Editorial

Huria J. Volume XIII is a Special Issue of the Journal. This Volume exclusively contains 38 selected papers which were presented at the 3rd ACDE (African Council for Distance Education) Conference and General Assembly which was held in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania on 12th to 15th July, 2011. Altogether 59 papers were presented at the Conference. The papers were peer-reviewed and only those which were found to be of good quality and which conformed to the Huria Journal Format were accepted for Publication in Huria Journal Volume XIII. The ACDE mandated Huria Journal to peer review and Publish the Conference and the Huria Editorial Board wishes to thank ACDE for entrusting this job to Huria Journal.

Papers in this Volume cover a wide range of interesting issues and topics and were written by seasoned University academics from six countries in Africa. In this Volume the papers are arranged according to the Five Subthemes of the Conference whose main Theme was "Bridging the Development Gap in Africa through Open ND Distance Learning".

The Subthemes
1. Quality Assurance in Open and Distance Education
Under this sub-theme, there are six papers which were accepted for publication. The authors presented current developments in the establishment of Quality Assurance systems in ODL institutions. The papers cover areas of monitoring and evaluation of ODL systems, Learner support services in ODL and the Role of ICT in quality assurance in ODL.

2. E-Learning and Open Educational Resources (OERs)
Under this subtheme nine papers were accepted for publication. The paper cover aspects of access to E-learning and open educational resources. Other papers cover experiences in existing partnership in developing OER's Copyright issues and OERs World trends in OERs, Current developments in E-learning in developing countries, Emerging, present and future challenges for the development of E-learning, platforms for delivery of e-learning and Research experiences in e-learning.

3. Capacity Building and Partnership
The sub-theme focused on capacity Building for management of ODL, as well as for the development of learning resources. Nine papers were accepted for publication under the subtheme. Papers are on research in ODL past, present and future trends and the role of ODL including   challenges and opportunities for postgraduate training through ODL.

4. Professional Training and Development through ODL
The sub-theme covered various aspects of professional training and development through ODL, to including short course programmes for development and Demand driven postgraduate programmes. There are five papers in this category which were accepted for publication. The authors presented current world trends in the training science and technical professionals through ODL.

5. ODL for special and Vulnerable Groups
The sub-theme focused on Access, Success and Equity with respect to ODL for learners with special needs, such as nomadic groups, refugees and inmates. The theme also included

Aspects of Gender mainstreaming in ODL. There are nine papers in this category which were accepted for publication.

Prof. Uswege Minga
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