Acknowledgements

All COL Education Specialists and their Programme Assistants as well as CEMCA colleagues have contributed to the development of the country reports which make up the volume COL in the Commonwealth: 2012-2015 Country Reports. This country report is an excerpt from the volume. The following people are thanked in particular for their role in the design and publication of these reports.

Alena Kovar, Receptionist/Secretary
Alex Hennig, Consultant
Alicia Swinamer, Stakeholder Relations Manager
Denise Tremblay, Design/Production Coordinator
Georgina Montgomery, Consultant

Compilation and Coordination
Alexis Carr, Project Assistant

Direction and Editing
Professor Asha S. Kanwar, President and Chief Executive Officer
Foreword

COL in the Commonwealth: 2012-2015 Country Reports summarises COL’s activities over the last three years (2012-2015) and captures what we have achieved in each Member State and across the Commonwealth.

This volume is the result of a collaborative process that began in 2011 with extensive partner consultations. Following these consultations, a Country Action Plan was developed to guide COL’s work in each country. The reports contained in this volume describe the implementation of these plans and highlight COL’s achievements during this three year plan.

The reports cover all Member States of the Commonwealth, showing not only what COL has done in developing countries but also how its work aligns with the international development priorities of Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the United Kingdom. The reports are grouped under four regions: Africa and the Mediterranean, Asia, the Caribbean and the Pacific. Each regional section contains a brief regional report as well as the reports for each country within that region. The Pan-Commonwealth section describes COL’s Initiatives, under the two sectors: ‘Education’ and ‘Livelihoods and Health’. The reports for this triennium categorise COL activities according to our five core strategies: partnerships, capacity, materials, models and policy, in order to better present how our work contributes to outcomes. ‘COL in Action’ highlights real life examples to illustrate how COL’s work impacts on people, groups and institutions in developing countries.

Most of the initiatives that COL pursued during this triennium are showing demonstrable results in expanding and improving opportunities for education and training, building healthier communities, helping rural communities achieve greater prosperity, and contributing to skills development. As the external Impact Evaluation report states: ‘COL has had a major impact on individuals including farmers…faculty members, institutional leaders in formal and non-formal learning, selected policy makers and educational administrators’ (S. Murgatroyd with J. Tully, 2015). The external Outcome Evaluation concludes that ‘all the Initiatives moved successfully forward, on time and within budget’ (N. Kemp and G. Farrell, 2015). Both evaluations confirm that COL is highly respected and well regarded in the field.

The production of COL in the Commonwealth: 2012-2015 Country Reports was made possible through collective effort and collaboration. Partners on the ground have diligently provided updates to COL. COL staff have tracked and assessed results obtained from partners through a thorough monitoring and evaluation process. COL’s advanced knowledge management systems have enabled us to capture information from numerous sources and synthesise this into the reports that make up this volume. I must particularly commend Alexis Carr for her diligent work in filtering the masses of raw data and converting them into a coherent and meaningful narrative.

Professor Asha S. Kanwar
President and Chief Executive Officer
Commonwealth of Learning
Cameroon is an African nation of about 22 million people. Known for its geological and cultural diversity, Cameroon is home to more than 200 linguistic groups. Through the Healthy Communities initiative, COL has been working with partners to improve capacity in the design and development of Community Learning Programmes (CLPs). This has resulted in the creation and delivery of multiple health and livelihood-related CLPs.

**National MDG Targets Addressed by COL**
- Improve child and maternal health
- Make available the benefits of new technologies, especially for information and communications

**COL's Work on Cameroon's MDG Targets**
- CLPs on maternal and child health are helping to change behaviours
- Capacity-building, materials development and policy support for sharing of open educational resources (OER) and promotion of ODL are underway

**Outcomes Achieved by COL**
- Five Community Learning Programmes (CLPs) about maternal and child health planned, designed and delivered, with an estimated 34,000 users of the five programmes
- Two farm radio programmes developed/revised

**Quick Notes**

**COL Focal Points:**
- Professor Ivo Leke Tambo, Ministry of Basic Education
- Dr Daniel Akume Akume, Ministry of Higher Education

**Notable Mention:**
- Professor Ajaga Nji, PhD Université de Dschang, is a COL Honorary Advisor

**Areas of COL's Work in Cameroon:**
- Technical and Vocational Skills Development (TVSD)
- Healthy Communities
COL has identified five core strategies to achieve outcomes and impact: partnerships, capacity, materials, models and policy. In practice, most COL activities incorporate more than one of these strategies and, in some cases, all five. However, for ease of reference, activities have been classified in only one of the five categories.

**PARTNERSHIPS**
COL partners with government agencies, public institutions, civil society and other organisations to improve and extend teaching and learning services to people in the developing Commonwealth.

- Ministry of Basic Education
- Ministry of Higher Education
- Ministry of Public Health
- Cameroon Link

**CAPACITY**
Capacity development pervades all COL activities and COL focuses primarily on human resource development.

- Community Learning Programme (CLP) Developer’s Certificate

**MATERIALS**
Materials refer to learning and teaching resources including course materials, toolkits and frameworks. Materials are produced through collaboration with partners, or by partners themselves with COL support.

