

Selected Programmes and Courses

Degree level:

- Educational Leadership MEd
- Business and Entrepreneurship BBE*
- Environmental Management for Sustainable Development BSc*
- Youth Development Work BA*

**Exit points at certificate and diploma levels*

Diploma level:

- Postgraduate Diploma in Education
- Postgraduate Diploma in Research and Evaluation
- Diploma in Sustainable Agriculture for Small States

Certificate level:

- Training Educators to Design and Develop ODL Materials
- Facilitating Online Instruction
- Developing and Teaching Online Courses
- Tour Guiding
- Sustainable Tourism
- Disaster Management
- Introduction to the Blue Economy
- Introduction to Diplomacy
- Port Management – Stevedoring
- Life Skills
- Starting Your Own Business

Join the virtual education revolution

By expanding access to learning, VUSSC enables small states to become active contributors to global development and leaders in educational reform through the innovative use of information and communication technologies (ICT).

The Commonwealth of Learning actively seeks partnership with educational institutions and development agencies in support of VUSSC course content creation and delivery.

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VUSSC

The Virtual University for Small States of the Commonwealth

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Expanding Access to Quality Learning Opportunities

Small states can actively contribute to global development and lead educational reform through the innovative use of information and communications technologies (ICT).

What Is VUSSC?

The Virtual University for Small States of the Commonwealth (VUSSC) is a network of small countries that work together to develop and share free content for post-secondary, skills-related courses in tourism, entrepreneurship, disaster management, life skills, use of information and communication technologies, and small fisheries management. VUSSC countries have also collaborated to develop degree programmes in Educational Leadership, Environmental Management for Sustainable Development and Youth Development Work. This course content is non-proprietary and is readily adaptable for use within the specific context of other countries in online, blended and face-to-face modalities.

Sharing Resources

VUSSC encourages the transfer and sharing of learning materials through the use of Creative Commons copyright licences. Our courses are available free to post-secondary educational institutions and agencies.

Participating Countries

Participating countries include 32 small states, which make up two-thirds of the countries in the Commonwealth. Most of these small states support a national university or college with its own courses, faculty and administration. VUSSC works with these national institutions to develop and share course content. By sharing available resources, VUSSC helps to increase the number of courses offered in these smaller countries and enables the transfer of credits and qualified people between countries.

Transferring Credit

Credit is transferred through a course and credit sharing mechanism called the Transnational Qualifications Framework. This allows participating countries to adapt VUSSC courses and then offer them in other contexts. The institutions that offer the courses accredit them locally.

Building Capacity

VUSSC also works with participating countries to build capacity and expertise in online facilitation, ODL implementation, eLearning and information and communication technologies (ICT) in general. As a result, VUSSC increases the human-resource capacity that enables small states of the Commonwealth to participate effectively in global economies and thrive as equal members of the world community.

Training and Support

VUSSC draws on an international team of experts keen to support educators as each educational institution begins to participate. Hands-on training sessions focus on the key points educators need to know to create, deliver and share VUSSC course content.

We offer:

- Face-to-face, online and blended training
- Online collaboration
- Online discussion forums
- Resource materials



Capacity Building · Learner Support · Quality Assurance · Networking · Policy Development