

COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT  
EDUCATION SECTION

CONCLUDING REPORT ON THE FIRST ROUND OF  
THE COMMONWEALTH EDUCATION GOOD PRACTICE AWARDS 2006

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Background:

Ministers at 15<sup>th</sup> Conference of Commonwealth Education Ministers (CCEM) agreed to promote best practice in the 6 Commonwealth education Action Areas of the Edinburgh Action Plan, recommending that the 16<sup>th</sup> CCEM should be the first occasion for the recognition of these good and promising practices in education.

Following discussion of the Awards programme at each of the 3 Education Mid-Term reviews held in 2005, the launch of the programme was announced through the Commonwealth website on October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2005. Brochures providing details of the programme and newsletters were sent to all 53 member countries and civil society partners in education indicating a closing date of March 31, 2006 for the first round of submissions. By closing date 47 submissions had been received from a total of 19 member countries and unfortunately, many other submissions were received after this date which could not be considered.

Initial round of short-listing: April 12, 2006

The first round of short-listing was undertaken by a panel of four persons comprising representatives from the Australian, Barbadian and Kenyan High Commissions, spanning three of the regions of the Commonwealth and a representative of the Commonwealth Teachers Group. This first short-listing panel felt that there was clear evidence of interesting, innovative and creative practices which conformed to the criteria. They acknowledged that in general the reasons why certain submissions did *not* meet and satisfy the criteria were due to a lack of presentation and focus; lack of evidence of good practice; lack of implementation; lack of evidence of measurable impact and effect and the evidence of private sector submissions which could not be considered as per the Awards guidelines.

This Panel agreed to the selection of 21 Good Practices which follow hereunder:

Numbering does not reflect ranking but the original number assigned to the submission on its receipt.

1.	The Junka and Noo Programme	Ministry of Education, Science and Technology	BAHAMAS
2.	The Speak English Campaign	Ministry of Education	BRUNEI DARUSSALAM
7.	Educational Innovations carried forward by the School Unit after acceptance in the Educational priority Zone of the Ministry of Culture and Education of the Republic of Cyprus	18 <sup>th</sup> Agio-Lemosos Primary School	CYPRUS
8.	The Scholarship Trust Fund for Girls	Department of State for Education	THE GAMBIA
9.	Training Untrained Teachers in Ghana	Ministry of Education and Sports	GHANA
10.	Using IT Tools to Teach Visually Challenged Children in Sikkim	National Association for the Blind	INDIA
12.	Adolescent Girl's Health Education Project	BMSS Mumbai	INDIA
13.	Strengthening the Public Education	BMSS Mumbai	INDIA
16.	Advancing Lessons from Udaan – Addressing Challenges faced by Vulnerable Children	CARE India	INDIA
18.	Sanitary Towels Campaign	Girl Child Network	KENYA
22.	Home Grown School Feeding and Health Programme	Federal Ministry of Nigeria	NIGERIA
23.	Eliminating Gender Disparities in Secondary Education...and Resource Centres	Alif Laila Book Bus Society	PAKISTAN
24.	The Seychelles School Improvement	Ministry of Education and Youth	SEYCHELLES
28.	Early Childhood Development Enrichment Centre Pilot project	Centre for Early Childhood Development	SOUTH AFRICA
33.	Khanya	Western Cape Education Department	SOUTH AFRICA
34.	In-Service training of educators undertaking the Advanced Certificate in education	University of Pretoria	SOUTH AFRICA
35.	Orphans, Educators, Practitioners and Guardian Aids Project	The Art Therapy Centre – Lefika laphodisa	SOUTH AFRICA

36.	Supporting Education in Difficult Circumstances	Generation of leaders Discovered Peer Education Development Agency	SOUTH AFRICA
39..	The Woolworths Trust EduPlant Programme	Food and Trees for Africa	SOUTH AFRICA
40.	Persona Dolls Life Skills Project: Making a Difference	Education Dept. of the Western Cape Province and NGO, Persona Doll Training	SOUTH AFRICA
47.	Black Boys Can	National Black Boys Association	UNITED KINGDOM

