

**PRESENTATION AT THE TEACHER TASK
FORCE REGIONAL WEBINAR FOR SUB-
SAHARAN AFRICA ON TEACHING AND
TEACHER ISSUES RELATED TO DISTANCE
EDUCATION AND RETURN TO SCHOOL– THE
UGANDA CASE**

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INTRODUCTION

- Uganda is home to a total population of close to 42m people.
- COVID-19 has affected 15m learners, 73,000 schools, and 538,000 teachers.
- All education institutions closed on 20th March 2020 to-date.
- To-date 253 cases of COVID-19 infected persons have been reported with no deaths
- Plan for re-opening of schools are now underway

CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR RE-OPENING OF SCHOOLS

- Managing anxiety and fears for return to school
- Ensuring safety of learners and education personnel
- Providing psychosocial support to learners and educational personnel
- Ensuring public confidence in the school system

TRAINING AND SOCIO-EMOTIONAL SUPPORT TO IN-SERVICE TEACHERS

- Ensure advance preparation of lessons by teachers
- Involve teachers in preparation for re-opening
- Provide psychosocial support and training to teachers
- Provide close monitoring and support supervision by education managers

STATUS OF DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING

- On-line and digital lessons are going on, mostly benefiting urban-based learners
- Rapid survey of e-learning needs for teachers is urgently needed
- Training of teachers on e-learning methodologies is planned as a must
- Training of teachers of Radio and TV lesson delivery techniques is planned
- Training of teachers on preparation of digital learning materials is planned
- Provision of simple e-learning gadgets to support rural teachers is in plan

MEASURES TO SUPPORT VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

- Focused back-to-school campaigns for girls and other vulnerable groups
- Provision of specialized teaching/learning materials for learners/teachers with special needs
- Supply of self-study materials to technologically disadvantaged populations
- Special focus given to teachers and learners in refugee communities

CONCLUSION

- Teachers need to be paid their salaries to meet their personal needs
- Teachers need to be included in planning for school
- Teachers need psychosocial and professional support
- Teachers need to be trained in distance learning technologies

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

