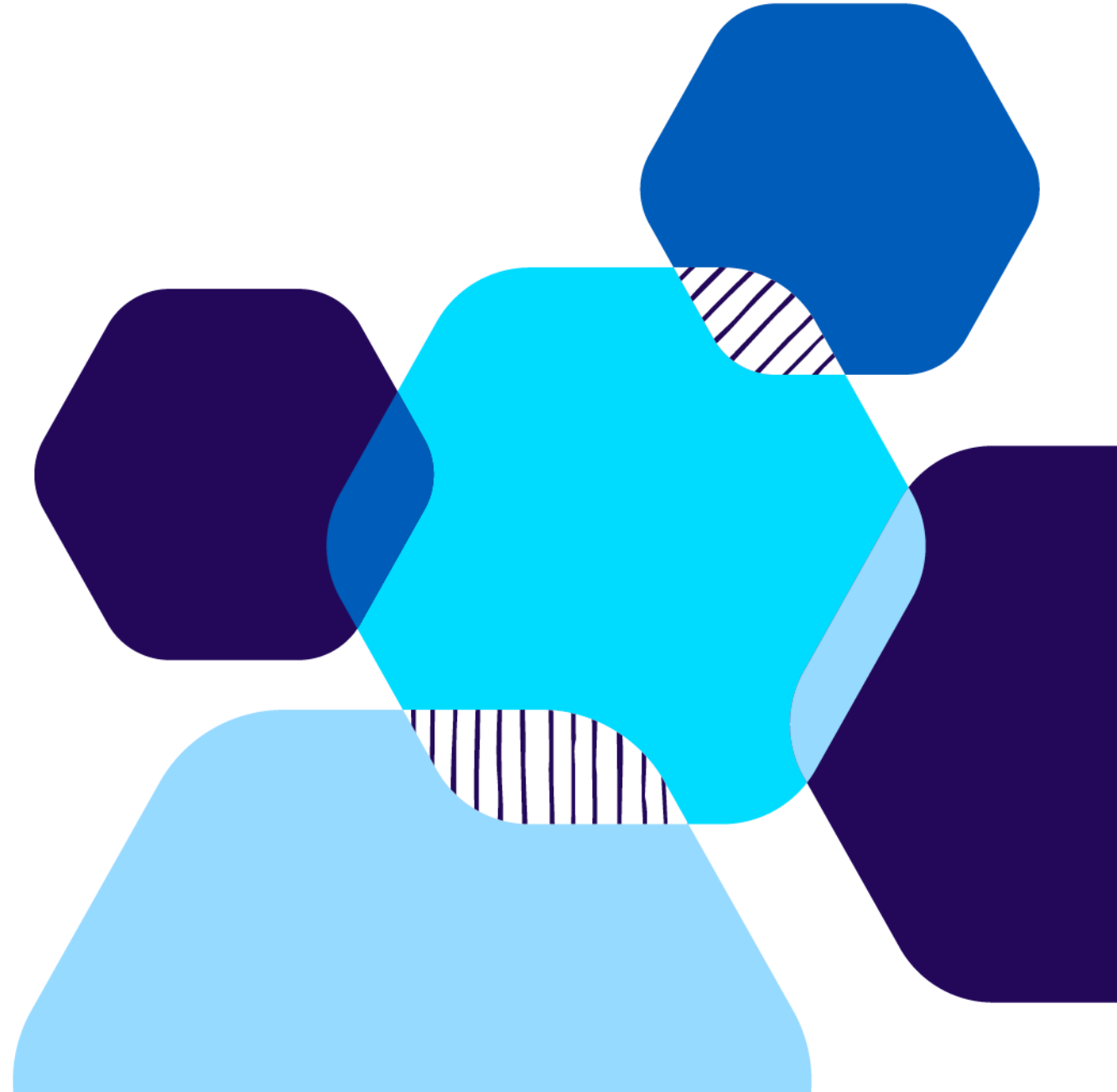# BRITISH COUNCIL

Teaching English Africa webinar

Integrating Low-cost ICT Tools into Sub-Saharan African Classrooms:
Salome Ikokoyo

