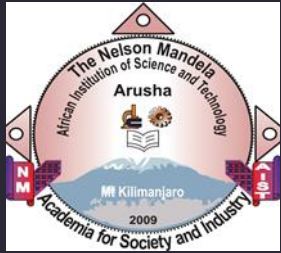


UBUNTUNET-CONNECT 2021

Paper presentation by Pamela Chogo





From lockdown to blended learning: Opening opportunities for remote students. A case of the Institute of Accountancy Arusha.

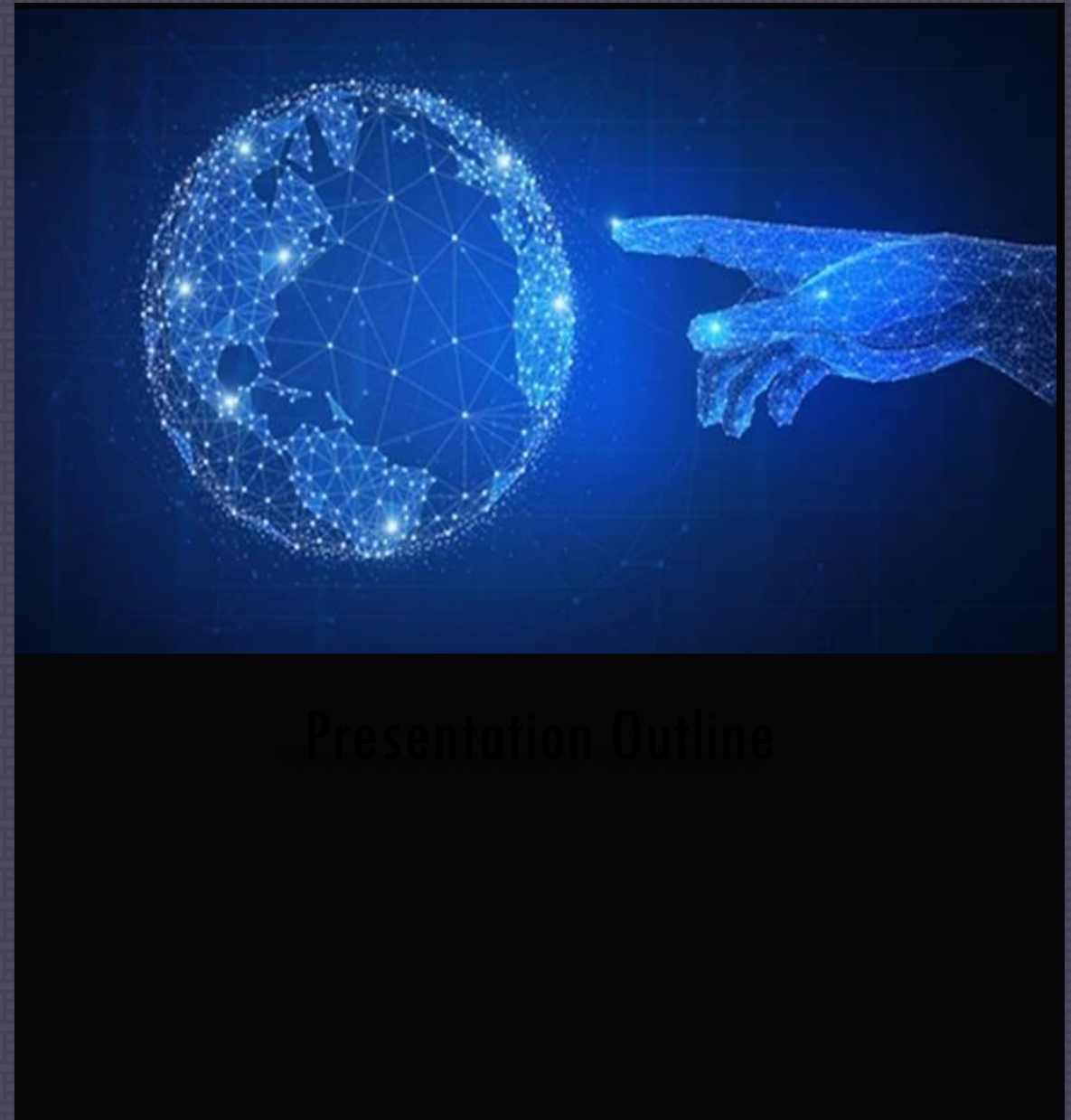
Pamela Chogo

Lecturer at the Institute of Accountancy Arusha (IAA)

