

E-services implementation to enhance ICT's use in a new environment of e-learning and access to scientific information in Cote d'Ivoire

After the political crisis in Côte d'Ivoire, the educational system was very affected. In 2012, in supplement to the reconstruction of the universities, the Higher education and Scientific Research Ministry was face to several challenges and the main ones were the innovation to manage the increase of the number of students, the enhancement of the quality of learning and the occupational integration.

This vision was also relative to the higher education reform policy adopted by the west african network named "Réseau pour l'Excellence de l'Enseignement Supérieur en Afrique de l'Ouest". So, the Ministry initiated some projects of reforms to enhance the quality of higher education and scientific research by creating new public universities including the last one, the Virtual University. The Virtual University created in 2016, has two main missions : to increase e-learning in the public universities and develop digital learning in communities' s practices in Côte d'Ivoire.

The NREN Côte d'Ivoire, named RITER, is very helpful. Its actions started since 2011 before the creation of the Virtual University, which is in its first academic year(2016-2017). The RITER, supported by the main partners like AAU, AUF, UNESCO-UEMOA, WACREN, etc., engaged in increasing public universities connectivity and enhance access to scientific information in higher education and scientific research in Côte d'Ivoire. Several workshops for researchers, ICTs's engineers and librarians's communities were organised from 2011 to 2016. In addition to the connectivity strengthened between the public universities, the first e-service platform for teachers, researchers and students's communities, the digital library for the higher education and scientific research, was launched by the minister on 11th August 2016.

Meeting WACREN's goals for building educational and research network in Côte d'Ivoire, the RITER's partnership continues to be a great interest to the Virtual University, who's General Director is professor KONE Tiemoman, the co-founder of the RITER. The collaboration with the WACREN grows up the RITER's vision. This vision has srengthened the link with the Virtual University for the implementation of the digital library project. The digital Library, the first e-service, is defined as a space to share, make visible and accessible the research results in Côte d'Ivoire. Its implementation integrates activities of advocacy, digitisation, connectivity, equipments, ICT's engineers and librarians's capacity building. The second platform for e-learning implementation, is still in development.

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