



## SAINT LUCIA'S EXPERIENCE

### TITLE: Education Enhancement through Information and Communication Technology Programme (EEICTP)



**Country:** Saint Lucia

**Institution:** The Ministry of Education, Human Resource Development & Labour is responsible for implementation of the EEICTP

**Financing:** The project is funded under the European Union SFA 2008

**Other institutions involved:** The National Authorising Office (NAO) within the Ministry of Finance, Economic Affairs, Planning and Social Security

**Date:** Start Date Effectiveness: 11th February, 2011, Signed: 18th May, 2009. Completion Date Effective: 15th November, 2013

#### Context

Primary schools are at the foundation of the education system in Saint Lucia. The use of ICT in the classroom has been found to engage students who have become bored with traditional approaches, while building their IT skills sets. The project intervention will introduce ICT to the learning environment in primary school classrooms and libraries. It will also support teaching and learning while reaching out to surrounding communities, and build capacity in teachers and librarians who will become leaders and champions of the system.

#### Objectives

- The programme's overall objective is to build the foundation for the sustainable economic, social and cultural development of rural communities in Saint Lucia through the introduction and integration of ICT.
- The programme is aimed at retrofitting ICT spaces in selected primary schools and communities with equipment (hardware and software).

#### Relevance

The EEICTP is in keeping with Saint Lucia's Education Sector Development Plan (ESDP) 2009-2014, which considers the expansion of ICT in schools as a critical element in its development strategy. School personnel will be appropriately trained in ICT based learning initiatives which will facilitate a transformation in the teaching learning environment.

Additionally, the project is well aligned with St Lucia's Government policy position that Information and

Communication Technology (ICT) should be a critical component of the country's development strategy.

Project components

Component 1: Review of education policy, curriculum reform and capacity building

Component 2: Training of teachers, trainers and support institutions

Component 3: Creation of innovative and student-centered learning environment

Component 4: Linkages between schools and the surrounding community.

### Implementation

The following activities have been completed:

- Procurement of a Mobile computer classroom;
- Visibility Initiative – Yellow Pages Insert;
- Procurement and delivery of supplies for the enhancement of Community Spaces for all Public Libraries and Boys' Training Centre (BTC);
- Procurement and delivery of computer supplies and equipment to CAMDU for Curriculum & Instructional Support;
- Procurement and delivery of Curriculum Support Hardware and Software for the National Skills Development Centre (NSDC) and Centre for Adolescent Renewal and Education (CARE) and Blind Welfare Association

### Distribution of tasks

There is a Project Management Unit (PMU) charged with the responsibility of managing the project. It is comprised of a Project Coordinator, a Project Officer, an Administrative Assistant and a Project Accountant.

The Office of the National Authorising Officer (NAO) within the Ministry of Finance acts as the coordinating arm of the programme with assistance from the EU Delegation in Barbados.

### Achievements and results

- A mobile computer classroom has been procured.
- From November 15th to December 10th, 2012, a number of school principals and teachers attended a Strategic Leadership Training for the Integration of ICT in schools.
- Supplies have been procured and delivered for the enhancement of Community Spaces, including all Public Libraries and the Boys' Training Centre (BTC);

### Capacity to replicate and potential for exchange of this experience

The project draws on the experiences from previous EU and other donor supported interventions, as well as similar initiatives in other OECS countries.

### Modalities to replicate the exchange

Training workshops. Site Visits.

### Good practices and concrete lessons to be shared with other RIAC Members

- There is a need for changes within the Ministry of Education in order to sustain ICT integration.
- Ministry stakeholders should have ownership of the project from its conceptualization phase.
- Inventory management systems should be linked to the Stores and Supplies department and IT

Unit within the Ministry of Education.

**Key persons involved in the design, implementation, and evaluation**

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This document was produced from the following:

Information from the EEICTP website ([www.ictnow.edu.lc](http://www.ictnow.edu.lc))

Status Report for the Period August, 2013, which was prepared By the Project Coordinator, EEICTP.

Document detailing Best Practices and Lessons Learnt, compiled by the Project Coordinator for the EEICTP.



**Castries, Saint Lucia:** On Monday January 21st, the Chief Education Officer, Mr. Marcus Edward presented laptops and tablets to the principal and teachers of the Carmen Rene Memorial School.



Teachers obtaining training on the use of integrating the technology into the class room