Web 2.0 tools in UEM: opportunities for the improvement of the teaching and learning process

About Mozambique and UEM

- Literacy rate: 47.8% (63.5% men; 32.7% women)
- Higher Education Institutions: 38
- Mobile phones: 5,971 million (2009) (~26%)
- Internet users: 613,600 (2009) (~2.7%)

- Faculties/Schools: 16
- Teachers: 1,591
- Students: 26,256
- Support staff: 2,539
- Internet access: 20 Mbps – updated/increased in 2010 to 155 Mbps
Web 2.0 research in UEM

- Main objective
  - conceptualize, design and (partially) implement a strategic plan towards public dissemination and introduction of Web 2.0 tools for supporting teaching and administrative purposes in UEM

Research methodology and cycles

- Action-Research

(adapted from Sousa et al, 2008)
Implementation methodology

- web 2.0 tools identified (and some locally installed)
- workshops and training
- Initial online communities developed (using Ning)
- Other promotion mechanisms developed
  - support by email
  - facebook
  - UEM main website
  - posters

Initiatives with the Faculty of Education

- Workshops introducing Web 2.0 tools for lecturers
- Training focusing blogs and wikis
  - http://www.wikis.uem.mz (MediaWiki)

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<th>Master programme</th>
<th>Research Cycle</th>
<th>Tools used</th>
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<td>Adult Education (14)</td>
<td>first (2010)</td>
<td>Blogs and Wiki</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adult Education (18)</td>
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<td>Curriculum and instrututional development (13)</td>
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Initiatives with the Faculty of Education

- Support provided
  - Accounts for wikis and blogs created (students and lecturers)
  - Practical sessions for students (mainly done by the lecturers)
  - Physical and virtual helpdesk concerning configuration and content uploading issues
  - Regular motorization of the web services provided
Initiatives with the Faculty of Education

Preliminary results

Intention to integrate Web 2.0 tools in their academic and professional activities

– class of 2010
  • I do not intend to use (7,7%)
  • No answer (15,4%)

– class of 2011
  • I do not intend to use (0%)
  • No answer (0%)
Preliminary results 2

![Graph showing preliminary results]

Preliminary results 3

- **Students also suggested**
  
  - The inclusion of an informatics class in the course;
  
  - The increase of the dedicated time for using the tools in the classes and its adoption in other classes;
  
  - Training on other tools found to be important like Flickr and in the use of some specific hardware (e.g., webcam for video conference)
Preliminary conclusions

• UEM has the chance to build a student profile that is, at least, aware of the importance of ICT in different contexts;

• The preliminary results reveal that students and teachers are willing to continue the use of Web 2.0 tools and that the work must be continued and reinforced.

Preliminary conclusions 2

• Web 2.0 may contribute to UEM develop its participatory democracy through the Internet;

• From the first to the second cycle less students claimed for basic training and this may reveal that the improvements made on training and support were efficient;

• (good) Internet access is a pre-condition to get lecturers involved and actively using Web 2.0 tools
Khanimambo
Obrigado
Thank you