«Competencies for living and working in the 21st century: A capacity development Toolkit for curriculum innovations in African Countries»

International workshop on
Curriculum Innovations, Peace Education and Poverty Alleviation in Sub-Saharan Africa

Nairobi, Kenya
22 – 26 June 2009

REPORT

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1. Participants

- 3 members of IBE-UNESCO
- A member of the UNESCO Field Office of Windhoek and a member of the Basic Education Division of UNESCO Paris
- GTZ/BMZ representatives
- 2 international experts from South Africa and United States
- Country participants of 13 Sub-Saharan Africa countries (Angola, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Congo-Brazzaville, Kenya, Malawi, Mali, Mauritius, Mozambique, Niger, Rwanda, Senegal and South Africa)
- The Secretary General of the Kenyan National Commission for UNESCO

2. Objectives of the workshop

- To carry out a technical workshop in the context of the project “Curriculum Innovations, Peace Education and Poverty Alleviation” with representatives of 12 project countries, members of the Writing committee established in Geneva in April 2009 (see Annex 1 – List of participants);
- To agree on an advanced outline of the Toolkit for “Competencies for living and working in the 21st century – a capacity development toolkit for curriculum innovations in African countries” to be further on developed by the Editorial team (see Annex 2 – Conceptual note);
- To agree on the objectives, processes and outcome of the Toolkit field testing in three selected countries and other follow up activities (such as national dissemination and sharing workshops);
- To prepare forthcoming activities in 2009, such as the project seminar in Frankfurt, Germany (24-26 October 2009) to share the results of the pilot testing and national workshops, and finalize the Toolkit;
- To explore, based on participating countries needs and priorities, ideas for a new project proposal involving African sub-Saharan countries over the period 2010-2013, as well as fund raising strategies.

3. Summary of the working days

Monday, 22 June 2009 – Day 1

- Opening session (speeches delivered by Ms. Dakmara Georgescu, IBE Programme specialist, on behalf of the IBE director, Dr. Clementina Acedo; Mr. Ludwig Kirchner, representative of the Director of the GTZ Kenya office; and Ambassador Magdaline Wambua, Senior Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Education, Kenya on behalf of the Permanent Secretary);
- Introductory session (workshop context, objectives, expected outcomes and methodology – see PPT Annex 6; interactive session focusing on questions/issues the participants want
to raise; difficulties/obstacles they face in the context of the project and the support they need to overcome them;

• Presentation and discussion of Project activities between April and June 2009 and next steps from July to December 2009 by Elmehdi Ag Muphtah and Jahn Klaus: conclusions of Geneva seminar; refining the Toolkit structure and content outline; planned national workshops; organization of the Kenya workshop; completion and publication of the new version of the Study on preparation for life and work; preparing a new project proposal for 2010-2013; fund raising (Annex 7).

• Plenary: introduction of the latest version of the Toolkit structure and outline (Annex 5);

• Group work: discussion of the toolkit outline and structure and suggestions for improvement;

• Plenary sharing and conclusions;

Tuesday, 23 June 2009 – Day 2

• Presentation of the revised Toolkit structure and outline and discussions (Annex 8);

• Introduction of different thematic dimensions to be considered in the Toolkit (Dakmara Georgescu – Human rights and citizenship education; Jean Bernard – peace education; Florence Migeon – gender issues; Klaus Jahn – entrepreneurial education) and discussions with the members of the writing committee;

• Group work to further elaborate on the content of the different Toolkit parts (i.e. Introduction, Part A and Part B – fist two sections);

• 19:00 hours – Cocktail offered by GTZ and the Kenyan Ministry of Education (Safari Park Hotel).

