

EDUCATION: Digital Content Development and Distribution

Project: Tafakari Mindset KIE Project

What is Tafakari Mindset KIE Project?

Tafakari Mindset KIE (Tafakari Project) Project is a capacity building project that equips Kenyan teachers with skills to develop and utilize digital content curriculum for math and science. The project targets primary school grades 4, 5, and 7.

The process of developing the digital content started with training of Kenya Institute of Education Staff on the content development methodology. Next KIE staff developed digital content for math and science for primary 4, 5, 6 and 7 in video and multimedia format. Once that was done, tutors from the 19 participating Primary Teacher Training Colleges (PTTCs) came on board and received training on utilization of the digital content.

To support the use of digital content the project provided computer and networking equipment. The project was initiated as a direct response to the need for a relevant, locally-produced, professional development program for Kenyan teachers as well as for the expansion of relevant, locally-produced learning resource materials to support learning and teaching in the primary education sector.



Practical demonstration of the Tafakari software

Project Duration and Budget

September 2007 – April 2011.
\$1,048,000

Who implements Tafakari Project?

Mindset Network, www.Mindset.co.za;

Where does Tafakari Project work?

The Project targets Kenya's 19 public primary teacher training colleges spread countrywide and three Ministry of Education Semi Autonomous Government Agencies (SAGAs); namely; namely; the Kenya Institute of Education, Kenya Institute of Special Education and Kenya Education Staff Institute.

What does Tafakari Project do?

- In collaboration with the Kenya Institute of Education the Tafakari Project's main activities include technology access provision, digital content development and professional development and Training. The Technology access activity involves the installation of ICT equipment at the 19 Primary School Teacher Training Colleges (PTTCs) and three SAGAs.
- The capacity development activity involves training of trainers in the development and utilization of digital content.
- The development of digital curriculum content in math and science for class 4, 5, 6 & 7 in video, print, and computer based multimedia educational support materials. The content is designed to demonstrate practical application of knowledge by bringing the outside world directly into the classroom.
- The Project has further installed ICT infrastructure for Local Area Network (LAN) and Wide Area Network (WAN) for all participating colleges. This will

enable the colleges to access e-learning content that is provided by the various public- private partners who are participating in the ICT/Global Development Alliance (GDA) Initiative in Kenya.

How is Tafakari Project making a difference?

- From 2007 the Tafakari Project has equipped 22 educational colleges with state of the art Information Communications Technology (ICT) solution, which consists of Content Server, Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS), Content Server Security Dome, television, Set Top Box and a g) Security Cage. Through a partnership with Mindset Network Multichoice Africa, the project further provided the support to the colleges in the form of a satellite dish, a decoder and free access to Multichoice educational bouquet; including Mindset Learn, The History Channel, BBC World, National Geographic, Animal Planet, Discovery Channel and other Kenyan free channels.
- Digital content for math and science for primary standard 4,5,6,7 has been developed and is currently being utilized by college lecturers, teacher trainees and surrounding primary schools. There has been continuous capacity development for both KIE and college lecturers on digital content development, production and utilization.
- LAN and WAN installations have been made at all the participating colleges.
- Through this project the Kenyan education sector community have been introduced and sensitized on digital content as well as e-learning methodologies. This project has laid a strong foundation in Kenya upon which KIE and MOE are building on in order to integrate ICT in the education sector. Indeed the digital content developed through this project is now being utilized by other pilot projects in ICT for education; for instance, the Accelerating 21st Century Skills in Education (ACE) which is a public private partnership between MOE, USAID, Intel, Cisco, Microsoft and Smart Technologies, utilizes this content to rollout ICT into selected primary schools.

What key challenges does it face?

High rate of computer illiteracy among Kenya's teaching community proved to be a big challenge. This meant that before Mindset could embark on digital content development they had to provide basic computer literacy skills to the content developers. Another challenge related to the fact that Mindset has had no presence in Kenya. This challenge was overcome through constant collaboration and coordination with KIE as well as utilization of technology propelled means of communication.

For more information:

www.Mindset.co.za

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TOT trainees watching Tafakari video lesson