



In partnership with  
 Department of Information Technology  
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Vigyan Bhavan Conference Centre  
New Delhi, 16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> April, 2012



**THEME:** SUSTAINABLE HUMAN DEVELOPMENT  
**VENUE:** Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi

**TOPIC:** The Historical Development of the Botswana expansive School Transformation (BeST) Project

## PRESENTERS

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**IFIP WITFOR 2012 THEME**

**“SUSTAINABLE  
HUMAN  
DEVELOPMENT”**



**GLOBAL CONTEXT: Follow – up on  
8<sup>th</sup> IFIP World Conference on Computer  
Education (WCCE 2005)**

**Stellenbosch Declaration: July,  
2005**

**Major areas Identified:**

- 1. Digital Solidarity**
- 2. Learners & life long learning**
- 3. Decision-making strategies**
- 4. Networking**
- 5. Research**
- 6. Teachers**



# (Declaration continued)

- “ **ICT changes Teaching and Learning – Networked world**
- “ **Technology matters - but good teaching matters more**
- “ **The Teaching Profession therefore needs to - evolve strongly & quickly**
- “ **Teachers as key agents in educational systems - are instruments in the evolution of Education**

**‘The teaching profession therefore needs to evolve strongly and quickly’**



# Declaration Recommendations

- “ **International networks of teachers** - to be developed & activated including in developing countries
- “ **Empowerment of innovative teachers and promotion of communities of practice for innovation** - in order to facilitate the dissemination of innovations



# THE BOTSWANA CONTEXT

## Policy Frameworks on ICT

- Revised National Commission on Education (RNCE, 1994)
- Botswana's Vision 2016 (Republic of Botswana, 1997)
- Science and Technology Policy (1998)
- **'Maitlamo' ICT policy** (Republic of Botswana (2004))

***'Botswana will be a globally competitive, knowledge and information society where lasting improvements in social, economic and cultural development is achieved through effective use of ICT.'*** (Republic of Botswana, 2004)'

- **The country's first attempt to coordinate and integrate all ICT initiatives**



# Botswana Context . Continued

## INTEGRATION OF ICT INTO SCHOOL SYSTEM

- **Primary level:** Lacking Computers/Electricity
- **Secondary:** Computer Awareness Program  
Launched in 1997 at Community Junior Secondary School Level (CJSS)
- **In-service Training:** Massive training in ICTs by Ministry of Education & Skills Development (MoE&SD)
- **Computer Studies:** Offered as subject at Senior Secondary Level.
- **Molepolole College:** Offers Computer Education
- **University of Botswana:** Offers Computer Awareness Core Course for all Students & eLearning Initiative started 2001

(START SMALL AND GROW FAST)



# WITFOR 2005 EDUCATION COMMISSION PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- **PROJECT:** Enhance ICT competence of teachers in SADC region Using Change Laboratory Approach (CL)
- Use ICT in **pedagogically meaningful ways** in schools/ institutions
- Set up **school-based ICT development groups** in Botswana & Mauritius, & later in SADC countries (e. g. South Africa, Namibia, etc.)
- **RESEARCH:** Anchor school-based innovative teacher's groups in Activity Theory (CHAT), Developmental Work Research (DWR) and '**Change Laboratories**' (CL) - (University of Helsinki a leading research centre in Activity Theory)
- Support activities by **resource centre** & network based in and maintained by the Virtual Centre for Innovative Learning Technologies (VCILT) University of Mauritius
- Negotiate CPD framework (**Masters programme** in ICT enhanced Pedagogy through one or several member universities of the consortium)



# Botswana expansive School Transformation Project (BeST) - Mandate & Objectives

- Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed August 2007
- Stimulate & facilitate intellectual life & cultural development of both institutions (Universities of Botswana & Helsinki)

## **Objectives of MoU**

- (1) Application, adaptation and development of the Cultural Historical Activity Theory (CHAT) and other methodologies in the context of school and community transformation
- (2) Planning, developing and implementing training to support educational transformation among teachers **initially in ten (10) pilot secondary schools**
- (3) Post graduate training of change agents for school and community transformation and new uses of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs)
- (4) Developmental Work Research (DWR) in school and community transformation with the aim to empower educational experts (teachers, teacher educators, officers in the Ministry, and students) in Botswana to make their own plans how to integrate ICTs in their educational activities



# BeST Project Partners

## International Partners

- “ Helsinki University of Technology – Life Long Learning Institute Dipoli
- “ University of Mauritius – Virtual Centre for Innovative Learning Technologies (VCILT)
- “ Helsinki University – Centre for Activity Theory

## Local Partners

- “ Ministry of Education & Skills Development (MoE&SD) – houses the ten (10) pilot schools
- “ University of Botswana – Signed MoU with HU
- “ Ministry of Communication Science and Technology (MCST) – houses ‘*Maitlamo*’ ICT Policy
- “ Botswana College of Distance Open Learning (BOCODOL) – houses SADC-CDE
- “ Activity Theory Interest Group (ATIG) formed to monitor and guide local activities



# Ritva on BeST Project Research

**THANK YOU FOR LISTENING**

