



Distance Education for Teachers : Lessons Learnt from IFADEM

(Initiative Francophone pour la formation A Distance des Maîtres)

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IFADEM OBJECTIVES AND PILARS

Global objectives :

- Strengthen skills of primary school teachers for teaching French or in French
- Enhance pedagogy (innovative tools/practices)
- Support national policies of continuing education for teachers

Pilars :

- Distance learning
- Adjustment to the needs & structures of host country
- Intensive use of ICT
- Joint construction with Ministry of Basic Education

IFADEM STATISTICS

- **15 Countries** : Benin, Burundi (first batch) Ivory Coast,, Haïti, Liban, Madagascar, Mali, Niger, DRC, Congo, Sénégal, Togo (second batch) Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Comores, Chad (third batch)
- **1 236 877 School Children concerned**
- **22 152 Teachers trained (88,5% certification rate), 9 696 Teachers trained in ICT**
- **160 791 Pedagogic Documents produced**
- **24 ITC Centers - 1 577 ITC equipments**

Actors

- Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie (OIF)
- Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF)
- Ministries in charge of Basic Education
- National and International Experts :
 - Experts Group (scientific follow-up, strategy, research, evaluation)
 - Technical Experts (contents, training, communication, etc)
- Technical and Financial Partners (AFD, EU, World Bank, ...)
Funding problems are solved !

Governance : Basic Principles

1. Permanent concertation between Actors
2. Take into account the specificities of each country
3. Integration of Ifadem into national programmes of continuing education for teachers
4. No formal and permanent ad-hoc structure

Governance (International Level)

International Steering Committee : Political instance (SG OIF, Rector AUF, Ministers in charge of Basic Education)

International Coordination Committee : Operational Team

- OIF
- AUF

Partners Group : Promotion of the Initiative

- Representatives in Paris of Host countries
- SG CONFEMEN
- Technical and Financial Partners

Governance (National Level)

1. National Committee : Set-up by the Minister of Basic Education (operational, admin & pedagogic coordination)
2. Executive Secretary
3. Project Team : Operational Structure
4. Field Teams :
 - Book Writers
 - Teaching Staff (Tutors, ICT instructors)
 - Persons in charge of ICT Centers

Activities

- Structuring of the national continuing education and training system
- Design of disciplinary, didactic and methodological, resources
- Teaching : face to face seminars, E-learning
- Research : thematic, action-research, workshops, publications
- Engineering : ICT (m-services, follow-up platforms, ...), Solar energy for ICT centers, ...

Subjects

- French as teaching language
- Mathematics as subject and as basic scientific language
- Other topics :
 - Gender
 - Biodiversity
 - Class management
 - Evaluation
 - National languages
 - Etc

Digital Resources Produced

1. Pedagogy Books for school Teachers (linguistic, maths, ...)
2. Simulators
3. Games
4. Moocs

Research

1. Open Call to projects
 1. Action-Research on deployment aspects
 2. Thematic research : applications, conceptual frameworks, mobile learning, ...

2. Open Call to Expertise
 1. Strategy definitions
 2. Field Reviews

3. Collaboration with other projects (TESSA, Open Univ., ...)

4. Support to Masters and PhD Thesis

Lessons Learnt

- Importance of co-design with local Government and International Sponsors for appropriation and **Sustainability**
- Multi-level actors (Inspectors, Book writers, School Directors, E-learning Tutors, ICT Instructors, School Teachers, Teachers and Students of **Teachers Training Colleges**)
- Certification of Teachers : **A Key Issue**
- E-Learning & innovative use of ICT : **Appropriate Modalities**
- Multi-sectorial approach : institutional (continuing education), books production, pedagogy, teaching, research, publications, ...)

THANK YOU
FOR
YOUR KIND ATTENTION