



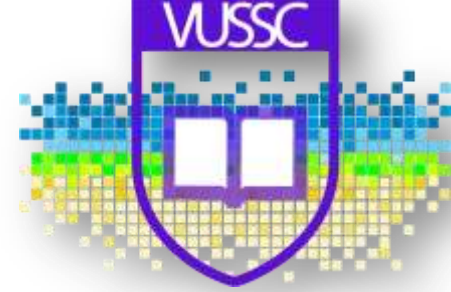
COMMONWEALTH *of* LEARNING

25th AAOU Annual Conference

The Virtual University for Small States of the
Commonwealth: Using Technology to Increase
Access to Learning Opportunities in Small States

John Lesperance
30th September 2011

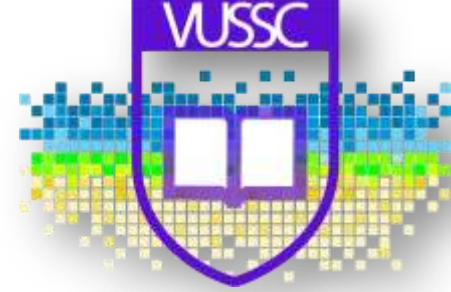
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What is VUSSC?

- conceived by *Ministers of Education* - 2000
- a network rather than an institution
- help countries collaborate
- strengthen the capacity of national education institutions (not a competitor)



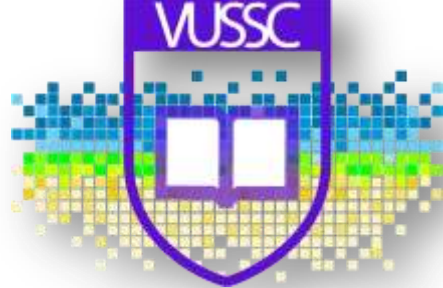


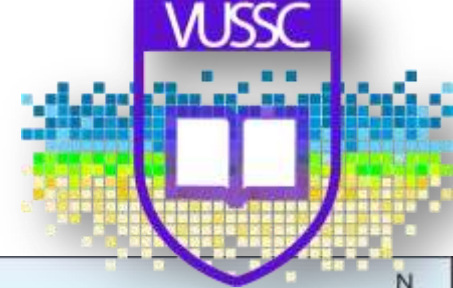
Participating countries

Virtual University for Small States of the Commonwealth



Small States





Geographical spread

**WORLD
COMMONWEALTH**

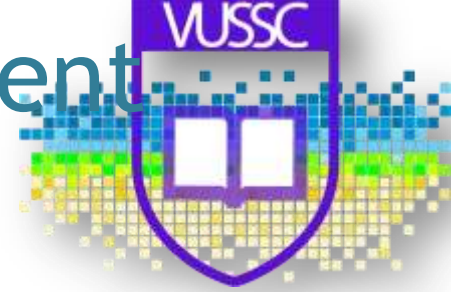


World Commonwealth Countries

Map not to Scale
Copyright © 2010 www.mapsofworld.com



Capacity building w/s and content development - “boot camp”



- 2006 - Mauritius: Tourism and Entrepreneurship
- 2007 - Singapore: Professional Development for Education - ODL
- 2007 - Trinidad: Life Skills
- 2007 - Samoa: Disaster Management
- 2008 - The Seychelles: Fisheries
- 2008 - The Bahamas: Construction
- 2009 - Samoa: Port Management - Stevedoring
- 2010 - Maldives: Sustainable Agriculture
- 2011 - Lesotho: Business and Entrepreneurship

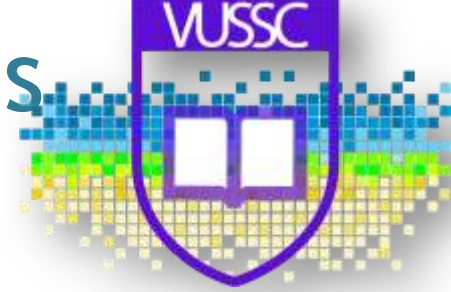


Using technology

- ICT capacity building workshops
- using the internet to search for OERs
- online workshops on eLearning

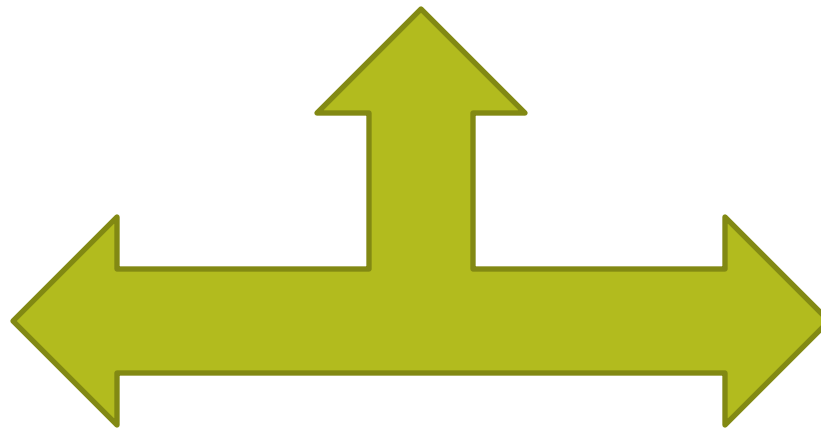


The Transnational Qualifications Framework (TQF)