**PhD Student at the Nelson Mandela African Institute of
Science and Technology**



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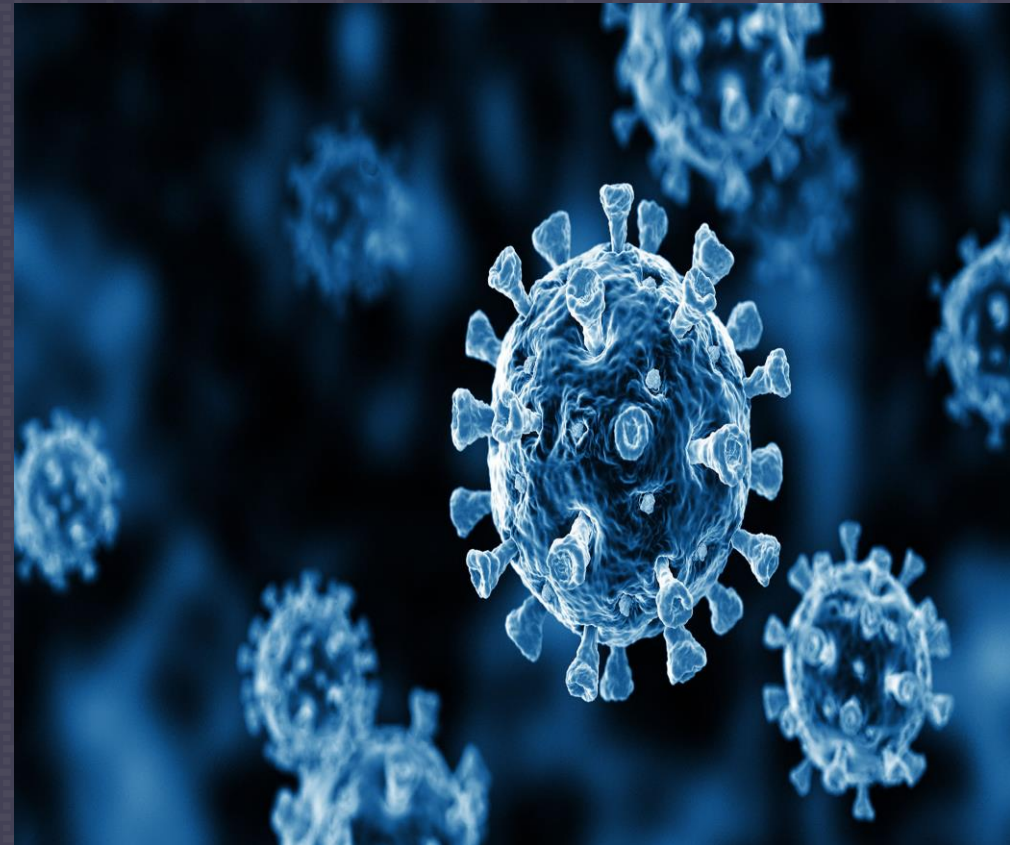
INTRODUCTION

Coronavirus disease famously known as Covid 19 (WHO, 2020).

The world experienced unthinkable changes in many aspects (Amstrong, 2020).

Significant effects were experienced in education and learning (UoN, 2020).

This paved way to new opportunities and hence this study was conducted.



ABOUT THE STUDY

This study was conducted at the Institute of Accountancy Arusha (IAA) as a continuation of a previous study that was conducted by Chogo (2020) when the Institute started conducting online courses during the lockdown caused by Covid 19 pandemic.

It is a qualitative study that used cross sectional survey research design where simple random sampling was used to select the study sample.

Data was collected from IAA management, students and facilitators.



ABOUT THE STUDY ...

IAA like any other higher learning institution in Tanzania and the world experienced the effect of COVID 19 Pandemic.

In Tanzania Schools and Higher learning Institutions remained closed for unspecified period of time (TBC, 2020, Tamisemi, 2020).



ABOUT THE INSTITUTE OF ACCOUNTANCY ARUSHA (IAA)

About the Institute of
Accountancy Arusha
(IAA) (IAA, 2020)





**INSTITUTE OF
ACCOUNTANCY
ARUSHA**

Est 1990

14 Certificate

14 Diploma

17 Degree

14 Masters

Areas

Accountancy

Informatics

Business

Finance

Banking

Tourism

Procurement





IAA Pre-COVID 19



All programs were offered physically

Learning was happening in Arusha (Main Campus), Dar-es-salaam and Manyara.

