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

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

Copyright workshop with local librarians, July 2012