10 Level Framework

Higher
Education
Qualifications



Technical and
Vocational
Qualifications

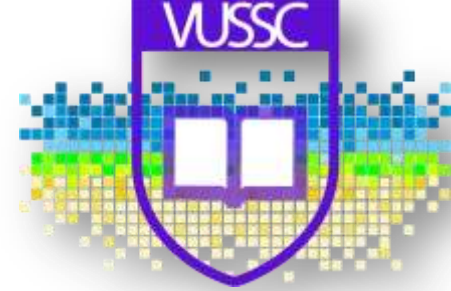




The TQF

Levels	Qualifications Titles	Minimum Credits
10	Doctoral Degree	360
9	Masters Degree	240
8	Postgraduate Certificate and Diploma; Bachelors Degree with honours	120
7	Bachelors Degree; Graduate Certificate and Diploma	360
6	Advanced/ Higher Diploma Associate Degree/ Foundation Degree	240
5	Diploma	240
4	Advanced Certificate	120
3	Certificate III	40
2	Certificate II	40
1	Certificate I	40





Purpose of the TQF

The TQF is to facilitate the development and effective delivery of relevant and quality-assured VUSSC qualifications

Overarching system of levels and Credits

Virtual translation instrument

Housed within a Web Portal

Requiring minimal human and financial resources

Transfer of programmes,
learners and credits





Using technology to increase access



Virtual University for Small States of the Commonwealth
Expanding Access to Learning Opportunities

John Lesperance English (en) Logout

- Home
- Courses Home
- Library
- Resources
- Help

Main Menu

VUSSC News

Site Administration

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- Grades
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- Appearance
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- Networking
- Reports
- Miscellaneous

 Search

Available Courses

[Tourism 001 - Tour Guiding](#)

Available places: Unlimited

Tour guiding is an honourable and rewarding profession. There are wide variety of tour guides, from city guides to ecotourism guides to mountain guides and more. Guides are required in every environment that attracts tourists. This course will explore the tourism industry, its structure, rules and regulations. It will introduce the participant to the basic knowledge and skills required to become a tour guide.

[Tourism 002 - Introduction to Sustainable Tourism](#)

Available places: Unlimited

Sustainable Tourism is designed as an introductory course for students who are presently working in the hospitality and tourism industry or who have interest in doing so in the near future. It introduces students to the optimum use of natural, cultural, social and financial resources for the development of tourism on an equitable and self-sustaining basis.

[AGRI 001 - Introduction to Agriculture in Small States](#)

Available places: Unlimited

This course will begin the process of educating individuals who wish to pursue a career in agriculture. All agriculture professionals, be it farmers, wholesalers, distributors and providers of technology must have a basic grounding in the different topics that impact the ability to produce and distribute agricultural products.

As the first course in a series of agriculture courses you will be introduced to the concepts underlying agriculture production: soil, climate and biology. It examines different agricultural systems and examines the impact of the agricultural sector on the economic success of small states.

[Tourism 003 - Sustainable Tourism in the Caribbean](#)

This course discusses Sustainable Tourism in the Caribbean.

Turn editing on

The VUSSC Portal is provided as the launch site for all VUSSC members and their students who are either enrolled in or creating courses in support of the VUSSC community.

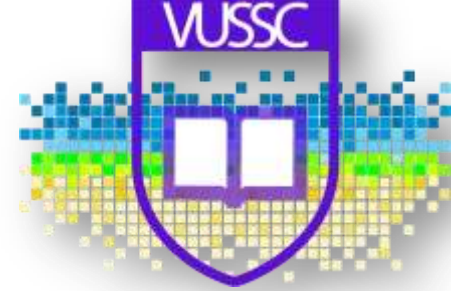
Calendar

January 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					



Course materials



All VUSSC course materials are freely available to the world for adaptation and use as



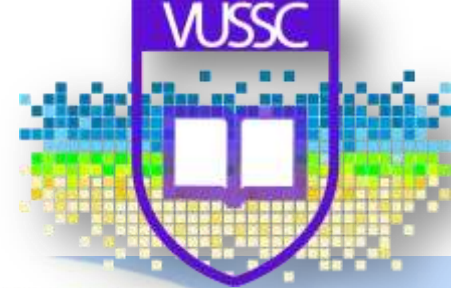
OPEN
EDUCATIONAL
RESOURCES



Downloadable

Print





UPCOMING EVENTS

International Training and Materials Development Workshop



The Ninth International Training and Materials Development Workshop will be held in Lesotho from March 7 to March 25, 2011. This workshop will focus on materials development for a Business and Entrepreneurship course at degree level.

[READ MORE](#)

NEW PUBLICATIONS

Communication and Study Skills of Distance Education Students



June 2008

[READ MORE](#)

PHOTO GALLERY

VUSCC, Maldives, 2010
VUSCC, Samoa, 2009
VUSCC, Singapore, 2007
VUSCC, Mauritius, 2006

Interlocutor's Meeting UK,
2008

VIDEO GALLERY

COL's Virtual University
of Small States of the
Commonwealth (VUSCC)
Initiative,
by John Lesperance

PUBLICATIONS

Published articles and
news about the
Virtual University for
Small States of the
Commonwealth

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MOODLE LOGIN



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VUSCC is currently developing
a TQF Portal to transfer credits
between member institutions.
Check back soon for updates.

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Your contribution helps us
share VUSCC's course
materials with the world.
Learn more about
giving to VUSCC



(Africa, Australia, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Korea, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Laos, Lebanon, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Tanzania, Thailand, The Bahamas, The Gambia, The Philippines, The Republic of Congo, The Republic of the Congo, The United Arab Emirates, The United Kingdom, The United States of America, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United States, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe).

THANK YOU