IAA has used Moodle for over 9 years *partially*

Trainings were done to ensure each module is utilizing LMS in a way





**COVID 19 and the
lockdown experience**



IAA Management team conducted meetings



HoDs were tasked to come up with BCP



Going for online mode of training was suggested

Improvement on Systems were Made

Backup Systems on LMS were established

More Trainings were Conducted

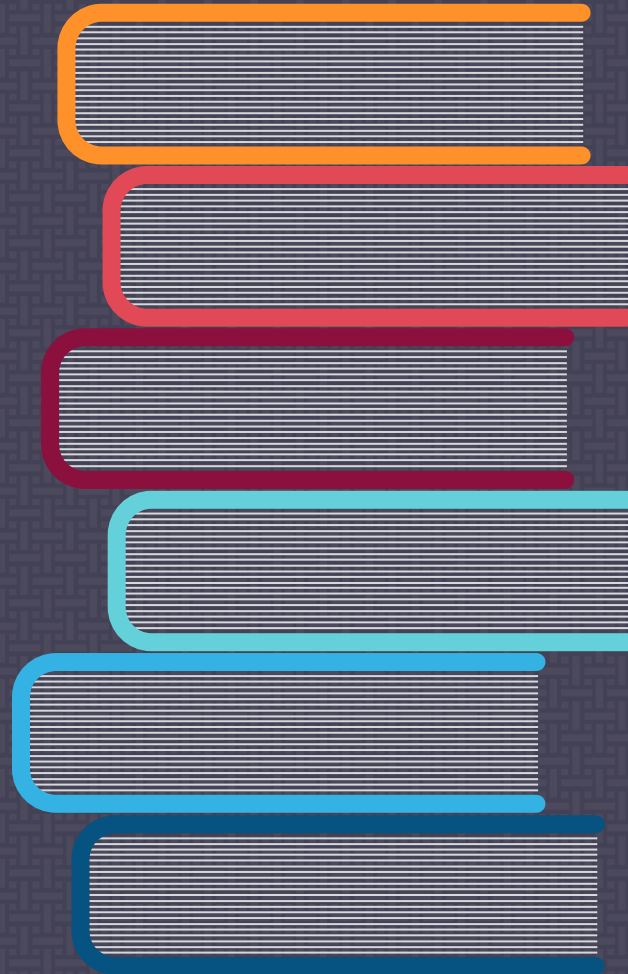


Online learning

Online Learning Guidelines was Established

Module Guidelines were Prepared

Zoom Accounts were acquired with assistance from TERNET



Facilitators utilized Whatsapp, Youtube, Zoom, and Moodle

Management used Zoom

During the test meeting, shutdown was announced

Operations utilized emails, e-office, Whatsapp and Online Payments



EXPERIENCE REPORTED FROM THE STUDY CONDUCTED BY CHOGO, 2020

- Chogo, P. (2020). An Evaluation of Higher Education Students Online Learning Experience. International Journal of Scientific and Research Publications, Volume 10, Issue 6, June 2020926ISSN 2250-3153.
- Top management support and push was one of the success factor of online learning.
- IAA Students had very positive attitude towards online learning but unfortunately most of them did not have a good learning experience.
- This was due to the following experienced challenges:

High internet cost

1

Failure to self-manage

2

Limited internet access

3

Challenges

4

Lack of conducive learning environment

5

Failure to comprehend provided learning materials

6

Remote Assessment



RECOMMENDATION FROM CHOGO, 2020

For this case, the study recommended that online learning should be complimented by face to face learning which means blended learning was recommended (Chogo, 2020).






