



COMMONWEALTH *of* LEARNING

COUNTRY REPORT
2021-2023 | **AFRICA**



Nigeria

Helping Commonwealth Member States and institutions use distance learning and technologies for expanding access to education and training.

The Commonwealth of Learning (COL) is focused on adding value to African member countries' efforts to reach the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly SDG4. It's supporting the governments and institutions of Africa in the use of appropriate, affordable technologies to improve and expand learning for sustainable development.

During its current plan (2021-2027), COL will:

- i) build on its expertise in ODL, OER and TEL to play a more influential role in national policy development and implementation;
- ii) invest in innovations and research;
- iii) support the digital transformation of institutions and organisations;
- iv) promote gender equality; and
- v) implement a rigorous monitoring and evaluation plan.

COL's work is organised into two sectors — Education and Skills — with Gender Equality and Technology-Enabled Learning (TEL) as cross-cutting initiatives.

The Education sector supports formal education from secondary to tertiary levels across the Commonwealth, particularly in the small states in Africa (Botswana, The Gambia, Eswatini, Lesotho, Mauritius, Namibia, Seychelles) and has four initiatives: Open Schooling; Teacher Education; Higher Education and the Virtual University for Small States of The Commonwealth (VUSSC).

The Skills sector supports formal, non-formal and informal education and training to equip learners for livelihoods and has three initiatives: Skills for Work; Lifelong Learning for Farmers (L3F) and GIRLS Inspire.

The work in these sectors complement the three pathways of change COL is focusing on in achieving impact for each African member country. These are:

1. Building National Resilience
2. Strengthening Institutions
3. Improving Lives and Livelihoods.

INTRODUCTION

Nigeria is the most populated country in Africa, with over 213 million people ([World Bank, 2021](#)). As a major donor, Nigeria holds a seat on COL's Board of Governors and also hosts a COL regional centre, the [Regional Training and Research Institute for Distance and Open Learning \(RETRIDOL\)](#).

COL's work in Nigeria is in the areas of higher education, open schooling, teacher education, skills for work and technology-enabled learning. Learners from Nigeria are also participating in COL's free, open online courses and other available resources.

PARTNERS

COL's partners in Nigeria include:

- Federal Ministry of Education
- Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria
- Agricultural and Rural Management Training Institute (ARMTI)
- Auchi Polytechnic
- Centre for Girls Education
- Federal University of Technology, Minna
- Ignatius Ajuru University of Education
- Kaduna Polytechnic
- Ladoke Akintola University of Technology
- Lagos State University
- Modibbo Adama University (MAU)
- National Board of Technical Education (NBTE)
- National Open University of Nigeria (NOUN)
- National Teachers' Institute (NTI Kaduna)
- National Universities Commission
- Obafemi Awolowo University
- University of Nigeria
- Universal Basic Education Commission
- Yaba College of Technology
- University of Abuja
- University of Ibadan
- University of Ilorin
- University of Lagos
- University of Maiduguri

REGIONAL CENTRE

COL's regional centre, the Regional Training and Research Institute for Distance and Open Learning (RETRIDOL), is hosted by the National Open University of Nigeria (NOUN) to promote the use of ODL and technologies for increasing access to equitable quality education and training in West Africa.

KEY CONTACTS

COL BOARD MEMBER

Her Excellency Dr Hajo Sani
Ambassador, Permanent
Delegate of Nigeria to UNESCO

FOCAL POINT

Mrs Maria Ada Amedu
Assistant Director, Bilateral
Agreements, Commonwealth
and African Affairs Branch,
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COL ACTIVITIES BETWEEN JULY 2021 - MAY 2023

HIGHLIGHTS

- MOOC on "OER for Online Learning - An Introduction" for the Nigerian context available by NOUN.
- "Status of Open and Distance Learning in Nigeria" report published.
- NOUN is implementing COL's institutional employability framework.

BUILDING NATIONAL RESILIENCE

COL is working with governments to use gender-responsive ODL policies and strategies for increasing equitable access to quality learning.

The National Universities Commission facilitated a two-day high-level sensitisation workshop on mainstreaming OER in higher education institutions in Nigeria, in June 2022: 135 participated (86 ministry staff and 49 institutional staff)

A study report on the "Status of Open and Distance Learning in Nigeria" was published by COL in September 2022 with the support of Professor Abdalla Uba Adamu.

