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Applied Sciences as drivers for regional innovation
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PROJECT PRESENTATION

Speaker :

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Deputy Project Coordinator

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TITLE



Strengthening individual learning and improving training quality through digital resources access at the Catholic University of Bukavu (UCB) and the Higher Institute of Computer Science and Management of Goma (ISIG).



CONTEXT

This micro project is part of the **PRICNAC** project implementation (Promotion of Research, Innovation and Digital Culture in Central Africa). It is supported financially by **AUF**, **ACP** Innovation Fund, **OEACP**, as well as the **European Union**.



CONTEXT

It is running in the **Kivu region** in the Democratic Republic of Congo, under the joint responsibility of the **Catholic University of Bukavu** (contracting entity) and **the Higher Institute of Computer Science and Management of Goma** (associated entity).



CONTEXT

PRICNAC is a project funded by the African, Caribbean and Pacific (**ACP**) Group of States and the **European Union** under the ACP Innovation Fund.



CONTEXT



It aims to **strengthen research** and **innovation capacities** in Central African countries through the consolidation of innovation ecosystems, productive synergies, entrepreneurship, digital technology and innovation policies in favour of sustainable development and poverty reduction.

PRICNAC CONSORTIUM

PRICNAC is managed by the following consortium :



ASSOCIATION OF AFRICAN UNIVERSITIES
ASSOCIATION DES UNIVERSITES AFRICAINES
اتحاد الجامعات الأفريقية



REIFAC
Réseau d'Experts en Ingénierie de
Formation en Afrique Centrale et
dans les Grands Lacs.

PRICNAC FUTURE



- ⇒ Creating and consolidating a network of the different projects.
- ⇒ Connecting this network more widely in Africa, as a means to provide training related to innovation and the role of universities in development.

DURATION

The execution duration of this micro project is 12 months (August 2022 – August 2023)



August 2022



August 2023

OBJECTIVES

This project aims to ***improve the training quality*** through **digital resources access** at the Catholic University of Bukavu (contracting entity) and the Higher Institute of Computer Science and Management of Goma (associated entity).

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

The following outcomes are expected in this micro-project per institution :



The implementation of an intranet network



The development of a digital library for resources access



The development of an online teaching platform for learning activities



The production and dissemination of documentation and interactive digital content available on the teaching platforms,

EXPECTED OUTCOMES



The implementation of a techno-pedagogical unit for users (teachers, students, management) continuous support on resources access,



The organization of a baseline survey on user perception on the digital resources access

MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE PROJECT

The main achievements of the project are the following per institution :

Achievement 1

Network
infrastructure
installation and
configuration

Achievement 2

Updating,
backup and
maintenance of
deployed
solutions,

Achievement 3

Design and
implementatio
n of a digital
library ,



MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE PROJECT

Achievement 4

User charter and security policy for digital resources access

Achievement 5

Scientific digital resources catalog constitution,

Achievement 6

Digital resources acquisition by subject area,



MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE PROJECT

Achievement 7

Digital resources
consultation rooms
installation,

Achievement 8

Online
teaching
platform
development,

Achievement 9

Addition of
resources on the
created digital
platforms



MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE PROJECT

Achievement 10

Internet Bandwidth
improvement

Achievement 11

Teachers and
students training
on digital
resources access,

Achievement 12

Teachers training on
digital content
production (courses
scenarios and digital
innovation)



MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE PROJECT

Achievement 13

Techno-pedagogical unit members training on courses scenarios and digital innovation

Achievement 14

Materials addition in resources consultation rooms (computers, projectors, printers, etc).

Achievement 15

Survey on users perception about digital resources access.



MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE PROJECT



Achievement 16

Intranet connection
establishment
between campuses of
each institution.



PROJECT MEMBERS

These activities were carried out by a team made up of **17 members** including the **project coordinator**, **2 assistant coordinators**, **3 digital resources managers**, **7 focal points** responsible for ongoing awareness raising and user training on digital resources access, **2 techno-pedagogues** in charge of teachers coaching, as well as **2 IT specialists** in charge of network implementation.



ACTIVITIES WITH A LOT OF IMPACT

Apart from the activity relating to the **making of scenarios and digital innovation of courses** which remains ongoing at UCB and ISIG, all other project activities were well organized in accordance with the logical framework in both institutions.

ACTIVITIES WITH A LOT OF IMPACT

Several activities had an **important impact** in **both institutions**. This involves the establishment of the digital library (1), heightened user awareness on access to digital resources (2), the creation of interactive digital resources (3) as well as the establishment of techno-pedagogical units in the two institutions(4).

ACTIVITIES WITH A LOT OF IMPACT

According to the usage statistics, out of a total of **1,500 digital resources** available at **UCB**, approximately **500,000 downloads** were observed over a period of **4 months**. At **ISIG**, with an availability of **2500 digital resources**, we observed **800** unique **visitors** per month during the last **5 months** (out of a total of **1500 students**).



POSSIBILITY OF SCALE UP ACTIVITIES

It is indeed possible to scale-up this project activities for the following reasons : **(1)** Both institutions still need significant support to scale-up the achievements of the project in all faculties, touching a larger number of courses/teachers and students.

POSSIBILITY OF SCALE UP ACTIVITIES

(2) During training on access to the various digital platforms developed in the project, several members belonging to partner institutions in the Kivu region (North and South) expressed the wish to be associated with the organized activities.

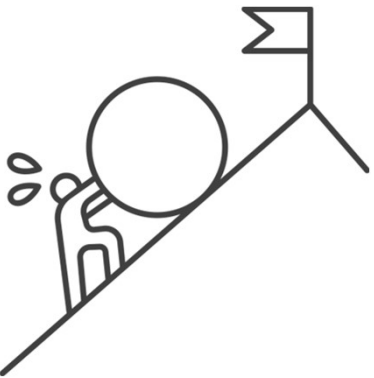
POSSIBILITY OF SCALE UP ACTIVITIES

This enthusiasm from partners institution constitutes indeed an opportunity of scaling-up this project activities. But this implies the permanent maintenance, in both institutions, of **techno-pedagogical units** responsible for monitoring and coaching users (teachers and students) on access to and use of digital resources.

PROJECT CHALLENGE

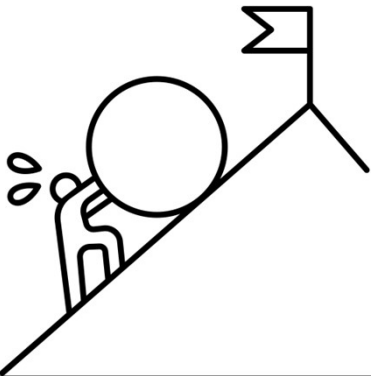
Very **few projects** have been dedicated to **promoting digital teaching technology** in the **Kivu region**.

This implies a ***change in mentality*** which takes **time** and **effort**. We have observed some **resistance to change** from **teachers** and from the **education system**, knowing that higher education is very change resistant.



PROJECT CHALLENGE

The **main challenges** today in this project remain the **sustainability of its achievements** (techno pedagogical units) as well as their **promotion** to the university community in the region for better teaching and learning.



RECOMMENDATION

Carrying out of a digital project in a developing country context, can face several challenges, particularly **technical challenges, resistance to change, lack of enough dedicated time** for teams working on digital teaching and learning and **need for capacity building**.

RECOMMENDATION

It is **willpower, determination, flexibility, patience, tolerance**, etc, that help to overcome these challenges and achieve the project goals.

Thanks for your attention