



COLOMBO
10-17 NOVEMBER 2013



Commonwealth Ministerial Meeting on Small States

Virtual University for Small States of the Commonwealth

From Concept to Implementation: Building National Capacities

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President & CEO, Commonwealth of Learning



COMMONWEALTH of LEARNING





COMMONWEALTH *of* LEARNING



Learning for Development

The Vision: VUSSC Must Be Unique

- Enable small states to be contributors as well as consumers
- Strengthen existing institutions
- Enable delivery in different formats, and be adaptable to different technological environments

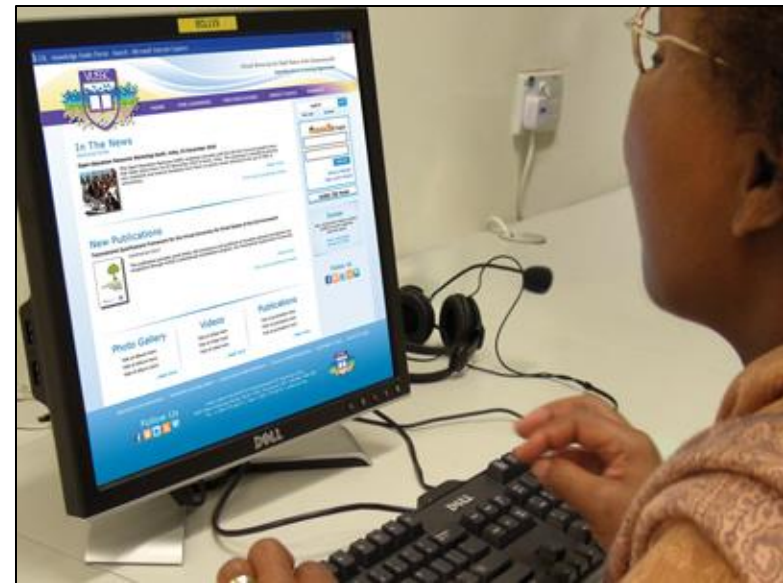


VUSSC: A Network



What has the VUSSC achieved?

- Professionals trained in ICT skills
- Free Educational Resources (OER) developed
- Courses offered
- VUSSC Website and online Learning Management System in place



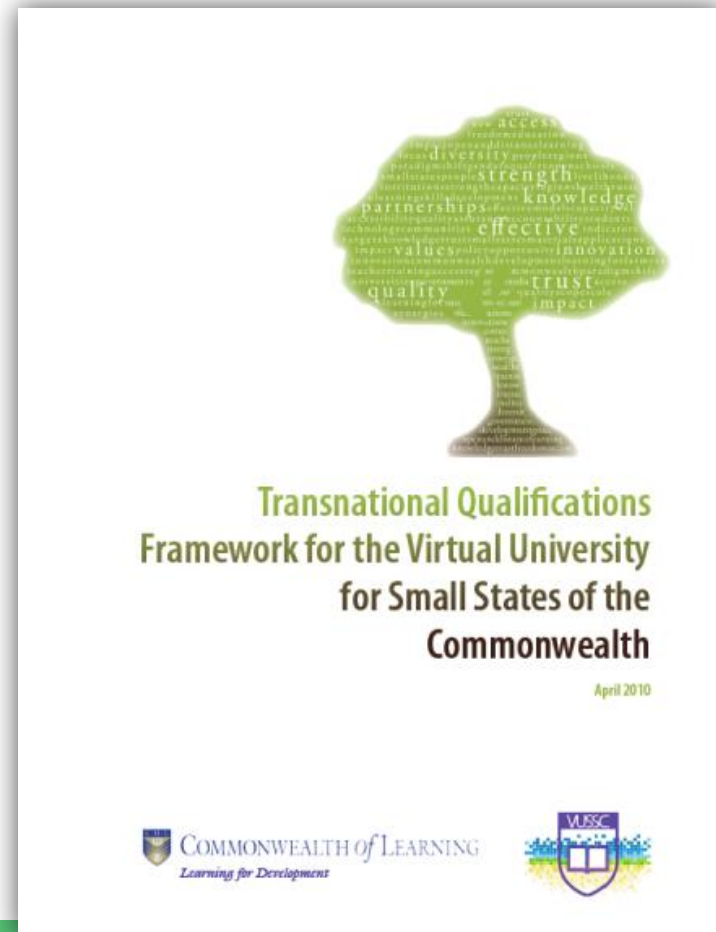
VUSSC achievements

- Trained 21,897 people in IT skills
- Enrolled 673 learners in VUSSC courses in 9 institutions in 8 small states































Development of a Transnational Qualifications Framework (TQF)

- Recognition of small states qualifications
- Improve credit transfer and
- Promote learners' mobility