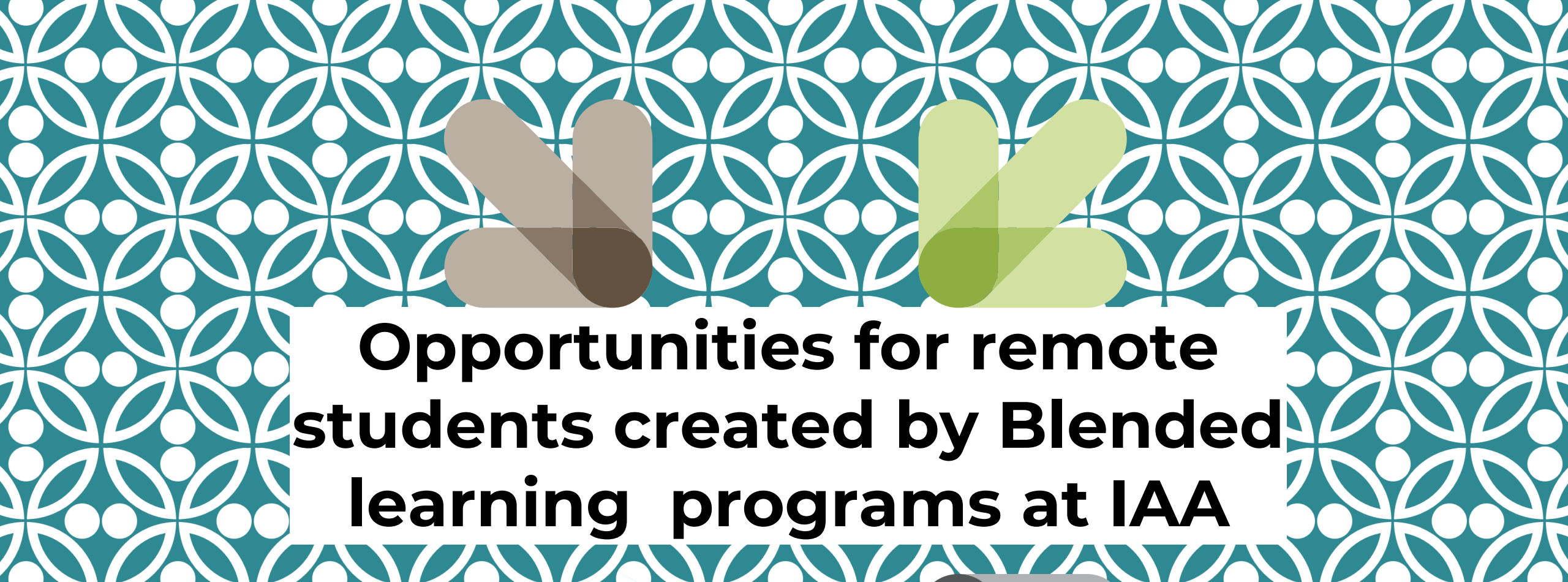
Blended learning programs at IAA





IAA BLENDED LEARNING

➤ The online learning experience during Covid 19 pandemic paved way to the introduction of blended learning **Masters Programs.**





Opportunities for remote students created by Blended learning programs at IAA



OPPORTUNITIES FOR REMOTE STUDENTS CREATED BY BLENDED LEARNING PROGRAMS AT IAA...

