ADEA and BREDA launch an ambitious digital program for Africa

From 10 to 12 February 2010, Senegal is hosting a workshop of African experts in distance training to define and implement an ambitious program for the use of information and communication technology in education (ICTE) in order to achieve universal primary schooling of good quality in Africa by 2015.

Dakar, February 3, 2010. From 10 to 12 February 2010, a workshop of 11 high-level African experts in distance training is being held in Dakar, the capital of Senegal. The experts will define and implement throughout the continent an ambitious program for the use of ICTE in Francophone, Anglophone and Lusophone African countries.

Organized jointly by the Association for the Development of Education in Africa (ADEA, www.ADEAnet.org), the UNESCO Regional Bureau for Education in Africa (BREDA/UNESCO) and the Francophone Digital Campus (CNF), this workshop will mark the launch of the ADEA-BREDA OpenED (Open Education) Initiative, which in its initial phase (2010-2013) will involve 17 countries from all five sub-regions of Africa and will eventually cover the entire continent.

OpenED will seek to make judicious use of digital media to train the mass of qualified African educators needed to achieve quality primary education for all.

To this end, OpenED will follow the recommendations made at the recent "Bamako + 5" Conference concerning the use of ICTE to create open, endogenous teaching/learning resources adapted to various contexts, including African languages, the non-formal sector and vulnerable children.

OpenED seeks to enable African education to make the quantitative and qualitative leap needed to achieve the goals of the Second Decade of Education for Africa, and beyond that,
to bring about a systemic renovation of education systems through the use of ICTE and foster a collaborative e-community of African educators.

At this preparatory workshop, the 11 experts, under the coordination of Senegal's Inspector-General of ICTE, will participate in the analysis and finalization of OpenED, the construction of the Open-Source Course Management System (CMS), the preparation of modules and the production of interactive multimedia content for the training program.

Representatives of the government of Senegal, local authorities, development partners, NGOs, civil society, and all stakeholders involved in the use of ICTE in Senegal are invited to the opening ceremony at Cheikh Anta Diop II University.


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