TESSA (Teacher Education in Sub Saharan Africa)

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TESSA (Teacher Education in Sub-Saharan Africa)

- Research and development programme
- Focus on quality teacher education
- Working in 9 countries across Sub-Saharan Africa
- International consortium of 18 institutions
- Harnessing new technologies
Bank of 75 core highly structured study units (OERs)

To support school-based teacher learning

Teacher learning viewed as continuing, active, social and related to practice

Local course designers and providers use in their programmes

Produced at scale but locally specific - contextualised for each country context

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Materials creation and adaptation

**Sharing in the Tessa OER resource bank**

1. **Creation of original study units by consortium partners**

2. **Quality Assurance, Editing and User Testing**

3. **Localisation of study units by consortium partners**

4. **Sharing in the Tessa OER resource bank**

5. **Quality Assurance and Editing and User Testing**

6. **Creation of original study units by consortium partners**
Case Study 3: Writing a story

Mrs. Adams wanted her boys in her Primary 5 class in Shikango to write their own stories. In

Mr. Adams wanted her boys in her Primary 5 class in Shikango to write their own stories. In

Key Activity: Creating an animal story

Ask pupils to think of problems that are familiar, real and are current that come out of the way

PDF for easy printing; small file size,

Word for easy adaptation
TESSA Model of implementation

• Practical, activity based teacher learning
• Valuing of school practitioner agency
• Implementation dispersed and decentralised
• Alignment and interaction with existing communities of practice
• Local autonomy: importance of TESSA coordinators

TESSA in Use

Some examples:
• National Teachers Institute (Nigeria): Nigeria Certificate in Education (NCE) – In-service (distance) 102,000 students
• Kyambogo University (Uganda): Diploma in Education Primary External (distance) 1,500 students
• Open University of Tanzania (Tanzania): Diploma in Primary Education 500 students
• Open University of Sudan (Sudan): B Ed (distance) 53,000 students
• Kigali Institute of Education (Rwanda): B Ed for Teacher Educators (70 students)

‘To train quality teachers who can impact positively on pupils’ learning.’
Forms of use of TESSA

- Highly structured
- Loosely structured
- Guided use

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Form of use</th>
<th>Highly structured</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Characteristics</td>
<td>Selection of set of TESSA activities by lecturers. All students carry out this set of activities.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Access to TESSA materials</td>
<td>New teacher books produced and distributed.</td>
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| Example | National Teachers’ Institute (Nigeria)  
Open University of Sudan |
**Form of use** | **Loosely structured**  
---|---  
**Characteristics** | Lecturers select appropriate TESSA activities for their course. Lecturers use in a variety of ways.  
**Access to TESSA materials** | Website  
Printed individual TESSA study units  
**Example** | University of Education at Winneba (Ghana)  
Egerton University (Kenya)  

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**Form of use** | **Guided use**  
---|---  
**Characteristics** | Designated time for students to browse the TESSA website and select TESSA activities.  
**Access to TESSA materials** | Website  
**Example** | University of Pretoria (South Africa)  
OLA with the University of Cape Coast (Ghana)
Monitoring and evaluating

✓ Teacher surveys
✓ Classroom observation
✓ Supervisor / tutor surveys
✓ Analysis of teacher assignments
✓ Teacher discussion groups
✓ Teacher journals (audio / written / photographic)

Emerging Findings

• Evidence of improved teaching practices
• More reflective thinking after lessons
• Teacher and pupil enjoyment and interest increased
• Flexibility of TESSA OERs study units allows use in range of programmes
• Need for student teacher support and regular dialogue

‘I have enjoyed using the materials because they make classroom activities simple and easy. Pupils are now improving in their performance and it has helped me to improve my teaching skills.’

Student Teacher, Nigeria