STRENGTHENING INSTITUTIONS

COL is supporting partner institutions to strengthen its ODL systems and capacities for providing quality education and training.

COL's Educational Podcasting for Innovative Classrooms (EPIC) platform supports online podcast streaming as well as collaboration spaces for in-country teacher communities of practice. EPIC has a country group for Nigeria, where resources are being piloted for online and offline access, including dial-in and radio broadcasts.

NOUN is implementing COL's institutional employability framework.

A four-day workshop on the Development of Course Materials for Open and Distance Learning took place in August 2021. Forty (40) participants, drawn from the Centre for Open Distance and eLearning, University of Port Harcourt and the Distance Learning Institute and Ignatius Ajuru University of Education, were in attendance.

With COL's support, the NOUN team developed a MOOC titled "OER for Online Learning - An Introduction" for the Nigerian context. A series of training sessions on content development and technical skills, including video production and how to use the mooKIT platform, were held internally to build the capacity of six NOUN support staff. The MOOC was offered from October 4 to 29, 2021

with 2,647 participants. Among the 2,647 participants, 232 received certificates of achievement and 77 certificates of participation.

Ten participants were trained on the fundamentals of OER and the technicalities of converting course materials to OER in December 2021. 109 course materials were updated and converted to OER and are available on the NOUN Repository (<https://oer.nou.edu.ng/oer/>).

NOUN developed a MOOC titled "OER for Online Learning - Practical approach" for the Nigerian context. MOOC was offered from March to 8 April 2022 with 1,889 participants. Among the 1,889 participants, 436 students earned certificates (187 received certificates of achievement and 249 certificates of participation). 155 participants report improved knowledge/skills (course objectives met).

COL's institutional framework on Authentic Assessment has been developed by Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria; Babcock University; Ladoke Akintola University of Technology (LAUTECH). Activities include:

- Babcock University developed authentic assessment items in the following five courses: BSAD 112, ECON 102, GEDS 112, GEDS 132 and PLSC 102. The assessment items are currently being offered to learners. [Jul2022]
- Eleven courses were revised to include an authentic assessment at Ladoke Akintola University of Technology (LAUTECH) in Nigeria. [Aug2022]
- 28 staff members participating in the workshop on implanting Authentic Assessment practices at Moddibo Adama University, Nigeria, in September 2022, reported having improved knowledge and competencies.[Oct2022]
- 348 learners from Ladoke Akintola University of Technology (LAUTECH), Nigeria, enrolled in courses improved with Authentic Assessment. [Nov2022]
- Seven courses were updated to include authentic assessments at Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria in Nigeria. [Jan2023]
- 346 learners from LAUTECH enrolled in six courses improved with Authentic Assessment in January 2023.

The Association of Commonwealth Universities invited COL to participate in the Partnership for Enhanced and Blended Learning project to develop and strengthen quality assurance systems for 12 universities in Ghana and Nigeria. Workshops and courses held include:

- overview of Institutional QA review tool and QA rubrics [April 2022]
- QA online survey tool and its different components [May 2022]
- strategic dimensions of Institutional QA review tool [May 2022]
- basic elements of QA rubrics [June 2022]
- categories and quality elements of QA rubrics [June 2022]
- participants' progress in the design and administration of the QA online survey [June 2022]
- application of QA rubric using a case study [June 2022]
- course design and writing learning outcome [June 2022]
- feedback on course review using the QA rubrics [August 2022]
- Moodle course, Quality Assurance in Blended Learning [October 2022]

COL's Commonwealth Executive Master of Business Administration and Public Administration (CEMBA/CEMPA) Programme's goal is to deliver high-quality learning and professional development opportunities – with our Commonwealth Partner Institutions – that complement existing MBA/MPA programmes. NOUN is a partner institution. In mid-2022, nine course materials were redeveloped. They include Enterprise Information Systems and Digital Strategy, Management in Organization, People and Talent Management, Operations Management, New Public Management and Governance, Data Analysis for Decision making, Marketing Management, Accounting Issues and Financial Management for Business Decisions, and Disaster Management.

