

Benchmarks for e-learning projects in Africa

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Educational Technology Debate

1990's speech :

The benefits :

- Accessibility
- Enhanced communication and interaction
- Flexibility
- Variety of teaching and learning modes

The issues and limitations :

- Digital divide (expertise, resources, policies, technical environment, ...)
- Quality vs Accessibility

Educational Technology Debate

2000's years debate :

- There are no technology shortcuts to good education
- How we use technology in education is more important than which technology we use
- Teacher training vs e-school
- Do open educational resources increase the digital divide?

Global trends

- creating ***digital content*** and examples of existing Open Educational resources (OER)
- ***nomadism*** (tablets, smartphones, wireless connexions, electrical autonomy, ...)
- research-, professional-, institutional-***networking***
- gradual ***reduction of costs*** (connectivity, equipment, local expertise, ...)
- new ***e-generation*** (user associations, public-private partnership, ...)
- ***Monitoring and evaluation process*** for ICT in education projects (cost-effective delivery, measurable outcomes, impact evaluation, ...)

Effectiveness conditions (1)

- **Access/appeal** (userfriendly, collaborative and collective use)
- **Interaction/Communication** (promote educator/learner interactions on synchronous or asynchronous way)
- **Content** (adaptability, localization, validation, accreditation)
- **Pedagogical approach** (enforces classical ones ? fosters new ones ?)
- **Ressources** (library, information retrieval, user networking)

Effectiveness conditions (2)

- **Support** :
 - guidelines, teacher training,
 - technical infrastructure
 - pedagogical support service
- **Sustainability and ethical aspects** (political priority, community outreach, copyright issues, ...)
- **Planning** (executive timetable, flexibility, local environment, monitoring process)
- **Institutional strategy** (political involvement, mediatization)