Wednesday, 24 June 2009 – Day 3

• Second revision in the context of the workshop of the Toolkit structure and outline leading to a final version to be taken into account for the completion of the Toolkit by the editorial team (see Annex 9 – Toolkit structure as of 24 June 2009);

• Plenary sharing of the in-depth group work on different parts and sections of the toolkit (i.e. Introduction, new part a and first two sections of new Part B);

• p. m. – City tour (Ministry of Education Headquaters; Main Government Administrative offices along Harambee Avenue; Parliament House; Mausoleum (Founding President’s burial side; Uhuru Park walk; State House) and visit of the St. Georges Secondary Girls School (Meeting with the Principal – Ms. Bertha A. Omanya - and staff representatives; Visit of school facilities/compound; Viewing of students’ activities/projects, i.e. dance and drama focusing on LTLT in the community).
Thursday, 25 June 2009 – Day 4

- Group work on completing the detailed Toolkit outline (remaining sections of new Part B);
- Plenary sharing of outcomes and final adjustments made to the overall toolkit structure and outline;
- Plenary sharing with regard to the detailed outline of the new Part C (new Sections 7 and 8);

Friday, 26 June 2009 – Day 5

- Presentation and discussion of the revised and comprehensive new Toolkit outline (Annex 10);
- Introduction of different follow up issues (Elmehdi Ag Muphtah and Klaus Jahn), namely: (a) completion of the Toolkit (draft 1) by the editorial team and review meeting in Geneva on 4-5 August 2009; (b) preparation of national dissemination and sharing workshops to be carried out in the project countries– see Annex 12 – ppt); (c) preparation of the in-depth field testing of the Toolkit in three selected countries– see Annex 13; (d) preparation of the final project seminar in Frankfurt (24-26 October 2009);
- Final considerations and workshop evaluation (see Annex 14 – Summary of evaluation outcomes);
- Closing remarks by IBE (Dakmara Georgescu), GTZ (Klaus Jahn) and Kenyan Ministry of Education (Mr. Enos Oyaya, Director of Quality Unit).
- Official closing of the workshop.

4. Outcomes of the workshop

- Based on a review meeting held in Geneva on 3 and 4 June 2009 (IBE: Clementina Acedo; Dakmara Georgescu; Elmehdi Ag Muphtah, Carmel Gallagher, consultant and GTZ: Klaus Jahn, Jean Bernard, consultant – participating by call conference) it was decided to amend the Toolkit structure and outline developed after the Geneva seminar (during April and May 2009) so as to balance better content and process aspects in the way the Toolkit addresses the issues of curriculum change/improvement to foster competency development and Learning to Live Together/LTLT. Based on the 3-4 June 09 discussions, a new comprehensive Toolkit structure and outline that served as basis for discussion in Nairobi will be developed– see Annex 5.

- During the first three days of the workshop, the participants were familiarised with the new toolkit version and provided suggestions to improve this detailed Toolkit structure and outline in order to make the Toolkit simpler to understand and use, as well as reflecting better the different major components of curriculum processes, namely conceptual aspects; policy issues and actual development/revision of the curriculum;
implementation issues. They appreciated the revised version presented to them, preserved all the sections and detailed outlines and suggested a reorganization of the Toolkit for more clarity and simplicity, as well as for avoiding unnecessary repetitions and overlaps.

- The first version presented in Nairobi (see Annex 5) was changed into a second and third draft (see Annexes 8 and 9), which in the end was finally amended to become the agreed version (see Annex 10).

