health & Safety

The Open Polytechnic Experience

- The Open Polytechnic is accredited to deliver tertiary programmes by the New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA).

- Qualifications are portable

- Use blended delivery model to support learners less likely to succeed in distance only study

- Blended delivery particularly successful for foundation level learners

- Worked with CoL to deliver OERs on foundation level trades skills for Pasifika nations

- Blended arrangements with regional providers in New Zealand

- Partnership with University of Southern Queensland for blended delivery of engineering technology degree

New Zealand Industry Training Model

- New Zealand Industry Training Organisations (ITOs):

  ➤ Design the industry training framework

  ➤ Enroll the industry trainees

  ➤ Coordinate a system of workplace-based competency assessment

- Students can study underpinning theory with Open Polytechnic

- Partnership between ITOs and Open Polytechnic means students receive consistent learning experience

- Practical training also done in the workplace arranged by the ITOs.

- Workplace-based competency assessments are quality assured

- In some cases employer acts as a skills verifier

- Open Polytechnic runs workshops where necessary to deliver intensive training

Innovations in Technology

- Huge scope to employ more technology-enabled learning

- Virtual simulations and animations

- Mobile phones and larger screen mobile devices

- eBooks

- Video demonstrations on You Tube

- Computer simulation packages

- Interactive presentations using Adobe Presenter

- Online communities of learning

- Technology use must suit the context of the learner

Technology Enabled Collaboration

Campus Saskatchewan – Canada

- A single network with autonomous members

- Collaboration of 14 different institutions

- Network aims to:

  ➢ Collaborate on inter-institutional initiatives

  ➢ Shared website and resource development

  ➢ Cross-crediting courses

- In this type of network the government acts as a funder and strategic partner

Technology Enabled Collaboration

Finnish Virtual Polytechnic and Finnish Virtual University

- Network of informal networks

- Network is made up of staff across institutions using technology to work on specific projects

- A central team supports the governance and management groups of the virtual collaboration

- Network seeks to:

  ➢ Offer increased choice for learners by improving student mobility between providers

  ➢ Support learners with online courses

Technology Enabled Collaboration

Australian Flexible Learning Network

- A network of formal networks

- Supports e-learning opportunities

- Members are funding bodies that represent large numbers of providers across Australia

- Members work on a high level to coordinate institutional and system-wide e-learning development

Technology Enabled Collaboration

University of London – International Programmes

- A network funded support organisation

- Made up of 19 self-governing colleges

- All accredited to offer University of London degrees

- Distance learning provided to 40,000 learners across 180 countries

- Network offers:

  - Design and development support

  - Central administration system

Thank You