IMPACT OF ICT ON DISTANCE LEARNING

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A communication network is now more important than ever in today's educational environment. Today's society is said to be in the midst of a new social revolution, dubbed the "information revolution." The twenty-first century has seen an explosion of information technologies. Technologies in computers, audio-visual devices, and communications are being integrated into a powerful technology-information technology as a result of the digital revolution. The global era is distinguished by rapid technological advancements and the expansion of knowledge. Essentially, technology is nothing more than a tool for putting our ideas into action.

It is well documented in the published literature and on Internet sites that ICT is playing an increasingly important role in education and training around the world. Furthermore, it has been demonstrated that the use of ICT can improve the quality of student learning experiences and make education and training opportunities available to a broader range of people in developing countries. At the moment, educators are encouraged by the success of information technologies and want to incorporate them into classroom instruction. They proclaim information technology as the solution to breaking down time and space barriers and realizing the dream of lifelong education.

ICT has the potential to be a powerful tool for expanding educational opportunities, both formal and informal. ICTs also improve access to experts, resource persons, researchers, professionals, mentors, business leaders, and peers all over the world. ICT has the potential to improve access and relevance in developing countries.

Education quality for the purposes of this primer, ICTs are defined as a diverse set of technological tools and resources used to communicate, as well as to create, store,

disseminate, and manage information. This may include all types of learning technologies such as video, print, audio and the computer.

Distance learning, as a new technology concept, provides multimedia-based educational content to students by utilizing standard data networking, protocols, and infrastructure. The primary benefits of using technologies in distance education are cost effectiveness, independence of time and place, quality of education access as a result of mass production of course materials, teaching a large number of students concurrently, and finding a large number of educational resources.

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