Have economic activities in remote areas

No study leave

01. Easy access

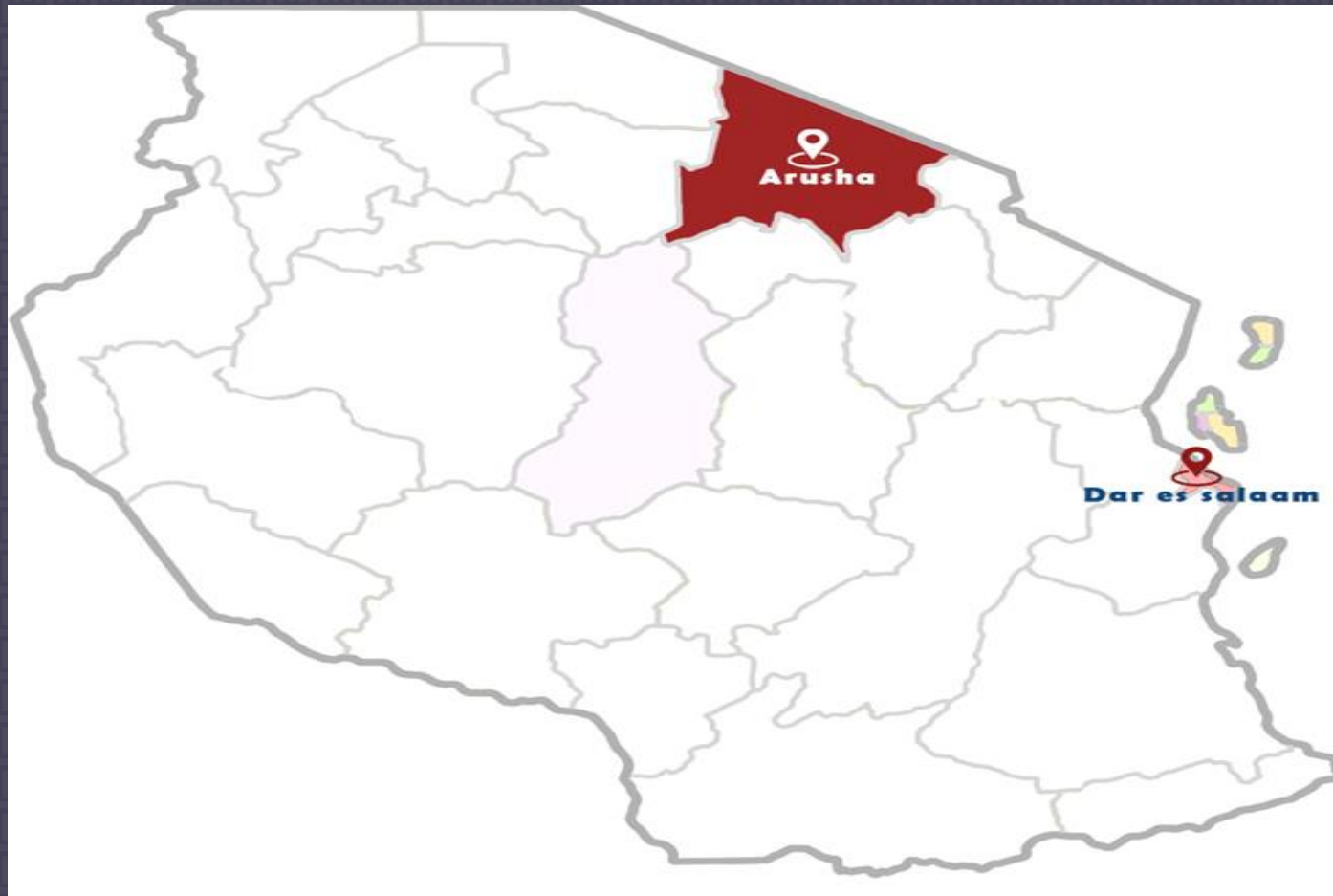
Located in other regions in Tanzania

Access of good quality Materials

Located out of Tanzania



ACCESS TO MASTERS PROGRAMS OFFERED BY IAA BEFORE BLENDED LEARNING



ACCESS TO MASTERS PROGRAMS OFFERED BY IAA THROUGH BLENDED LEARNING



OPPORTUNITIES FOR REMOTE STUDENTS CREATED BY BLENDED LEARNING PROGRAMS AT IAA...

Available learning options

1. Physical
2. Live via zoom
3. recorded videos and available materials

02. Flexibility

Being able to access learning session at one's own time.

Downloading learning resources anytime



OPPORTUNITIES FOR REMOTE STUDENTS CREATED BY BLENDED LEARNING PROGRAMS AT IAA...

Reduction for employers
People can work and study

Relocating

03. Cost reduction



OPPORTUNITIES FOR REMOTE STUDENTS CREATED BY BLENDED LEARNING PROGRAMS AT IAA...

Personal study plan

Study anywhere

04. Convenience

Shared resources

External facilitators



OPPORTUNITIES FOR REMOTE STUDENTS CREATED BY BLENDED LEARNING PROGRAMS AT IAA...

**Covid and
other contact
Related
diseases**

**05. Limited
physical contact**



OPPORTUNITIES FOR REMOTE STUDENTS CREATED BY BLENDED LEARNING PROGRAMS AT IAA...

**Accomplish a lot
at the same time**

**06. Effective use
of time**

**One can join studies
even if not in study
program**



OPPORTUNITIES FOR REMOTE STUDENTS CREATED BY BLENDED LEARNING PROGRAMS AT IAA...

**Building online
presence culture**

**07. Opening doors
to new online
opportunities**

**Closing the
digital usage
gap**



OPPORTUNITIES FOR REMOTE STUDENTS CREATED BY BLENDED LEARNING PROGRAMS AT IAA...