### Second Round of Adjudication – Pan-Commonwealth Teleconference – July 5, 2006

The second round of adjudication to select the finalists for the third and final round was held on July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2006. The process took the form of a pan-Commonwealth teleconference which was chaired by the Director General of Education in South Africa, Mr Duncan Hindle who flew in from South Africa especially for the event. Through the facilitation of the Commonwealth Association for Public Administration and Management (CAPAM) who run their own Innovation Awards programme and who had been providing the Commonwealth Secretariat with technical assistance on the awards since January 2006, a teleconference was arranged through Bell Canada which enabled the following adjudicators to discuss and evaluate submissions from their various Commonwealth locations despite the varying time zones:

- Duncan Hindle (Chair) – South Africa
- Keratile Thabana – Lesotho
- Marlene Hamilton – Jamaica
- David Plummer – Trinidad and Tobago
- Asha Kanwar – The Commonwealth of Learning, Vancouver
- Vrinda Sarup – India

Alan Jogioba of Papua New Guinea was unable to be contacted by telephone but had sent his scores of the project in advance.

In this round the adjudicators selected nine finalists from the short-list of 21. They advised that there were a number of points which they wished to be conveyed to both the finalists and those who had not made it into the final round and this was undertaken by the Secretariat by letter. These points included the fact that despite evidence of the high standard of many of the submissions:

- Some projects did not adhere closely to the criteria for the awards.
- several projects lacked clear demonstration of the impact and effect of the initiative.

Other projects had been submitted at too early a stage to receive the serious consideration of the panel and were recommended for submission in a later round of the awards.

### **Final Adjudication – December 6 -7, 2006**

The final adjudication for the awards was conducted in Cape Town immediately prior to the 16<sup>th</sup> CCEM in Cape Town, South Africa. The adjudication panel comprised the same members as those who had participated in the July 2006 teleconference excepting for the representatives from the Commonwealth of Learning, India and Lesotho. The panel of 5 chaired by Mr Duncan Hindle heard 9 submissions over the two days and following final deliberations, agreed on three winners by the conclusion of the second day.

The list of finalists follows:

*Numbering does not reflect ranking but the original number assigned to the submission on its receipt.*

#	TITLE	ORGANIZATION	COUNTRY
7.	Educational Innovations carried forward by the School Unit after acceptance in the Educational priority Zone of the Ministry of Culture and Education of the Republic of Cyprus	18 <sup>th</sup> Agio-Lemosos Primary School	CYPRUS
8.	The Scholarship Trust Fund for Girls	Department of State for Education	THE GAMBIA
9.	Training Untrained Teachers in Ghana	Ministry of Education and Sports	GHANA
16.	Advancing Lessons from Udaan – Addressing Challenges faced by Vulnerable Children	CARE India	INDIA
23.	Eliminating Gender Disparities in Secondary Education...and Resource Centres	Alif Laila Book Bus Society	PAKISTAN
24.	The Seychelles School Improvement Programme	Ministry of Education and Youth	SEYCHELLES
28.	Early Childhood Development Enrichment Centre Pilot project	Centre for Early Childhood Development	SOUTH AFRICA

35.	Orphans, Educators, Practitioners and Guardian Aids Project	The Art Therapy Centre – Lefika laphodisa	SOUTH AFRICA
36.	Supporting Education in Difficult Circumstances	Generation of leaders Discovered Peer Education Development Agency	SOUTH AFRICA

**Stakeholders Forum presentations:**

Finalists also presented their projects to the Stakeholders Forum of 16CCEM on the final afternoon of the Forum at 16CCEM.

**Presentation of Awards:**

All finalists were presented with a Nelson Mandela medallion by the Honourable Naledi Pandor at the Secretary General's cocktail party held on December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2006.

The 16CCEM Closing Ceremony was selected as the opportunity to acknowledge and recognise the Winners who were presented with tokens from the Commonwealth Secretariat which were presented to them by Deputy Secretary General Ransford Smith. They were:

- First Place - **Generation of Leaders Discovered (GoLD) Peer Education Development Agency – SOUTH AFRICA**
- Second Place - **Educational Innovations carried forward by the School Unit after acceptance in the Educational priority Zone of the Ministry of Culture and Education of the Republic of Cyprus - CYPRUS**
- Third Place - **Advancing Lessons from Udaan – Addressing Challenges faced by Vulnerable Children - INDIA**

**December 2006**