- The changes made are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Version 1- basis for discussion (see Annex 5)</th>
<th>Version 2- revised (see Annex 9)</th>
<th>Final agreed version ( see Annex 10)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>Part A: Fostering curriculum innovations to promote competencies for life and work and Learning to Live Together</td>
<td>Part A: Fostering curriculum innovations to promote competencies for life and work and Learning to Live Together – conceptual issues</td>
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<tr>
<td>Part A: Content and Methodology</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
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<tr>
<td>Section 1: Fostering Learning to Live Together – basic principles, concepts and approaches</td>
<td>Section 1: The concepts of curriculum and curriculum innovations</td>
<td>Section 1: The concepts of curriculum and curriculum innovation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Section 2: Developing thematic approaches</td>
<td>Section 2: Policy issues</td>
<td>Section 2: Basic principles, concepts and approaches (previous Section 4)</td>
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<td>Section 3: Enhancing LTLT and competency development in the curriculum</td>
<td>Section 3: Human and institutional resources</td>
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<tr>
<td>Section 4: Implementing the curriculum effectively (at classroom level)</td>
<td>Part B: Concepts and Methodology</td>
<td>Part B: Processes of curriculum innovation</td>
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<td><strong>Part B: Curriculum processes</strong></td>
<td><strong>Section 5: Policy issues</strong></td>
<td><strong>Section 3: Policy issues</strong> (previous Section 2)</td>
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<td><strong>Section 6: Curriculum concept, design and writing/preparation</strong></td>
<td><strong>Section 4: Human and institutional resources</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Section 7: Dissemination and implementation (at system level)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Section 5: Developing thematic approaches for Learning to Live together</strong> (previous Section 5)</td>
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<td><strong>Section 6: Enhancing LTLT and competency development in the curriculum</strong> (Previous Section 6)</td>
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<td><strong>Section 7: Implementing the curriculum effectively (at classroom level)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Section 7: Translating the curriculum into practices</strong> (Previous Sections 7 and 8)</td>
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<td><strong>Section 8: Using the Toolkit to promote curriculum innovations</strong> (Previous Section 9)</td>
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- The participants have also suggested that the examples of country initiatives/effective practices should be integrated throughout the toolkit and, if possible, also presented as more detailed case studies in an Annex.
• Country representatives will be associated to the editorial team (i.e. from Burkina Faso; Mauritius; Mozambique).

**National dissemination and sharing workshops**

• The project country teams will organize one-day national dissemination and sharing workshops with the support of IBE and GTZ/BMZ who will elaborate Guidelines in this respect and will also support the workshops financially;

• The Guidelines will be sent out to country teams by mid July 2009. While the in-depth field-testing of the Toolkit will be carried out in only three selected project countries, all the other participating countries will also ask for feedback on the Toolkit in specific ways,

• Country teams are expected to submit work plans to the IBE and GTZ.

**In-depth field testing of the Toolkit in three selected countries**

• Three project countries were selected for the in-depth field-testing of the Toolkit (Angola; Kenya and Mali) in line with several selection criteria, among which are the geographical coverage; the language balance; the willingness and availability of national authorities and county teams to carry out the process and prepare comprehensive reports the editorial team should take into account to prepare an improved version of the Toolkit to be shared in Frankfurt (24-26 October 2009).

• Country teams will receive Guidelines from IBE and GTZ/BMZ with regard to the field-testing concept, modalities and preparation of the Report incorporating the feedback received.

• Some of the field-testing countries (i.e. Angola) asked for additional professional assistance to carry out the process, such as consultants to work with the country team. This request, as well as the issue of translating the toolkit into Portuguese, will be discussed by the IBE with UNESCO Windhoek, who, expressed their readiness to assist the process by all means that can be mobilise

**Project seminar in Frankfurt/Germany (24-26 October 2009)**

• The project seminar will be held in Germany (Frankfurt) from 24 to 26 October 2009. All country teams will be invited, as well as representatives of high level decision makers from different countries, representatives of UNESCO units involved in the project and representatives of different organizations that supported the project intellectually and financially since 2004.

• One major seminar objective will be to share the outcomes of national dissemination workshops and in-depth field-testing of the Toolkit based on which recommendations for its finalisation, publication and implementation should be issued.
• Other important objectives will be to present and share additional resources for enhancing the development of competencies for life and work and LTLT in the curriculum as well as share ideas for the follow process, including the development of new project ideas for 2010-2013 and fund raising to secure continuity and sustainability.