Diverse students



New opportunities for the Institute



OPPORTUNITIES FOR REMOTE STUDENTS CREATED BY BLENDED LEARNING PROGRAMS AT IAA...

**Online students
association**

**09. Creating an
online community**



CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

IAA has managed to be a head of many HEI in Tanzania and Africa when it comes to blended learning. This provides a learning platform that like many others allow us to improve by working on the many challenges that come along.

My recommendation to all of you attending this conference as we all are in the shift to blended and online programs let us see this as an opportunity to connect Africa.



CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION ...

As we face our challenges, let us face them with a bigger picture in mind.

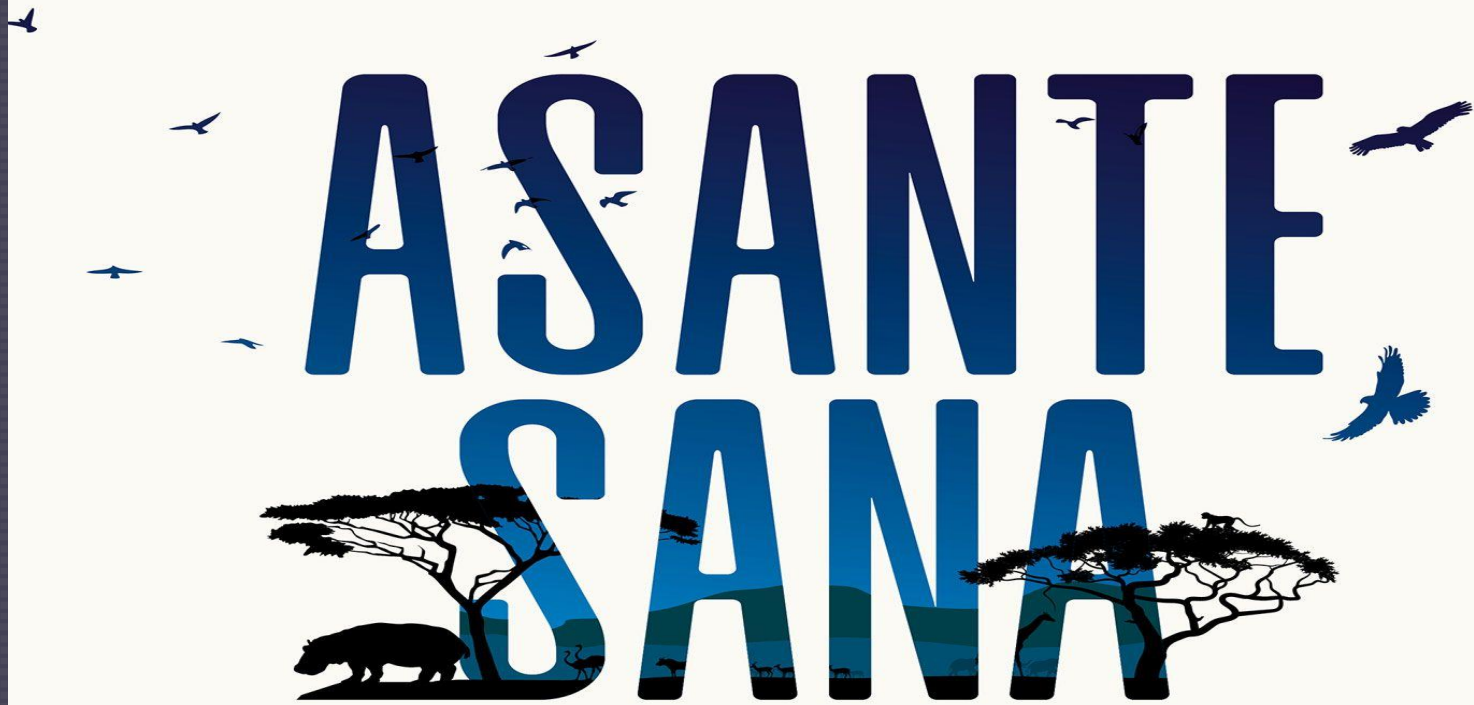
Let us see how best we can share resources eg facilitators for our programs.

Through UbuntuNet Alliance let us see how best this network of brilliant Africans can work together.

Let us enjoy fully the opportunities brought by blended and online learning in building a united Africa.



ASANTE
SANA





QUESTIONS and COMMENTS