13 January 2024

This session

Introduction to ICT and benefits of ICT in education
Challenges of implementing ICT in Sub-Saharan Africa
Low-cost tools to bridge the ICT gap
Examples of low-cost ICT tools
   - Flash drives
   - Memory cards
   - MP3 speakers
   - Phone screen amplifiers
   - Pictures & posters
   - Offline videos & audios
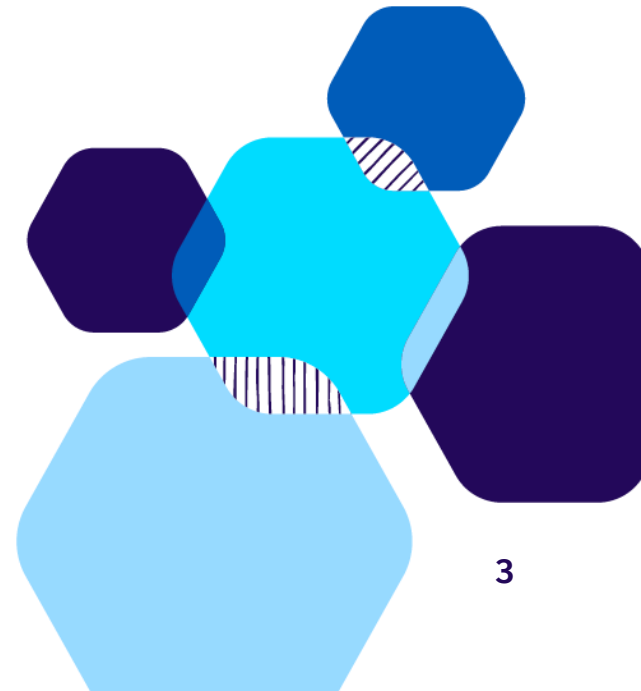 Additional Strategies for integrating these tools

Q&A

Introduction to ICT:

The goal of ICT is to ensure information can be accessed, stored, transmitted, and manipulated through digital means to support communication, operations, and objectives.

How would you define ICT? Put your ideas in the chat area.

UNESCO defines it as '**diverse set of technological tools and resources used to transmit, store, create, share or exchange information**'

https//uis.unesco.org/en/glossary-term/information-and-communication-ict

ICT refers also to technologies that provide access to information through telecommunications

It is similar to Information Technology (IT), but it focuses primarily on communication technologies. This includes the Internet, wireless networks, cell phones, and other communication mediums.

How is this related to education?
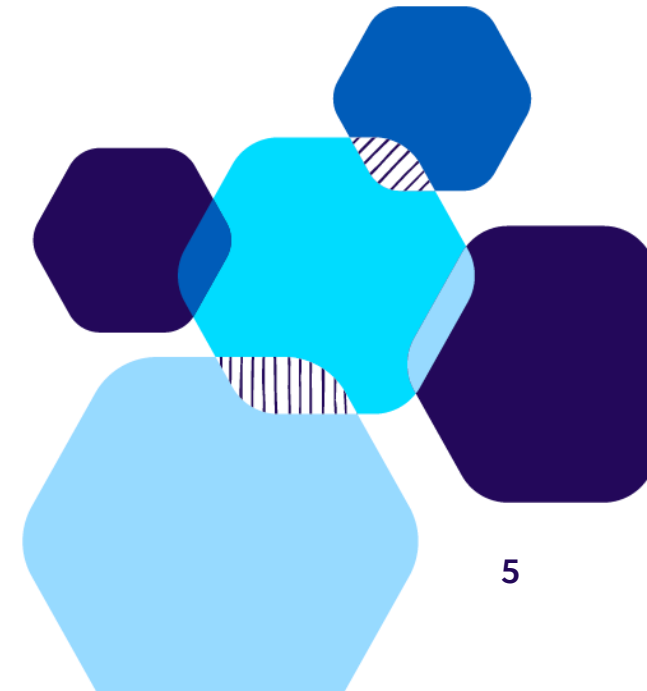
These are typical African Classrooms

Copyright:
Canva: Magic Media

Community (Senior) Secondary School,
Bolo, Ogu/Biolo LGA Rivers State
Nigeria

What is ICT in Education?

