



*Erasmus+ Programme (ERASMUS)*

## **GOT**

### ***Building Capacity for Online Tuition in Ghana***

Type of Action: Capacity Building in the field of Higher Education: Strand 2 - Partnerships for transformation in higher education.

Topic: ERASMUS-EDU-2022-CBHE-STRAND-2

Grant Agreement no: 101082794

Website: <https://projects.tuni.fi/got>

### **Risk Assessment report (Deliverable D9.1)**

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December 2023

Start date of the project: January 1, 2023. Duration: Three years

Revision: 1.0

Project funded by the European Commission within the Erasmus-2022 Capacity Building in the field of Higher Education: Strand 2 - Partnerships for transformation in higher education.

Dissemination Level

PU: Public

## **Project consortium**

- Tampere Research Center for Information and Media, Tampere University (TAU), Finland.
- Center of Excellence in Educational Innovation, Tallinn University (TLU), Estonia.
- Information and Communication Technology Education, University of Education, Winneba (UEW) Ghana.
- Mathematics and ICT Education, University of Cape Coast (UCC), Cape Coast, Ghana.

## **Notices**

For information, please contact Christopher Yarkwah (cyarkwah@ucc.edu.gh). This document is intended to fulfil the contractual obligations of the GOT project concerning deliverable D9.1 described in contract 101082794.

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## **Author, Beneficiary**

- Tampere University (TAU)-coordinator
- Tallinn University (TLU)-partner
- University of Education, Winneba (UEW) -partner
- University of Cape Coast (UCC) - partner

## **Executive Summary**

The global breakout of the COVID-19 pandemic has presented unprecedented challenges for higher education institutions worldwide. Ghana recorded its first case of the coronavirus on March 12, 2020. Consequently, the government implemented several measures, including the enforcement of a lockdown on all educational institutions, to mitigate the rapid transmission of the virus within the country. The nationwide lockdown caused a disruption to the academic schedule of all institutions, including the University of Cape Coast (UCC) and the University of Education, Winneba (UEW). As a result, these universities had to come up with innovative teaching methods to overcome the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic and effectively complete the 2019/2020 academic year. Moreover, the pandemic presented these institutions with a chance to establish resilient educational technology infrastructures that are both effective and sustainable. In other words, there is a chance to change the path of digital delivery in Ghana's higher education institutions and create a successful digital learning strategy in sub-Saharan Africa. In order to enhance the provision of digital education, it is imperative to meticulously devise and develop novel pedagogical methods that are customised to diverse educational settings. The project will result in the development of an action plan guided by

educational research, which will include the building of a delivery system and training. This initiative will foster the progress of digital educational innovation and research at UCC and UEW. The objective of the initiative is to promote the utilisation of data-driven and evidence-based methodologies in digital education by UCC and UEW. This will significantly influence the utilisation of digital technologies throughout the entire system and how teachers and students employ these tools to cater to the requirements of all individuals.

## **1. Risk Identification**

### **1.1 Technological Challenges**

**Description:** Limited access to technology and reliable internet services in certain regions of Ghana.

**Impact:** Potential delays in project implementation and unequal access to digital learning resources.

**Mitigation:** Prioritize regions with better technological infrastructure, explore alternative technologies, and collaborate with local telecommunication providers.

### **1.2 Training and Capacity Building**

**Description:** Resistance to change among educators and insufficient training resources.

**Impact:** Inadequate utilization of digital tools and potential project failure.

**Mitigation:** Develop a comprehensive training program, engage educators early in the planning phase, and provide ongoing support and resources.

### **1.3 Data Security and Privacy**

**Description:** Risks associated with handling student data and ensuring data privacy.

**Impact:** Potential breaches leading to loss of trust and legal consequences.

**Mitigation:** Implement robust data security measures, comply with relevant data protection regulations, and conduct regular audits of data handling practices.

### **1.4 Financial Risks**

**Description:** Unforeseen budgetary constraints and fluctuations in currency exchange rates.

**Impact:** Project delays, reduced scope, or financial strain on stakeholders.

**Mitigation:** Regularly review and update the project budget, establish contingency funds, and monitor currency exchange rates to anticipate potential financial challenges.

### **1.5 Stakeholder Engagement**

**Description:** Insufficient collaboration and communication with key stakeholders. This would stem from not involving key players right from the onset of the project.

**Impact:** Misalignment of project goals, resistance, or lack of support from key stakeholders in the institution or organization.

*Mitigation:* Develop a robust communication plan, establish clear channels for feedback, and regularly engage with key stakeholders to ensure their involvement and understanding in the project right from the beginning to the end.

## 2. Risk Assessment Matrix

Risk Event	Likelihood	Impact	Severity	Mitigation Strategy
Technological Challenges	Moderate	High	High	Prioritize regions with better infrastructure, explore alternative technologies, and collaborate with local providers.
Training and Capacity Building	Moderate	High	High	Develop a comprehensive training program, engage educators early, and provide ongoing support and resources.
Data Security and Privacy	Low	High	Moderate	Implement robust data security measures, comply with regulations, and conduct regular audits.
Financial Risks	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Regularly review and update the budget, establish contingency funds, and monitor currency exchange rates.
Stakeholder Engagement	Low	High	Moderate	Develop a robust communication plan, establish clear channels for feedback, and regularly engage with key stakeholders to ensure their involvement and understanding in the project right from the beginning to the end.

### 2.1 Risk Response Plan

The following activities will be performed as a risk response plan to achieve the project's set goals and objectives:

- i. Establish a dedicated project team to monitor and manage risks throughout the project lifecycle.
- ii. Conduct regular risk assessments and update the risk register accordingly.
- iii. Maintain open communication channels to promptly identify and address emerging risks.
- iv. Develop contingency plans for high-severity risks to minimize their impact on the project.

## 3. Conclusion

This risk assessment report provides an overview of potential risks associated with the "Building Digital Learning Capacity in Ghana" project. By implementing the suggested mitigation strategies and closely monitoring the identified risks, the project team aims to ensure successful project delivery and the realization of its objectives.