Increasing Access to STEM Resources
BRIEF ON AVU

A Pan African Intergovernmental Organization

Mandate: to increase access to quality higher education and training through use of ICTs

Countries have signed AVU Charter

Partner Institutions

Works Across Africa in English, French and Portuguese over 30 African Countries

Has trained more than 61,000 students since inception
AVU MULTINATIONAL PROJECT II
2012 - 2016

Overall Objective
To strengthen the capacity of AVU and a network of Institutions coordinated by AVU to deliver and manage quality ICT assisted education and training opportunities in select African countries.
AVU MULTINATIONAL PROJECT II
2012 - 2016

- 27 ODeL centers
- Review of AVU 219 OERs modules
- Applied Computer Science
- Community of practice
- Peace & Conflict resolution
- Gender mainstreaming
- Research & Development
- Technical Assistance
Overall objective

To strengthen the capacity of the AVU and a network of institutions coordinated by the AVU to deliver and manage quality ICT assisted education and training opportunities in selected African countries
STEM COURSES & PROGRAMS

• Teacher education
  – 4 Bachelors of Education in Math, Physics, Chemistry and Biology, 250 courses, + 1245 learning objects

• Applied Computer Sciences
  – Diploma & Bachelor, 159 courses, 750 learning objects

• Open Educational Resources
OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

- Million users worldwide in 201 countries and territories
- 219 textbooks in Mathematics, Sciences, Teacher Education Professional Courses and ICT Education
- 586 authors and peer reviewers from 27 universities and 24 African countries
-Languages: English, Portuguese, French

oer.ava.u.org

African Virtual University
Université Virtuelle Africaine
Universidade Virtual Africana
AVU eLEARNING MODEL

Formal courses
- Online delivery
- (synchronous and asynchronous)
- Blended mode delivery:
  - online and face-to-face
- Availability of content Online, CDs, DVDs, Print
- Instructors and when necessary tutors
- Inbuilt quality assurance
- Accreditation: AVU or AVU and partners
- Assessment - online and face-to-face

Virtual classrooms
- Moodle - Elluminate - Mobile technology
- Adaptation to African context:
  - ex. low bandwidth
  - Voice, text, videos
  - Interactive

Live Events
- Online Seminars
- Webinars

Self Directed Courses
- Online delivery and assessment
- Not accredited
- Live Events
- Online Seminars;
  - Webinars
  - Moocs

Access points
- Learning centers or
  - individuals through individual
    - Live Events
    - Online Seminars
    - Webinars
What is a MOOC?

MOOC concept is appealing and has a great potential for Africa

AVU to offer 4 MOOCs as proof of concept: Teacher Education, Peace Management and Conflict Resolution, ODeL Professional Development

ICT to enrich teaching and learning

Mainstream MOOCs in AVU operations

moocs.avu.org
RESULTS

• Collaboration with 26 Ministries and 36 HEIs
• 21,000 admissions between 2008 and 2016
• 1975 scholarships females & disadvantaged
• 36 eLearning centres established
• 36 institutions adopted Quality Assurance Framework for distance & eLearning
• 66 policy briefs
• R&D Online peer reviewed, Mobile Learning
• AVU international conference
• 4 international awards
LESSONS LEARNED

• It is possible to implement innovative solutions across countries despite challenges
• Successful collaboration with Governments
• Harmonizing policies, contextualizing curriculum required
• Need for strong financial support
• Leadership in Ministries and partner institutions key
• Collaboration can cause delays & frustrations
• Possible to escalate model