

## Helping Tuvalu fill the skills gap

With support from COL, 40 trainees from Tuvalu's Public Works Department (TPWD) are now on their way to gaining formal qualifications in trades. They are part of the first cohort to benefit from the Building Construction and Allied Trades Skills programme, offered by the Tuvalu Atoll Science and Technology Training Institute (TASTTI). COL has been working with TASTTI to build its capacity to deliver trades training using digital resources. Close to 200 persons have already benefited from a training programme with modules on literacy, numeracy, painting, working with timber and working with concrete. The programme uses COL's basic trades training OER. As a result, 45% of TPWD's current workers responsible for maintaining the country's public infrastructure are expected to gain formal qualifications through a blend of workplace and distance learning.



## Professionalising youth work in The Bahamas

COL has partnered with The Bahamas Ministry of Education, The Bahamas Technical and Vocational Institute, Mount Pleasant Green Baptist Church (The Bahamas) and Lakehead University (Canada) in a new project, 'Supporting Youth Development: Professionalising Youth Workers in The Bahamas.' Building on the success of a similar initiative in the Pacific, the project will focus on developing a suite of micro-courses for youth workers and leaders, with a view to their rapid upskilling. The virtual project launch featured a panel with the participation of the Honourable Jeffrey Lloyd, Minister of Education.



## Online course development for SWAYAM



CEMCA offered a two-week MOOC to faculty of higher education institutions in India to build their capacity in developing courses for the SWAYAM learning platform. 'Development of Online Courses for SWAYAM' was initiated following the call by India's University Grants Commission for educators to submit expressions of interest for creating undergraduate and postgraduate courses for the platform. Developed in partnership with experts from the Netaji Subhas Open University, Kolkata, the MOOC introduced learners to the framework for course development and provided step-by-step guidelines. More than 390 participants from higher education institutions joined the MOOC launch.

## COL at South-South online fair



COL's successes in blending online with workplace learning and assessment for practical skills were presented at the recent Skills Virtual Fair: South-South, hosted by the International Labour Organization. The fair aimed to identify innovative solutions for specific skills-development challenges, particularly in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. Representatives from Yaba College of Technology in Nigeria and Luanshya Technical Business College in Zambia described how COL is helping build their training capacity, with a view to meeting the challenge of implementing technical and vocational education at a distance. COL supports south-south co-operation through an online community of practice, and there is further potential to increase scale and affordability by sharing digital OER and collaborating across countries for training.