Worlddidac Member (Labtech International and Labtech Academy) Contribution to EdTech and Tech solutions in Africa

Labtech International is pleased to offer the following teacher training programs as a grant of approximately USD 100,000 to be provided over 2-Years to get the program initiated. The grant is based upon the host government matching the grant amount. Detailed costings (proposals) will be provided once the agreed programs have been accepted in principle. A custom branded TVET LMS would be provided to monitor the training and impact it is having on TVET Teachers in the region. Labtech is offering to support Africa in transitioning by using new and effective tools and content for digital learning for TVET subjects.

Since the Covid Pandemic, many educational institutions are trying to move toward digital learning but struggle to find good platforms, and effective content and improve teacher skills on how to use and implement digital learning. Labtech proposes that several suitable countries can be identified that are willing to develop their digital learning. This program could also be done in conjunction with the African Union on a regional basis. Teachers and Teacher Development is the key to transformation and it is vital that good professional development programs are deployed to support teachers, especially during this time.

The implementation can be based at a host Educational TVET Institution (ideally a TVET Teacher Training Institution), A center or department for Digital and online learning can be set up, a teacher upgrading program implemented, platforms for student learning set up and initial content provided. This can be the first step in creating Digital Learning centers that can be linked together across Africa with Universities in Asia that are having similar programs.

These Digital learning tools can be used for: Engaging students at existing schools with the latest technologies, simulations, and applied to learning. Also, it can be used for remote learning. Upgrading teacher skills in blending and online learning. The content can also evolve to provide another way to upgrade and benchmark the teacher's subject knowledge and improve their capabilities with the latest technologies.

We have listed three types of programs that can be initially considered. We invite discussion with the African Union to refine this concept to ensure that it meets the needs of Africa. Labtech is currently doing similar training for 16 countries in Asia together with the Colombo Plan Staff College which is a regional IGO. The program is halfway and when complete it will have training 500 to 600 teachers. It has received very high reviews and evaluations. Please see the attached documentation for further information.

1. **In-Country Program (Selected Country in Africa)** – This is a Train the Trainers program in a relevant subject area on how to use Virtual TVET. This is an **online or face-to-face training** program and includes 6-Months access to the Labtech Academy (see attached Flyer) for the relevant subject area. If online the training will be done through synchronous online activities ('virtual live' e-learning sessions) like presentations and sharing sessions, demonstration of training tools, activities, and facilitated group and panel discussions to be conducted by Labtech Academy. (Please see the attached information sheet and sample program schedule on In-Country Programs)
Note: The plan is to create champion TVET teachers so they can understand and train others on how to implement 21st century learning using Virtual TVET.

2. **Regional Program (Multiple Countries in Africa)** - This is a Train the Trainers program in a relevant subject area on how to use Virtual TVET. This is an **online or face-to-face training** and includes 12-Months access to the Labtech Academy (see attached flyer) for the relevant subject area. Training will be done through synchronous online activities ('virtual live' e-learning sessions) like presentations and sharing sessions, demonstration of training tools, activities, and facilitated group and panel discussions to be conducted by Labtech Academy. (Please see the attached information sheet and sample program schedule on Regional Programs)
Note: The plan is to create champion TVET teachers so they can understand and train others on how to implement 21st century learning using Virtual TVET.

3. **MOOCS** – A series of web-based learning (WBL) modules to continue the capacity building of TVET teachers over a period of 12-months. This type of delivery is suitable for reaching teachers across many countries on a mass scale. It can even be presented as a series of courses for teacher development that can upgrade their skills in using new technologies for teaching and learning. The MOOC approach will enable the teachers to learn at their own pace and at times of their choosing. It is possible that this could also evolve into creating a community for teachers using digital learning so that they exchange information and share their experiences and resources.

Note: The plan encourages teachers across Africa to develop their skills and talents in using digital and online teaching resources and materials.