Bandwidth management and optimisation (BMO)

Policy development workshop

Workshop Materials

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Feedback

If you have any comments or suggestions on how this document might be improved please contact Peter Burnett at INASP by e-mail to [pburnett@inasp.info](mailto:pburnett@inasp.info).

Welcome from the Workshop Organisers

Research and educational institutions in developing countries are faced with major obstacles in their use of networked information resources. Costs of bandwidth are disproportionately high and it is costly and difficult to significantly expand international network connectivity (bandwidth). Effective management and optimisation of bandwidth is a key feature of increasing bandwidth availability for research and education purposes and yet the majority of universities in many developing countries take no actions to manage their bandwidth usage. Training, skills and knowledge development are urgently required in this area.

INASP and a range of partners are currently developing and running a series of bandwidth optimisation and management training support activities to be undertaken in this area. This includes training, materials development and knowledge sharing to address the need for bandwidth and management, initially in African universities, and then with universities and research organisations in other regions of the world.

This workshop is based on a series of workshops and capacity development activities that INASP are involved in as part of the “Bandwidth optimisation and management training support (BMO)” programme. This programme is undertaken with generous support of:

* IDRC: This programme is undertaken as the "Supporting training for the optimization of university bandwidth in Africa" undertaken with financial support from the Canada Fund for Africa.
* TENET: DITCHE programme (Developing Information Technology Capacity in Higher Education).

The costs of this workshop in Kenya are being met with funds from both the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) and TENET/DITCHE programme, to whom we are grateful.

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Introduction

A KENET training and briefing workshop on “policy development” to support effective bandwidth management and optimisation (BMO) within a University environment in Kenya. The workshop will be run in conjunction with INASP [<http://www.inasp.info>] and TENET [<http://www.tenet.ac.za/>] and is targeted at KENET members who would like to address key issues of bandwidth management and optimisation at an institutional level.

Content outline

The following content areas will be covered during the workshop.

* Bandwidth management and optimisation (BMO) challenges and solutions overview
* User authentication requirements and features to support effective policy
* The role of a supportive policy environment within BMO and institutional success
* Why policies often fail and characteristics of unsuccessful policy development
* Developing appropriate policies for use in BMO
* Sample policy review and development
* Planning an effective policy development process
* Writing an effective policy
* Implementing policy
* Policy implications and applications in bandwidth management and optimisation

Outcomes

After the workshop all participants will have:

* Examined the importance of a supportive policy environment for successful BMO
* Reviewed key policies and an appropriate policy development framework
* Reviewed BMO supportive policies
* Created an institutional level policy development action plan

Target participants

This workshop is specifically aimed at the following categories of people:

* ICT/Computer centre director and/or deputy director responsible for ICT policy development and implementation
* Other senior staff responsible for the development and implementation of ICT and related policies
* Head librarians or senior library staff who will be involved in the development and implementation of ICT and related policies

Participants should be those people who will actually manage and input into any ICT related policy development work and/or those that will author the actual policy documents. *This is not a technical workshop.*

Participating institutions are invited to nominate up to 2 people that *meet these criteria* and who would usefully benefit from participation in this workshop.

Costs outline

INASP and TENET through a variety of funding sources will cover the costs of participants in the workshop, this will include;

* International facilitators and content for the workshops
* Local workshop costs, lunches, refreshments, etc.
* Accommodation whilst participating in the workshop (if not nearby resident)
* Providing participants with all the necessary supporting materials