

Uganda – Belgium Development Cooperation

Improving the training of secondary teachers in National Teachers' College MUNI

Project identification proposal

1. Contextual background

The implementation period of the current Teacher Training Education (TTE) project will end on March 23, 2017 with the Specific Agreement ending on December 05, 2017. The main goal of the TTE project is to provide an improved teaching and learning environment in four teachers' trainings colleges including the National Teachers' College in Muni. Under this project a number of achievements are being realised. However, despite all tangible results, the national teachers' colleges still have huge challenges remaining regarding infrastructure, management and pedagogical skills.

During the special partners committee between Belgium and Uganda held in Kampala on the 14th of October 2014, both countries agreed that an amount of budget support in Education sector shall be reoriented. They decided to allocate EUR 7,500 000 (seven million five hundred thousand) to the National Teachers' College Muni.

In this context, the new proposed project could address the gaps that could not be completed by the TTE project. This proposal is to identify the great lines of the future project.

Background

National Teachers College (NTC) Muni was founded In 1974 as Arua Primary Teachers' College as one of five (5) giant Primary Teachers Colleges in the Country (Kabale, Kaliro, Mubende, Muni, and Unyama) with assistance from United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The construction of the college was interrupted by the Liberation War and civil strife between 1979 and 1985. The construction works were never resumed after the war and some buildings that were started remained unfinished.

In 1983 the college resumed its operations in the unfinished structures as Muni Primary Teachers' College. In 1985, the Primary Teachers College was phased out by the Government and Muni was designated as National Teachers' College Muni (NTC Muni).

As indicated in its mission statement NTC Muni aims to *"create excellent and professional teachers and to promote quality education through excellent and professional programmes."*

The college started with a humble number of 20 students and only 3 permanent academic staff. But over the years the numbers grew tremendously, attaining 855 students and 44 staff in 2014/15. This has created a need for more facilities, especially in the areas of classrooms and halls of residence for students. The decision to convert three classrooms into dormitories for seventy female students is testimony to the dire need for more structures to be erected. The NTCs were initially established to fill the gap left by then traditional teacher training institutions: Makerere and Insitute of Teacher Education

Kyambogo (ITEK). The establishment of Muni has an additional reason: the geographical isolation of the area, particularly after the 1979 war period

The college runs two training programs: a two-year full time program for a diploma in education for secondary (DES) and a three-year part-time (summer) program for a diploma in education for primary (DEP). The teaching is conducted under four departments: Arts, Science, Vocational and Professional studies, and embraces some eighteen subjects. The college started with a physical area of 290.81 acres. In 2012, under a mutual agreement of the stakeholders in the region, 130.77 acres were given to Muni University leaving the NTC with 160.04 acres.

Challenges

At College level:

- Poor Learning facilities & living quarters which cause unsafe living conditions for the students
- Weak management capacities of the college staff in terms of infrastructure and equipment maintenance.
- Weak in-house pedagogic support to be provided to the teachers by the college principals, heads of departments and mentor teachers.

At Central level in relation to the college:

- Weak procurement capacities at the level of the MoES/procurement and Disposal Unit
- Shortfall in the number of staff required to run the institution effectively (procurement officer, cleaners, laboratory assistants, wardens etc.)
- Lack of curriculum harmonisation between the new LS school curriculum and the NTC's teachers training curriculum (DES)
- Weak external pedagogic support from Kyambogo University under the guidance of TIET department at the Ministry of Education and Sports
- Few academic staff being holders of Masters' degree (11/44),
- Lack of teachers, especially in computer science (no one with the required qualifications teaching this subject)

2. The project

2.1. Title of the project: *Improving the training of secondary teachers in National Teachers' College Muni*

2.2 General objective: *To contribute to the increase of quality of and equity in access to post primary education and training level, as part of universal Post-Primary Education and training (UPPET)*

2.3 Specific objective: *to provide an improved teaching and practice-oriented learning facilities sustained by strengthened management and procurement services and by continuous pedagogic support taking into account key cross-cutting issues.*

3. Orientation of the project



The current project will support additional infrastructure and equipment based on the master plan for the future 20 years, developed and approved under the TTE project, and on the scope of works already contracted by the TTE

The project will enhance the quality of teaching and learning through a pedagogical support and Institutional development to improve the management of the college including the procurement services.

The project will address the following cross-cutting issues: gender, HIV/AIDS, Environment through specific results and activities fully integrated in the intervention.

4. Ministry in charge of the project implementation

The Ministry in charge is the Ministry of Education and Sports (MoES). The Department of Teacher Instructor Education Training of MoES (TIET) will coordinate the preparation of the project and will be responsible for its implementation.

5. Geographical location and Beneficiaries

Location:

The NTC Muni is situated in Muni Village, Nyio Parish, Oluko Sub-county, Ayivu County in Arua District in West Nile Sub region which is about 600 kilometres from Kampala. It is located about 6.4Kms south of Arua Town, along the Arua-Packwach highway, two kilometres off the road junction in the north eastern direction.

The main beneficiaries of the project are:

- the college students, education managers, and academic staff
- the Ministry of Education and Sports, in particular the Teachers & Instructors Education and Training department (TIET) and the Procurement & Disposal Unit (PDU).
- Kyambogo University department of secondary education

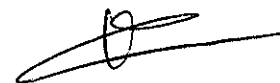
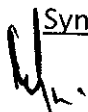
6. Links with the country's Vision 2040, NDP II and relevant MDGs

The project will be implemented in full conformity with the long term strategic vision 2040 and strategic vision for the education sector as laid out in the National Development Plan (NDPII) 2015-2020. The long term vision aims to transform the Ugandan society into a modern and prosperous country within 30 years. Uganda wants to strengthen his competitiveness for sustainable wealth creation, employment and inclusive growth. This objective will be achieved through the improvement of quality education.

One of the interventions designed by the NDP II aims to strengthen the pre-service and in-service training for primary and secondary school teachers and to introduce active teaching and learning in teachers' practice. The project will contribute a lot to this objective.

7. Synergy & coherence with interventions by development partners, in addition to the national objectives of harmonization and alignment.

Synergies with other BTC Uganda education projects



The new lower secondary school curriculum needs to be harmonized with the NTCs teachers training curriculum (DES). It is also important to pursue and consolidate the efforts initiated by TTE project for the instruction of students ' centered active teaching and learning methodologies

These pedagogical activities should be an area of joint programming by all BTC Uganda education projects.

The NTC Muni should also benefit from the new Skills Development for Human Resources project, if the MoES identify it as beneficiary institute.

Synergies with other Bilateral Projects

The project will build synergies with initiatives funded by other donors:

- JICA and Irish Aid: Secondary Science and Mathematics Teachers project (SESEMAT)
- Islamic Development Bank: support to the NTC of Unyama
- World Bank: support to UPPET (new phase)
- African Development Bank: Higher Education Science and Technology program

8. Budget & timeframe

Budget: The Belgian contribution to this intervention is EUR 7,500 000. The Ugandan contribution will be estimated during the formulation

Duration: The operational duration of the intervention is estimated at 4 years (implementation period).

9. Sustainability measures

To guarantee the sustainability of the project results, the project will be implemented under co-management with the Ministry of Education and its activities will be aligned with the Ministry's policies and practices . The TIET department will be empowered to ensure that continuous management and pedagogic support will be provided after the closure of the project by the relevant institutions in charge. At college level, education managers will be enabled to properly manage the college academic & students' affairs, as well as the maintenance of its facilities and equipment.

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