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 ressources (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)