

Uganda eases the strain on learning materials

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“LEARNING FROM LIBRARIANS ABOUT PRACTICAL PROBLEMS IN GETTING EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS INTO THE HANDS OF STUDENTS AND ACADEMICS HELPS TO INFORM OUR POLICY-MAKING LEADING TO LEGISLATION **THAT BETTER SUITS LOCAL NEEDS.**”

-PAUL OKIRIG, SENIOR STATE ATTORNEY, MINISTRY OF JUSTICE AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS

Copyright workshop with local librarians, July 2012

Objectives

- Initiate a process of copyright law reform in Uganda.
- Include the library community in a network of civil society advocates.
- Promote Creative Commons initiatives among libraries in Uganda.
- Maintain a website for continued communication on the project issues.

Achievements

- ✓ Started a campaign for reform of copyright law for access to learning materials with key stakeholders, created a solidarity group for the extension of the WTO TRIPS waiver for LDCs.
- ✓ We brought together two key ministries (Justice and Trade) to start a discussion about the use of flexibilities in our copyright law and started a dialogue with Members of Parliament, a first step towards getting a sponsor to lead amendments through the parliamentary process.
- ✓ For the first time, we engaged the library community in the reform process. Together we succeeded in putting copyright initiatives on the agenda of government and university policy makers.
- ✓ We developed information briefs for advocacy meetings with librarians, policy makers, legislators and university vice-chancellors.

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Read the case study: <http://www.eifl.net/case-study-copyright-reform-uganda>



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