Bandwidth management and optimisation

Policy development workshop

Unit 1: Overview of challenges and solutions

Discussion

In this session we will break into small groups and examine issues of bandwidth management and optimization including challenges and solutions (technical and policy-based). We will attempt to examine these issues in light of our experience in managing bandwidth in each of our institutions.

Document Notes

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Summary

On completion of this session the learner will have:

1. Discussed challenges and solutions to bandwidth management and optimization;
2. Compared technical and policy-based solutions to bandwidth management and optimization;
3. Determine which policy-based solutions can be used within your institution.

Expected time to go through all parts of the discussion is 1.5 hours.

Introduction

After the facilitator has introduced some of the challenges and solutions to bandwidth management, any questions regarding these issues can be answered.

Once any unclear issues have been explained, participants examine how the bandwidth management challenge has been dealt with within their institutions (expected time: 45 minutes). Results of this group discussion are shared with all the workshop participants and discussed (expected time: 45 minutes).

Advice on how to carry out each activity is given in Sections 1.1 and 1.2.

Group discussion

Please **break into groups** of 3 to 5 participants each and **reflect on the questions listed below**.

You may want to **nominate a group representative to capture the key points of the discussion on a flipchart sheet** (this person will also present the results of the group discussion to all workshop participants during the plenary discussion).

1. What are the challenges your institution faces in managing bandwidth?
2. What are the solutions you’re using?
3. What solutions would you like to use in addition to what you have now?
4. What challenges do you anticipate in introducing new solutions?

## Plenary discussion

Please (each group representative) **present the results of the group discussion** to all workshop participants. Each presentation should take about 10 minutes. The facilitator will facilitate the discussion.

Groups might like to use the following structure to help them guide their discussions and feedback to the wider group.

**What are the challenges your institution faces in managing bandwidth? Provide details of the top 3-5 issues...**

Issue 1:

Issue 2:

Issue 3:

Issue 4:

Issue 5:

**What are the solutions you’re using to address these issues?**

Solutions:

If no solutions are currently being used, then why is this?

**What solutions would you like to use in addition to what you have now? Sentence or two per solution...**

**What challenges do you anticipate in introducing new solutions? Sentence or two per challenge...**

Conclusion

The purpose of these activities has been to critically reflect on challenges and solutions to bandwidth management. Attention has been paid to experiences of participants within their institutions and reflection on lessons learnt.