MASTER OF SCIENCE IN
ECONOMICS PROGRAMME
Edulink Project 3rd workshop – Moi University - Eldoret, 27th – 29th August 2009
Establishment

• The programme is offered in The Faculty of Social Sciences of Mzumbe University which was established in August 2002 as one of the founding faculties at the University.

• Programs offered in the Faculty of Social Sciences:
  ✓ Bachelor of Science in Economics (specializations)
  ✓ Masters of Science in Economics (specializations)
  ✓ PhD in Economics
  ✓ Bachelor of Education Foundation and Management
Objective of the Programme

The mission of the Faculty of Social Sciences under which the economics programmes are is in line with the MU Mission which is:

- “to provide opportunities for acquisition, development, preservation and dissemination of knowledge and skills through training, research, technical and professional services which is intended to make the University a center of excellence in management science for knowledge acquisition and adaptation through training research, consultancy, public service and outreach activities in Africa and beyond by the year 2015”
Objective of the Programme (cont..)

Specifically the economics programme aims at:

- Providing a balanced and rigor training in modern theories and techniques in economics
- Enabling students to develop economic models of their own from which to derive original results to offer a critique and critically analyze current economic issues
- Provides opportunity to students to integrate theory and practice in policy and project planning
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✓ To enhance knowledge in core areas of economics (micro and macro), quantitative methods as well as in specialist areas such as labour economics and advanced econometrics

✓ To produce graduates who will exhibit acquired skills and competencies in the areas of:
  a) Policy planning
  b) Project planning management
  c) Population planning and development so that
are well prepared to use the acquired skills for self-employment and the manning of key positions in both the public and private sectors.

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At the end of the programme:

- Students will have been exposed to advanced theories and analytical tools for economic policy analysis and management as well as project planning and management.
- They will be able to critically analyze development theories and develop new scientific knowledge relevant to diverse regional and local environments.
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Program content

The program contents for each specialization of study are indicated in a syllabus for Masters of Science in Economics. They include:

- Duration of the programme is two classroom work semesters (previously a four (4) Quarters System)
- A total of 40 credit points for the two semesters during which students are involved in intensive course work. The course is offered in a Specified basic, intermediate and specialist courses.
- Independent approved research work from a topic of students own choice.
- Mode of teaching includes three and contact hours (seminars/tutorials, case studies, lectures).
The third semester is devoted to research work done under one major supervisor/external supervisor whose purpose is to enable the students to apply the theoretical knowledge with the reality in the public and private sectors.
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Student Profile

Msc. Economics Programme was approved by the then Tanzania High Education Accreditation Council currently TCU and initiated in the year 2006. Since then the trend in applications (in brackets) and admission has been as follows:

✓ 2006/2007  12 Students  (Applicants 33)
✓ 2007/2008  23 Students (Applicants 51)
✓ 2008/2009  28 Students (Applicants 58)
✓ 2009/2010  31 Students (Applicants 62)
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Admission Requirements Msc. Economics Programme

To be admitted to the Msc. Economics, applicant must have:

- At least a second class Bachelors degree in economics from a recognized university or an approved institution of high earning;
- A second class advanced diploma in economics from a recognized institution of higher learning.
Criteria of assessment

Generally assessment is based on the Mzumbe University (Examination and Students Assessment Criteria) BY-LAWS, 2007

Specifically students are assessed as follows:

Coursework
- Project paper (20%)
- Controlled test (10%)
- Group Presentation (20%)
- A student must score at least 25% marks in the course work before they are allowed to sit for final examination.

End of Semester Examination (50%)
Thesis is examined by both internal and external examiners independently and awarded 100% as follows:
- Oral 20%
- Report 80%
## Grading system for Msc. Economics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Range of Marks</th>
<th>Equation</th>
<th>Grade Point</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Degree Classification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>75-100</td>
<td>$Y = 0.0024X + 2.6$</td>
<td>4.4-5.0</td>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>First Class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>70-74.9</td>
<td>$Y = 0.8X - 1.6$</td>
<td>4.0-4.39</td>
<td>Very Good</td>
<td>Second Class – upper division</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>60-69.9</td>
<td>$Y = 0.1X - 3$</td>
<td>3.0-3.99</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Second Class – Lower division</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>50-59.9</td>
<td>$Y = 0.1X - 3$</td>
<td>2.0-2.99</td>
<td>Pass</td>
<td>Pass</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Y = Grade Point; X = Course Work + Final Examination Mark

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Areas for improvement

✓ The programme is one of the oldest programmes offered since 1953 when the institution used to be a Local Government Institute in early 1950s, later developing to Institute of Development Management and now The Mzumbe University.

✓ The programme was evaluated along with other programmes during the Internal Assessment done using ETQM whereby areas of improvement were specified.
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Areas for improvement

The faculty underlines the improvement areas from External Review team as well as per Road Map to Quality in determining the quality of a programme and continuously assess the Msc. Economic programme.
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The Contribution of AfriQ’Units

✓ Mzumbe university and the partners in this project have role to play in order to establish effective quality program
✓ This workshop will have more contribution to the university in the assessment of the programs so that they can meet the requirements of a quality programs as per road map to quality guides.
✓ Quality assurance knowledge acquired will be passed down to all stakeholders for implementation and follow up activities.
A developed culture of evaluation for internal self evaluation and external review is a vital component for any well-developed quality assurance system.
• Thank you for listening