Some of the Institutions that participate in VUSSC

-  National University of Samoa
-  National University of Lesotho
-  Botswana College of Distance and Open Learning (BOCODOL)
-  University of Swaziland
-  Maldives College of Higher Education
-  Fondazzjoni Temi Zammit, Malta
-  University of Papua New Guinea
-  Antigua State College
-  Dominica State College
-  University of Belize
-  Clarence Fitzroy Bryant College, St. Kitts & Nevis
-  College of The Bahamas
-  University of Seychelles
-  Namibian Open Learning Network
-  Sir Arthur Lewis Community College, St. Lucia
-  St. Vincent and the Grenadines Community College
-  St. Vincent and the Grenadines Teachers College
-  University of Cyprus
-  Polytechnic of Namibia
-  University of Mauritius
-  Seychelles Agricultural Agency
-  Samuel Jackman Prescod Polytechnic, Barbados
-  Seychelles Maritime Training Centre
-  Vanuatu Institute of Technology
-  Caribbean Maritime Institute
-  Lesotho College of Education
-  Maldives National University
-  Tonga Institute of Higher Education
-  Open University of Mauritius

First Graduation

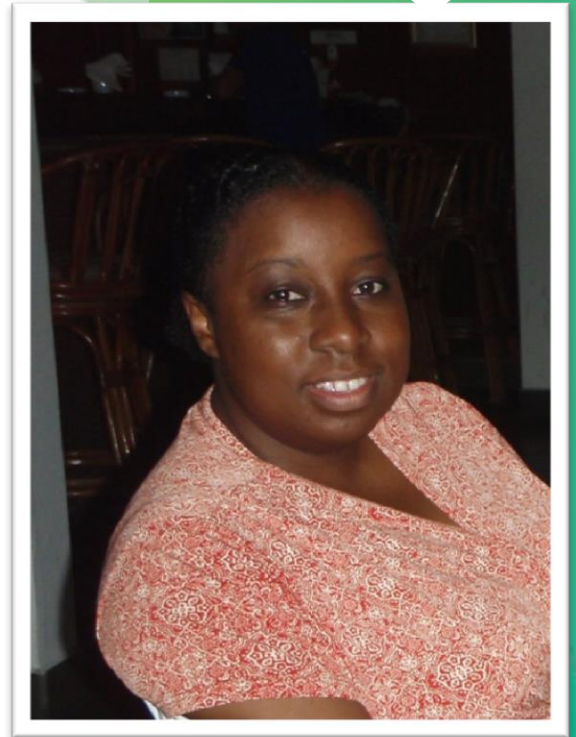
First cohort graduate
after following a full-time
Diploma in Sustainable
Agriculture for Small
States, Samoa



Touching lives

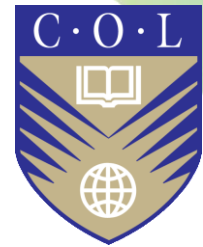
After having participated in a VUSSC workshop, Marcia Musgrove from the Bahamas went on to do a Master's degree in Curriculum, Instruction & Technology and became an OER promoter

“I think of it as the VUSSC Snowball Effect ...in the tropics. I remain grateful”

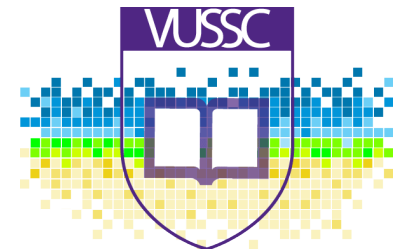


The Commonwealth-COL Collaboration

- Economic Division - *International Architecture for Environment & Sustainable Development*
- Commonwealth Youth Programme - development of competency standards and referencing of the *Youth Work Standards to the TQF*

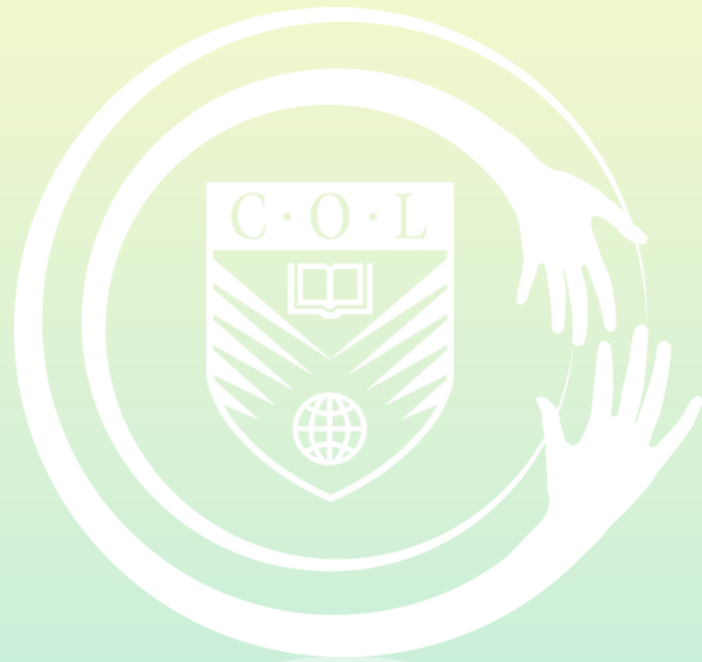


The Commonwealth



VUSSC - The Future

- Promote access to quality tertiary education
- Build institutional capacity to offer eLearning courses
- Promote mobile learning
- Register qualifications on the TQF
- Contribute to Commonwealth cooperation



THANK YOU

