

## RESPOND

# SUCCESS STORY – EAST CONGO

### Improving disease outbreak surveillance, response and associated training through e-learning



EPT RESPOND-sponsored training of MUSK implementation team in Kampala.

In line with its objective to introduce appropriate technologies to improve disease outbreak surveillance, response and associated training, EPT RESPOND, in collaboration with Makerere University School of Public Health (MUSPH), created a dynamic multimedia e-learning platform and knowledge management system. Called Makerere University Sciences Knowledgebase (MUSK), the objectives of this initiative include:

- enhancing co-curricula development through sharing of teaching materials;
- creating knowledgebase for different academic disciplines;
- improving access to journals and teaching materials;
- improving communication between students and academic staff;
- improving use of multimedia in teaching and learning.

The initiative is being implemented at two locations, MUSPH and College of Veterinary Medicine (COVAB). The development of MUSK was based on the successful model at Tufts University called Tufts University Sciences Knowledgebase (TUSK).

The platform was launched in June 2011, attended by about 80 students and faculty from both schools. Two support staff from Makerere received training at Tufts University and a team of eight implementing staff were trained at Makerere. More than 120 faculty and students were trained to use the platform on a one-on-one approach in the period of July to September, 2011.

## MUSK to-date:

- 80 students and faculty attend MUSK launch
- 2 support staff trained at Tufts University
- Makerere implementation team of 8 trained
- 120 faculty and students trained to use MUSK
- 535 faculty and students on MUSK platform
- 565 files with teaching materials uploaded
- 17 academic programs or departments with folders on MUSK
- 366 courses have folders on MUSK
- New servers procured and installed at MUSPH & COVAB

Since its launch, more than 500 faculty and students (71%) enrolled on the platform. In addition, more than 500 files with teaching materials have been uploaded at both campuses. With RESPOND support, two servers were procured and installed at MUSPH and COVAB with additional procurements for a microwave relay between the two schools.

This platform is already increasing curriculum co-development and knowledge sharing between public health and veterinary professionals at Makerere.