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<tr>
<th>Ideas for a new project proposal for 2010-2013</th>
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<td>• All the participating countries expressed their wish that the present project should be continued in different ways, in line with new needs, priorities and funding possibilities.</td>
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<td>• The participants made several suggestions to be taken into account for new project proposals for 2010-2013, such as (a) action-research project on curriculum implementation in sub-Saharan African countries, with a focus on competency development for life and work and LTLT; (b) projects to implement the Toolkit at regional, national and local level in a few selected countries in the context of capacity building activities for curriculum developers and teacher educators and trainers; (c) projects to support the further adjustment and enrichment of the Toolkit in compliance with national contexts and needs (i.e. developing additional country-customised modules for HIV/AIDS; life skills; health education; work education).</td>
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<th>Cooperation prospects with the Kenyan Ministry of Education, the Kenyan UNESCO NatCOM and UNESCO/ED/BAS</th>
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<tr>
<td>• The Kenyan Ministry of Education, through its Permanent Secretary, Prof. Karega Mutahi, and Senior Deputy Secretary, Amb. Magdalene Wambua, expressed their interest in cooperating with IBE and GTZ/BMZ in view of achieving the EFA goals and enhancing quality learning for all, as well as its relevance for life and work.</td>
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<td>• The Permanent Secretary, Prof. Karega Mutahi, will be invited to the project seminar in Frankfurt along with other policy and decision makers from participating countries. Their participation will contribute to reinforcing the links between education policy, and curriculum development and implementation.</td>
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<td>• The Kenyan NatCom, through its newly appointed secretary, Mr. Mohammed Mwinyipemb, who participated actively in the workshop, expressed its admiration for the work done and stated that IBE should be providing technical assistance to different other education programmes in Kenya.</td>
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5. **Follow-up**

• The agreed English and French versions of the revised Toolkit structure and outlines will be sent to country teams by 3 July 2009.
• Country representatives will be associated to the editorial team (i.e. from Mozambique; Mauritius; Burkina Faso).
• The editorial team will develop a completed first draft of the Toolkit by end of July 2009.
• The first completed draft will be revised during a meeting in Geneva between IBE and GTZ (4-5 August 2009).

• Afterwards, the amended English version will be translated into French and both versions (plus a Portuguese translation) will be sent out to countries for field-testing.

• UNESCO Windhoek will support the translation of the Toolkit in Portuguese.

• All country teams will receive detailed guidelines for the national dissemination and sharing workshops. IBE and GTZ/BMZ should elaborate the Guidelines by mid July 2009.

• The three selected countries (Mali, Angola and Kenya) will in addition receive detailed instructions for the field testing of the Toolkit. The instructions will be integrated in the Guidelines for dissemination, sharing and feedback collection on the Toolkit.

• The IBE and GTZ/BMZ will issue letters of information on project activities and outcomes to all ministers of education of the project countries.

• A Letter of thanks will be issued to the Ministry of Education of Kenya and to the team that was directly involved in the project preparation, namely Mr. John Temba, Ms. Mary Mugo and Ms. Mary Kangethe. Our Kenyan colleagues were indeed extremely helpful and contributed substantially to the success of the workshop.

6. Annexes

Annex 1: List of participants

Annex 2: Conceptual note

Annex 3: Agenda

Annex 4: Instruction for country teams to prepare for the workshop

Annex 5: Toolkit outline as of 10.06.09

Annex 6: Agenda overview – ppt

Annex 7: Overview of project activities since April 2009 - ppt

Annex 8: Revised Toolkit structure (as of 23.06.09)

Annex 9: Re-revised Toolkit structure (as of 24 June 2009)

Annex 10: Final comprehensive toolkit outline (as of 25.06.09)

Annex 11: Examples of country initiatives

Annex 12: Follow up issues - ppt

Annex 13: The field testing process s- an overview - ppt

Annex 14: Guided tour of Nairobi city and school