- Farm Radio Programme Development

**MODELS**
A model is a coherent set of structures and processes that has been shown to work in more than one context to achieve specific results. Models can range from broad approaches to more specific instruments.

- Healthy Communities model

**HIGHLIGHTS**
In the lead-up to the 2014 Regional Focal Points Meeting, COL’s Focal Point for Cameroon was asked to identify the country’s top priorities and what COL can do to further support the national agenda of Cameroon. The following areas were identified:

- Development of capacity and skills of ODL tutors
- Development of national policy framework for ODL
- Provision of dual-mode at universities

**LOOKING FORWARD: 2015–2021**
In the lead-up to the 2014 Regional Focal Points Meeting, COL’s Focal Point for Cameroon was asked to identify the country’s top priorities and what COL can do to further support the national agenda of Cameroon. The following areas were identified:

- Establishment of a national distance education body
- Establishment of a National Open University and open schools
Appendix: COL’s Activities in Cameroon

PARTNERSHIPS

INVEST Africa Community Learning Network
COL supports an Innovation in Vocational Education and Skills Training (INVEST) online community of practice called the Community Learning Network, which currently has 1,182 members. Two members are from Cameroon and are engaged in informal learning and collaboration.

PARTNERSHIPS: MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES

7th Pan-Commonwealth Forum (PCF7)
COL sponsored the following people to attend the forum:
Mr James Achanyi-Fontem of Cameroon Link, Ms Claire Massano Nkehsera of the Educational Research Network for West and Central Africa (ERNWCA), Mr Kinsley Ndenge of the African Centre for ICTs in Education and Development, Mr Michael Nkwenti Ndongfack of the Ministry of Basic Education (MINEDUB), Mr Lucas Nkwetta Afutendem of the Université de Dschang, Mr Hedwig Wirsiy of the Ministry of Education, and Mrs Yeba Judith Sama Mouokuio Meno of ERNWACA.

Review and Planning for Healthy Communities
COL convened a meeting of its Healthy Communities initiative partners in Abuja in December 2013, alongside PCF7. The meeting, held from 1 to 2 December, focused on conducting a mid-term review of the initiative and planning for the balance of the three-year plan. Mr James Achanyi-Fontem of Cameroon Link participated in the meeting.

CAPACITY

Community Learning Programme (CLP) Developer’s Certificate
Four regional distance training and mentoring courses have been developed and delivered through a partnership between COL and its Healthy Communities partners as part of the CLP Developer’s Certificate, which will result in new CLP design and delivery.

Two editions of the 5-week “Communication for Development (CAD): Why. How. Now.” e-course were run in 2013/2014. In February to March 2014, five participants from Cameroon were involved in the training.

The 10-week “Research for Planning” e-course was run in 2014. In April to June 2014, three participants from Cameroon received training.

The 5-week “Communication Channels and Media Forms” e-course was run in 2014. In August 2014, one participant from Cameroon received training, resulting in a completed CLP plan.

The 6-week “Participatory Learning Design” (blended) e-course was run in 2014. In September to October 2014, one participant from Cameroon received training, which will result in a completed CLP design document.

The 6-week “Scriptwriting and Episode Production” (blended) e-course is being run in 2014/2015.

The 5-week “Sustainability and Sponsorship” e-course is being run in 2015.

MATERIALS

Farm Radio Programme Development
Five broadcasters (four men and one woman) were trained and mentored in radio programme development through two editions of a COL/Farm Radio International distance course run September to December 2012 and September to December 2014. Participation in 2012 resulted in two new/improved regular farmer programme designs, one of which was a competition winner and received seed funding from Farm Radio International (Mr Jean-Armand Bokally Dande, Radio Rurale Lolodorf, Douala).

MODELS

Healthy Communities
Fifty-six individuals (24 male/ 32 female; 10 youth) from 19 organisations have been engaged in community learning programme (CLP) planning and design though a series of regional and local training/mentoring workshops, led by Cameroon Link (Douala) in partnership with the Ministry of Public Health. As a result of training/mentoring, five CLPs – in Bangangte, Buea, Kumba, Menji, and Moungo – have been planned, designed and delivered about maternal and child health, with a focus on breastfeeding. Cameroon Link estimates approximately 34,000 users of the five programmes.
LEARNING FOR DEVELOPMENT

COL is an intergovernmental organisation created by Commonwealth Heads of Government to encourage the development and sharing of open learning and distance education knowledge, resources and technologies.

VISION: To be the foremost global agency that promotes learning for development

MISSION: To help governments and institutions to expand the scale, efficiency and quality of learning by using open, distance and technology-based approaches

CORE STRATEGIES: Partnerships, capacity, materials, models and policies

COMMONWEALTH of LEARNING (COL)

4710 Kingsway, Suite 2500
Burnaby, BC V5H 4M2 Canada
Phone + 604 775 8200 / Fax + 604 775 8210
info@col.org / www.col.org