



UNESCO-UNEVOC
Virtual Conference
OER in TVET
9 to 18 November 2017

Webinar
15 November
Pauline Whiteman (NTA T&T)
Alison Mead Richardson (COL)

Pauline Whiteman, National Training Agency Trinidad & Tobago

The development of Open Educational Resources (OER) for the Caribbean Vocational Qualification (CVQ) assessor training.

Open Education Resources (OER) have the potential to reduce costs and increase access to training which ultimately lead to increased participation rates. The aim of this project was to develop OER for CVQ assessor training using a collaborative approach. CARICOM Heads of Government agreed on the establishment of the Caribbean Single Market and Economy (CSME) as one of its response to the challenges and opportunities presented by the global economy. One of the changes brought about by the CSME was the introduction of the CARICOM Certificate of Recognition of Skills Qualifications (CARICOM Skills Certificate) which allows a CARICOM National who possesses a CVQ to move and work freely within the region. The revised CARICOM Regional Strategy for Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) endorsed the CVQ as the TVET credential in CARICOM and identified as key action items, inter alia, the implementation of the CVQ in all institutions and the development of training programmes for TVET instructors and assessors according to approved competency standards. The implementation of the CVQ requires adherence to quality assurance mechanisms inclusive of assessor training and certification based on the Regional Competency Standard Assessment Level IV. Persons identified as assessors and verifiers for the CVQ are required to attend an in-service, 30 hour training workshop at a cost. The development of OER for assessor training involves collaboration among Caribbean National Training Authorities (NTAs) with Commonwealth of Learning (COL) to develop e-learning materials for CVQ assessor training under an open license making them freely available for use by any institution in the Caribbean. The pilot delivery ran from February to June 2017. This project has the potential to standardize and increase access to quality assessor training and reduce costs associated with the implementation of the CVQ. The online assessor training will also be accessible and relevant to all training institutions that utilize the competency-based approach to assessment.

Pauline Whiteman is the Senior Manager, Programme Development & Management Department, National Training Agency Trinidad and Tobago (NTATT) for the past six years. Prior to employment at the NTATT, she taught various Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) subjects at both the secondary and tertiary levels for twenty four (24) years.

Ms. Whiteman was educated at the University of the West Indies (BSc Human Ecology, MPhil Agricultural Extension – Nutrition Education), John. S. Donaldson Technical Institute (National Technician’s Diploma- Home Economics, Craftsmen’s Diploma- Advanced Cookery, Technical Teacher’s Diploma). She has also pursued courses at the International Training Centre, Turin, Italy (Training Policies and Management of Training Systems), University of Wisconsin, Madison (Curriculum Development in Technical Vocational Education) and the United Nations University (Production and Use of Food Composition Data in Nutrition).

She is a Certified Professional Home Economist (CPHE) and currently serves as Assistant Chief Examiner (CAPE Food and Nutrition) with the Caribbean Examinations Council. She has written several articles on the Caribbean Vocational Qualification (CVQ) and has made oral presentations on the CVQ at regional and international conferences. Ms. Whiteman is currently pursuing a PhD in Education at the University of the West Indies.



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Practice from the field in the Commonwealth

COL supports innovation in TVET institutions to bring about change: change in the way teaching and learning happens, change in the way courses are designed and offered, change in organisational structure, and change in the types of students who get an opportunity for skills training. Formal TVET systems are becoming more flexible and responsive to the needs of their local community and OER courses in different media using appropriate technology are an important element in meeting national policy objectives.

TVET OER development and use has been supported in Tuvalu, Samoa, Vanuatu, PNG, Nauru, Kenya, Zambia and Ghana, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka & India as well as St Lucia, Trinidad, Grenada and Barbados.