In a partnership with Researchers on ICTs in Africa at the University of Nigeria, outreach to rural out-of-school children, through sourcing curriculum-based OER and sharing these as audio files and small printed resources has continued. A proportion of these learners will be assisted in progressing from informal to formal learning opportunities through the intervention of appropriate community-based civil society organisations. [Mar 2022]

- 72 OER (audio and text) developed in Business Studies, Basic Science, Math, Physical and Health Education and Social Studies for learners in primary and junior secondary. [Mar 2023]

A workshop on the series of "Reskilling Teacher Educators and Teachers in Open Educational Resources Development for Learning Recovery" occurred in Kebbi and Sokoto states in Nigeria. The workshop was attended by 48 participants. Participants learnt about the different modes of course delivery and how to use them. They also used audio and multimedia tools to develop podcast lessons for delivery on radio and mobile phones. [Sep 2021]

Under the Implementing the Teacher Network for Girls Education (TEN-G) project with the Centre for Girls Education will ensure that female teachers are better skilled to provide instructional and other support to all, including female students in marginalised communities. Activities to date include:

- 70 radio lessons were developed by 35 female teachers in 5 core subjects: Mathematics, English Language, Basic Science, Computer Studies and Social Studies. [Oct 2021]
- 239 podcasts were created by 167 female teachers, while another 70 radio lessons were developed by 35 female teachers. [Oct 2021]

COL's Teacher Education initiative organised a hybrid pre-PCF10 workshop that introduced participants to concepts and models for teacher training at scale, including COL strategies and models using open, distance and technology-enabled learning. The event was attended by 19 participants representing 12 different institutions in The Gambia, Kenya, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, South Africa, and Trinidad & Tobago. Discussions focussed on a range of innovations for teacher development in low-income and other disadvantaged communities. These included the use of massive open online courses (MOOCs), radio and podcasts to reach more teachers, and having the assistance of language translators and assistive technologies and other offline resources to improve the quality of learning resources.

Nine (7M/2F) TVET trainers at the Auchu Polytechnic were trained on coupling and use of AptusPi: how to use smartphones, tablets and laptops to access OER resources through COL's AptusPi device and Moodle Learning Management System. [Feb 2022]

Yaba College of Technology has submitted a draft of its strategic plan for Technology Enabled Learning. [Aug 2022]

Over 1,000 teachers from Nigeria participated in COL MOOCs on inclusive teaching and learning (September 2022) and cybersecurity training for teachers (November 2022).

The TechHer School Tour Project produced a short policy brief summarising their experience, learning and recommendations for addressing the digital divide among Nigerian school children. [Oct 2022]

COL's partnership with Coursera, Udemy and Grow with Google continues to offer nominated learners this vast range of courses - a pathway for lifelong learning and growth and enhancing skills for employment and entrepreneurship. Since July 2021, 164 learners from Nigeria have enrolled in 459 courses and received 270 certificates.

In January 2023, COL conducted a training session for 15 (9m, 6f) staff from the National Board of Technical Education (NBTE), Nigeria, on quality assurance of courseware development for blended delivery of TVET.

COL is supporting several institutions in the implementation of an Open Educational Resources (OER) policy:

- Following a workshop on the development and validation of OER policy at Ladoko Akintola University in January 2023, with 60 participants (32F/28M) participating, university management approved the draft OER policy for implementation. Course enhancement with OER is ongoing. [Apr2023]
- Workshop on OER policy development was held at the University of Ilorin in January 2023 with 44 participants (24F/18M).
- 33 (19M/14F) staff were trained during a two-day capacity building workshop on OER policy development at Obafemi Awolowo University in January 2023.

COL conducted three training events at the National Board of Technical Education (NBTE), focussing on the fundamentals for quality assurance of courseware development for 15 staff (9M/6F); developing course blueprints and storyboards for skills-based programmes for 51 (27M/24F) staff members and courseware development for 31 (14M/16F) staff members. [Apr 2023]

Yaba College of Technology (YCT) along with COL, trained 88 (77M/14M/3 unreported) participants on COL's Skills for Work (SfW) Monitoring & Evaluation, Quality Assurance, and the e-Apprenticeship model. [Apr 2023]

COL, in collaboration with the Namibian College of Open Learning (NAMCOL), conducted a workshop to validate the competency framework and standard for a blended TVET trainer; developing learning outcomes for COL's exemplar course for a blended TVET trainer and benchmarking for the establishment and operationalisation of ODeL centres. The workshop was attended by 11 (6m, 5f) key TVET trainers from various African institutions, including Kaduna Polytechnic.

Regional Centre: RETRIDOL

A monthly ODL discourse was held on 10 August 2021 on the topic "African regional approach to ODL and Quality Assurance: The ACDE-QAAA". 107 participated. Presenters included Professor Asha Kanwar and Professor Nebath Tanglang.

