



COMMONWEALTH *of* LEARNING

COL in the Commonwealth

**2012–2015
Brunei Darussalam**

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.

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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



CONTEXT

When COL was established in 1987, His Majesty, Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, made an important contribution that helped put the fledgling organisation on its feet. COL remains grateful for this generosity. Today, Brunei is an active participant in the Virtual University for Small States of the Commonwealth (VUSSC).



AGREED PRIORITIES

- ▶ Establish a secure network for government schools and the Ministry of Education
- ▶ Support services for computing equipment
- ▶ Enable the Ministry of Education to access management information
- ▶ Integrate ICT into the “National Education System for the 21st Century” (SPN21) and future curriculum
- ▶ Engage learning through 21st-century pedagogies
- ▶ Blend Malay Islamic Monarchy (MIB) concept and next-generation ICT skills in the curriculum
- ▶ Produce ICT confident and capable global citizens grounded in Bruneian values and beliefs



OUTCOMES ACHIEVED BY COL

- ▶ 11 new VUSSC courses made available
- ▶ VUSSC Master's in Educational Leadership content used for professional development training
- ▶ The Brunei National Qualifications Framework referenced against the Transnational Qualifications Framework



COL'S WORK RELATED TO MDG TARGETS

National MDG Targets Addressed by COL

- ▶ Make available the benefits of new technologies, especially for information and communications

COL's Work on Brunei's MDG Targets

- ▶ VUSSC is committed to the collaborative development of open content resources for education, training and capacity-building, and the use of information and communications technologies (ICTs) to broaden access to education



QUICK NOTES

COL Focal Point:

- ▶ Mr Adinin Md Salleh, Secretariat of Brunei Darussalam National Accreditation Council, Ministry of Education

Areas of COL's Work in Brunei:

- ▶ Higher Education
- ▶ Virtual University for Small States of the Commonwealth (VUSSC)



BRUNEI DARUSSALAM



HIGHLIGHTS

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 Education
- ▶ Brunei Darussalam National Accreditation Council
- ▶ Sultan Hassanal Bolkhiah Institute of Education
- ▶ The University of Brunei

CAPACITY

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

- ▶ Monitoring and Evaluation for VUSSC
- ▶ Support to attend the Asia-Pacific Quality
- ▶ Network (APQN) 2013 Conference
- ▶ Higher Education Scholarships

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.

- ▶ 11 new VUSSC courses made available
- ▶ VUSSC Master's in Educational Leadership content used for professional development training

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.

- ▶ Transnational Qualifications Framework



LOOKING FORWARD: 2015–2021

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

- ▶ Promotion of literacy and numeracy (learners proficiency)
- ▶ Establishment of model schools
- ▶ Development of talent pipeline
- ▶ Increasing of teacher quality and professionalism
- ▶ Support for e-Hijrah projects (e-Hijrah is a coordinated, systemic and fully integrated national effort for ICT in education)
- ▶ Transformation of Brunei technical education
- ▶ Support for leadership development

Appendix: COL's Activities in Brunei Darussalam

PARTNERSHIPS

VUSSC (Virtual University for Small States of the Commonwealth)

Brunei is a member of VUSSC.

PARTNERSHIPS: MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES

Regional Focal Points Meeting

Mr Adinin bin Md. Salleh represented Brunei Darussalam at the meeting.

VUSSC Interlocutors Meeting

The VUSSC Interlocutors meet every three years to review developments, achievements and lessons learned. The VUSSC Interlocutors Meeting coincides with the Pan-Commonwealth Forum (PCF). PCF7 was held in Abuja, Nigeria, from 2 to 6 December 2013. At this meeting, Interlocutors participated in a half-day impact evaluation workshop with COL's impact evaluators, Dr Stephen Murgatroyd and Ms Janet Tully. Highlights of the Interlocutors Meeting included a discussion of the post-MDGs (Millennium Development Goals), current VUSSC resources, and the importance of gender in the VUSSC initiative. At the close of the meeting, the following countries expressed interest in offering VUSSC courses: Barbados, Vanuatu, Namibia, St. Lucia, Antigua & Barbuda, Maldives, Grenada and Dominica.

CAPACITY

Monitoring and Evaluation for VUSSC

A workshop was organised in Male, Maldives from 3 to 7 March 2013 specifically for the Asia Pacific region to build the capacity of implementers in designing and implementing the VUSSC M&E framework. It was supported by the Ministry of Education and the Maldives Villa College. **Dr Jawawi Rosmawijah**, Programme Leader for Continuing Professional Development and Deputy Dean (Academic) of the **Sultan Hassanali Bolkiah Institute of Education**, attended the meeting. It was noted that the **University of Brunei** offers scholarships to a number of countries and an invitation was extended to VUSSC member states by the Brunei representative.

Asia-Pacific Quality Network (APQN) 2013 Conference

COL supported six people from **Brunei**, India and the Maldives to attend the Asia-Pacific Quality Network (APQN) 2013 conference titled "Has External QA Made an Impact? Looking Back at the Decade of Quality Assurance," held in Taipei, Taiwan, from 7 to 8 April 2013. **Mr Adinin Md. Salleh** of the

Brunei Darussalam National Accreditation Council participated in the conference.

Higher Education Scholarships

The Brunei Government offered five scholarships through COL. Five potential candidates from across the Commonwealth have applied and their applications are under consideration by higher education institutions in Brunei.

MATERIALS

New VUSSC Courses

During 2013–2014, 11 VUSSC courses were completed including: Master's in Educational Leadership, Bachelor's in Business and Entrepreneurship, Diploma in Agriculture, Linux for IT Managers, Facilitating Online Instruction, and Sustainable Tourism. Courses are available to all VUSSC member states on the VUSSC website. Approximately 49,000 people have been reached or trained, including senior officials, educators and over 1,300 learners enrolled in VUSSC-developed courses and programmes.

VUSSC Postgraduate Diploma in Education

Senior officials of the small states identified a need to develop a teacher education programme, especially at the postgraduate level, to help address the acute shortage of teachers in most of the small states and the lack of training programmes in most teacher training institutions. COL therefore facilitated a workshop, in collaboration with the National University of Samoa, to develop a Postgraduate Diploma in Education (PGDE). It ran from 17 June to 3 July 2013 in Samoa, with 28 participants from 14 countries. Much of the course was developed using OER. **Dr Jawawi Rosmawijah**, Programme Leader for Continuing Professional Development and Deputy Dean (Academic) of the Sultan Hassanali Bolkiah Institute of Education attended the workshop.

VUSSC Master's in Educational Leadership Content for Professional Development Training

The University of Brunei is using content from the Master's in Educational Leadership for Professional Development training.

MODELS

Transnational Qualifications Framework (TQF)

The Brunei National Qualifications Framework has now been referenced against the TQF.

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

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