

# Impact of COVID-19 on Land Administration and Surveying Education: Online Education - Experiences from Eight Universities in Africa

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## SUMMARY

The purpose of universities is to train skilled individuals who can work in various sectors related to land administration, such as government agencies, land management organizations, surveying and mapping firms, consulting firms or other. Universities play a crucial role in land administration by offering professional development programs that teach theoretical knowledge, practical skills, and critical thinking abilities. These programs aim to support land reforms and contribute to the establishment of an efficient and sustainable land administration system. Accordingly, university curricula typically combine theoretical knowledge with practical training, allowing students to develop the necessary skills to work in the field. In 2020, the Covid-19 pandemic led to a significant disruption in the traditional face to face methods of teaching for both theory and practical subjects, prompting sudden shift online education as an alternative mode of instruction, globally. This sudden transformation to online education was experienced differently across the globe. For example, the digital divide in Eastern Africa implied different coping strategies to ensure continuity of education during the lockdown. This study provides experiences, insights into the benefits and challenges faced by educators of eight universities teaching land administration related courses - across eight countries in Africa. This paper emphasises on the strategies implemented to ensure education continuity during the lockdown and emphasize their success, challenges, and future directions that extend beyond the pandemic. This study has implications on the effectiveness of online education on teaching of both theory and practical subjects in land administration related courses.

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