

## **Online Learning Platform Created to Help Students practice and study for the NPSE, BECE, & WASSCE Examination in Sierra Leone**

TpISENT launches a new platform (<https://mooc.edu.sl>) on Wednesday to help students in Sierra Leone obtain better passing scores in national and regional exams. Trained, experienced and qualified teachers develop and validate content. The tool will improve online teaching and learning in the post-COVID-19 era.

In recent years, the country has made gains in student enrollment, but the educational level and skills acquisition are among the lowest in West Africa. In our studies, we note that content is not easily accessible, or if they are, it's via private lessons. Many of these pupils from poor households cannot afford these private lessons. However, many of them have access to smartphones they use for communications and entertainment. Why not use them for learning?

This initiative, entitled West African Open Educational Platform, meets a critical global trend that renders it even more imperative than usual. Here are few important reasons why we must act now:

- In the advent of COVID-19, schools have been closed and private lessons minimized leaving a vast number of students unprepared for upcoming national and regional exams.
- Over 300,000 young Sierra Leoneans will potentially benefit from this platform.
- The access to quality and competent learning material becomes universal and free to all students who have a mobile phone, tablet, laptop or desktop computer.
- The government of Sierra Leone has free quality education as their flagship product and this platform augments that.

Following the official launch of the Platform on July 1, 2020, the CEO of TpISENT, Mr. Tamba Lamin, said to his team of staff, volunteers, teachers and audience, "Enjoy, and help us make education great again in Sierra Leone." It is no secret that the Fourah Bay College, part of The University of Sierra Leone used to be the "Athens of West Africa". During this period, they saw an influx of students from other West African countries such as Nigeria, Ghana, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, etc. eager to be educated in Sierra Leone. Over the years we've seen poor quality and decline in education within the country. With the West Africa Open Education Platform and the CEO's vision to improve education in Sierra Leone, we expect to improve that by providing not only access to quality educational resources but sustainable tools and methods that will once again restore the quality of our educational system starting from primary to university level

TpISENT is an ICT and management consultancy firm that wants to revolutionize the technological landscape of the country. The launching of this learning platform is not the first time the company has embarked on such national initiatives. In 2018, they got invited to an Open Data Charter conference in Argentina to present what they accomplished during the 2018 elections in Sierra Leone. As a leading ICT and innovation company in Sierra Leone, the plan is to make the country specifically, and the world at large, a little better than we found it.

More information can be found at the following web pages:

<https://waoedup.org/>, <https://www.facebook.com/waoedup>, <https://twitter.com/waoedup>