Facilitated a three-day workshop on Instructional Design for the Distance Learning Institute, University of Lagos for 31 staff members (15F16M) from 28 – 30 September 2021.

Facilitated a 4-day workshop on Open and Distance Learning Skill Development Workshop for 53 staff members (10F43M) at the Igbinedion University, Okada from 4 – 7 October 2021.

Organised a workshop on Quality Assurance mechanisms for Dual-mode Universities in Nigeria. The aim was to build the capacity of Faculty to enhance and maintain high-quality standards in the academic programmes and ODL operations of their institutions. The workshop took place from 14 - 16 December 2021 at the Headquarters Abuja and had in attendance a total of 42 participants from 16 dual-mode universities, the National Universities Commission and the host university.

Conducted a workshop on the Design, Development and adaptation of Course Materials for Distance, Online and Blended Learning for 67 staff from the Usmanu Danfodiyo University, Sokoto from 6 - 9 December 2021.

Conducted a workshop on the design, development and adaptation of Course Materials for Distance and Blended Learning for 30 staff from the University of Maiduguri during 22 - 24 February 2022. All participants reported improved knowledge in post-workshop evaluation.

Conducted six monthly webinars from January - June 2022 on various education topics, where 663 institutional and government staff attended.

Facilitated a TEL workshop for dual and single ODeL institutions in Ghana, with 27 participants attending in mid-2022.

Facilitated a workshop on online teaching competencies for 25 academic staff of the University of Lagos in February 2023.

Facilitated a workshop on design, development and adaptation of course materials at Mountain Top University, Nigeria for 27 faculty and staff during March 7-9, 2023.

Facilitated a workshop a workshop on the design, development and adaptation of course materials with 25 participants at Bowen University, Nigeria, from 21-23 March 2023.

Four monthly discourse webinars were held from December 2022 to March 2023.

IMPROVING LIVES AND LIVELIHOODS

COL continues to provide learners, especially from disadvantaged groups, access to learning and resources for improved livelihoods.

COL and the National Teachers' Institute (NTI Kaduna) hosted a webinar on 17 November 2022, on 'Addressing learning loss, recovery and continuity through teacher professional development'.

56 community members in Nigeria participated in a capacity-building workshop on scaling-up Lifelong Learning for Farmers organised by the Agricultural and Rural Management Training Institute (ARMTI). [Mar 2023]

COL's Adviser for Skills presented virtually the SfW model for fostering employability of youth for decent jobs in the green and digital economy at an advocacy event at the COMTEAN workspaces in Yaba, which was organised in collaboration with COL and the Computer and Telecommunications Engineers Association of Nigeria (COMTEAN). [Apr 2023]

SPECIAL EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Professor Olufemi Peters from NOUN participated in the **High-Level Roundtable for Vice Chancellors & Heads of ODL Institutions** from 29 - 30 July 2022 in Penang, Malaysia.

Zainab Muhammad Shuaibu from the NTI Kaduna was invited to participate in the **4th Pan-Commonwealth Training Programme on Women and Leadership in ODL** in August 2022, in Penang, Malaysia, including an online workshop earlier in the year. The workshop theme was 'Women Leaders: Shaping the future for a sustainable world' with three sub-themes-Leadership, ICTs and Climate Change.

COL's Pan-Commonwealth Forum on Open Learning is held triennially and is co-hosted with different partners in different regions of the Commonwealth. Sixty-eight (68) delegates from Nigeria registered for the **Tenth Pan-Commonwealth Forum on Open Learning (PCF10)**, the first-ever hybrid Forum held in Calgary, Canada from 14 - 16 September 2022. Ten (10) were sponsored by COL. The Honourable Mariam Yalwaji Katagum, Minister of State, Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade & Investment, Nigeria was conferred a COL Honorary fellow, also took part in the Ministerial Roundtable and chaired the Keynote Address for Promoting Equity and Inclusion. Other registered delegates included:

- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| 1. Angela Abaa | National Open University of Nigeria (NOUN) |
| 2. Abdalla Uba Adamu | NOUN |
| 3. Adebowale Adebagbo | Yaba College Of Technology |
| 4. Adeyemi Adedapo | NOUN |
| 5. Eunice Adegbola | NOUN |
| 6. Lateef Adelakun | NOUN |
| 7. Adewale Oluwafemi Adesina | NOUN |
| 8. Adebisi Adewoyin | NOUN |
| 9. Moriliat Jumoke Afolabi | NOUN |
| 10. Mabudi Bashir Ahmed | Federal Ministry of Industry Trade And Investment |
| 11. Josephine Aina | NOUN |
| 12. Maria Ada Amedu | Federal Ministry Of Education |
| 13. Francisca Anene | NOUN |
| 14. Abdullahi Shehu Araga | NOUN |
| 15. Alice Asim | University Of Calabar |
| 16. Aminu Bello | Centre for Girls Education |
| 17. Isaac Sammani Butswat | NOUN |
| 18. Abosede Ebabhi | Distance Learning Institute, University of Lagos |
| 19. Grace Ebere Egenti | NOUN |
| 20. Patrick Eya | NOUN |
| 21. Olukemi Fagbolu | NOUN |
| 22. Michael Kolawole Falolu | NOUN |

23. Gima Forje	Ty Danjuma Foundation
24. Lydia Ifeyinwa Giginna	Federal Ministry of Education
25. Aliyu Hamza	NOUN
26. Obot Ibang	University of Benin
27. Philipa Idogho	University of Abuja
28. Clement Igyu	Benue State University, Makurdi
29. Chinwe Ihuoma	NOUN
30. Adakole Ikpe	NOUN
31. Martins N. Ishaya	NOUN
32. Grace Jokthan	NOUN
33. Obhajajie Juliet Juliet	NOUN
34. Fatai Lawal	NOUN
35. Musa Garba Maitafsir	National Teachers' Institute, Kaduna
36. Chris. J Maiyaki	National Universities Commission
37. Armiya'u Malami Yabo	National Teachers' Institute Kaduna
38. Maryrose Chinwe Mbanefo	NOUN
39. Rotimi Michael Akande	NOUN
40. Binta Asabe Muhammad	Centre For Girls Education
41. Francis O. Egbokhare	University Of Ibadan
42. Abel Inabo Obaka	NOUN
43. Chuks Oliver Odiegwu-Enwerem	NOUN
44. Adiat Amoke Odunmbaku	NOUN
45. Christine Iyetunde Ofulue	NOUN
46. Mercy Ogunsola-Bandele	NOUN
47. Olugbenga Ojo	NOUN
48. Peter Akinsola Okebukola	NOUN
49. Angela Ebele Okpala	NOUN
50. Felix Olakulehin	NOUN
51. Monioluwa Omolara Olaniyi	NOUN
52. Gregory Ogadi Onwodi	NOUN
53. Johnson Opataye	NOUN
54. Erimma Ori	NOUN
55. Josiah Owolabi	NOUN
56. Musibau Olabamiji Oyebo	NOUN
57. Olufemi Ayinde Peters	NOUN
58. Abubakar Adamu Rasheed	National Universities Commission
59. Adamu Abubakar Rasheed	Bayero University, Kano
60. Ibrahim Olatunde Salawu	NOUN
61. Isa Dantala Shehu	NOUN
62. Michael Shittu	Auchi Polytechnic
63. Uduma Oji Uduma	NOUN
64. Ernest Ogwashi Ugbejeh	NOUN
65. Bibian Ugoala	NOUN
66. Kahar Sarumi Wahab	NOUN
67. Armiya'u Malami Yabo	National Teachers' Institute, Kaduna

The **Regional Focal Points Meeting for Africa and Europe** was held in Seychelles from 20-21 February 2023. Official representatives from 20 Commonwealth countries in the region participated in the two-day meeting, including Mrs Maria Ada Amedu.

PUBLICATIONS OF RELEVANCE

Status of Open and Distance Learning in Nigeria <http://hdl.handle.net/11599/4070>

The Perception of Educational Stakeholders on Utilization of E-learning Technology for Quality Instructional Delivery in Universities in Rivers State, Nigeria <http://hdl.handle.net/11599/3899>

Effects of Demo Kit on Remediating Senior School Students' Misconceptions in Mitosis and Meiosis in Ilorin, Nigeria <http://hdl.handle.net/11599/3992>

Developing Partnerships to Acquire Impact: The Role of Three Regional Centres' Capacity Building Efforts for ODL Adoption in the Emerging World (United Kingdom, South Africa, Nigeria, Botswana, Fiji, Malta) <http://hdl.handle.net/11599/3901>

Report on the Regional Focal Points Meeting - Africa and Europe <http://hdl.handle.net/11599/5316>



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