

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PERSPECTIVES AND INNOVATIONS IN OPEN AND DISTANCE LEARNING

1-3 APRIL 2024, NIOS CAMPUS, NOIDA, INDIA

ORGANISED BY THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF OPEN SCHOOLING (NIOS) AND
THE COMMONWEALTH EDUCATIONAL MEDIA CENTRE FOR ASIA (CEMCA)

**CLOSING REMARKS AND BRIEF STATEMENT ON THE
OUTCOMES OF THE CONFERENCE**

B. SHADRACH
DIRECTOR, CEMCA
BSHADRACH@COL.ORG



OBJECTIVES OF THE CONFERENCE

- To bring actors together to deliberate upon critical issues underpinning the education and skills landscape.
- To discuss if and how the Open and Distance Learning modes of educational delivery and skilling can be harnessed.
- To focus specially on the various pillars of education and skilling ecosystem that concern the ODL practice.
 - Policy frameworks and practices (in ODL)
 - Technology-enabled learning (in ODL)
 - Pedagogical approaches (in ODL)
 - Inclusive access, equity and quality (in ODL)
 - Provision of vocational education and skills (through ODL)
 - International collaboration (in ODL)



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OBJECTIVES OF THE CONFERENCE

- To identify best practices and innovations
 - that enable the ODL stakeholders to seize opportunities
 - that address challenges and help leapfrog institutions to achieve results
- To further identify forward looking strategies to help governments achieve goals
 - Contribution to national priorities
 - Close Supply and Demand 'gap'
 - Meeting people's aspirations
 - Fulfilling International commitments
- To develop mechanisms of collaboration for strengthening the ODL practice in achieving common goals
 - National level collaboration across systems, institutions and actors
 - International collaboration for workers' mobility, equivalency, resource sharing and global citizenry



OUTCOME STATEMENTS

EMERGING FROM THE CONFERENCE



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DELIBERATIONS ARE NECESSARY AND THE NEED OF THE HOUR

250+ Participants

50+ invited speakers

100+ Researchers

5 nations of the Commonwealth

Hybrid mode of deliberations

Collaborative efforts of NIOS and CEMCA





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- Provision of vocational education and skills (through ODL)
- International collaboration (in ODL)
- To identify best practices and innovations
- To further identify forward looking strategies to help governments achieve goals
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KEY TAKE AWAYS



GATHER EVIDENCE

To demonstrate effectiveness



STRENGTHEN INSTITUTIONS

For tomorrow and the day after



COLLECTIVE ADVOCACY

Have a stronger and cohesive voice nationally and globally



PLAN CONTINUALLY

Move away from the comfort zone and have higher and SMART goals



ACHIEVE TARGETS

Coordinate actions and achieve results with whole-hearted participation



POSITION YOURSELF

Command respect and seal your place



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TWO SETS OF MAJOR OPPORTUNITIES

International collaboration

- Resource sharing amongst participating nations and institutions for public good and global citizenry
- Internationalisation in the 'Open' education domain can exemplify our national achievements
- Keep looking around for best practices and best-fit solutions
- Mobility of students and workers is good for development
- Work, workers and workplaces are changing; we need to prepare the future workforce for the future of work

National level actions

- Close the gap between national and provincial systems in Open Schooling
- Become a consortium of open schooling system
- Close the gap between 'Open' schooling and 'Open' tertiary education systems to find seamless transition
- Become flexible in programming
 - Academic excellence; Pursuance of interests; Developing appropriate skills for employment; Self-actualisation
- National policies and International instruments serve as a guiding force for achieving results

IN CLOSING

NIOS has been a great leader in the Open Education domain, not just in India, but globally.

CEMCA joining hands with NIOS brings about global dimension as well as the interface between schooling and tertiary education system in ODL.

Conferences produce ideas but collective actions produce results; Collaboration is key to achieving outcomes.

Undertake well planned impactful programmes and demonstrate results

There is a need for bringing many other actors to become stronger

It is time to pat on each others' back and celebrate success

But, the opportunities are huge and the challenges are too many; let us continue the journey!



THANK YOU

B. Shadrach

bshadrach@col.org