ICT in education refers to **the computer and internet connections used to handle and communicate information for learning purposes…**
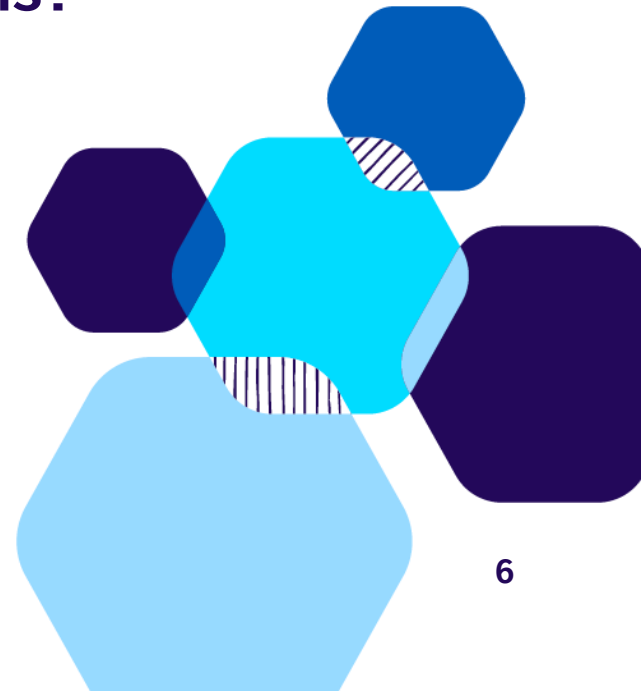
ICT in education also refers to digital technologies used in the classroom by students and teachers for learning. This includes computers, tablets, mobile phones, mp3 speakers, and pictures etc.
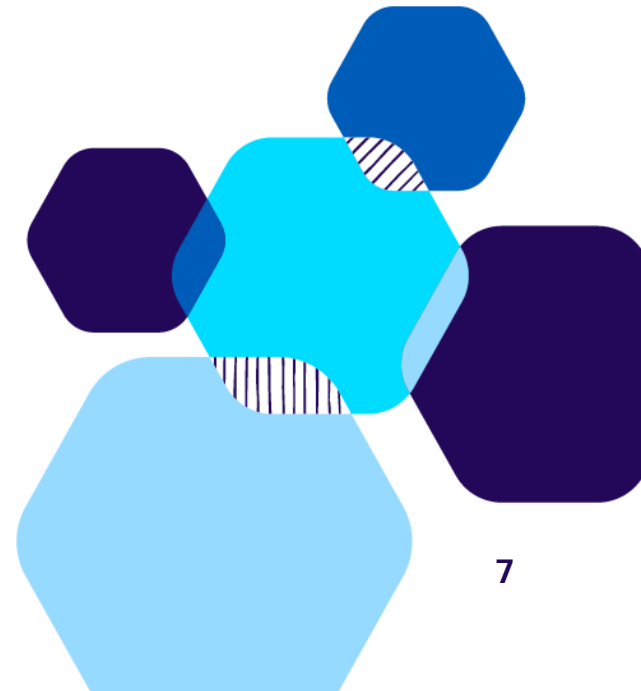
Question:

Have teachers in Sub-Saharan African countries with little electricity and poor internet services been able to integrate ICT into their classrooms?

https://www.researchgate.net/

How many **benefits** of ICT in education can you think of? And how many different **challenges**? Please write in the chat

Benefits of ICT in Education

Improves communication

Improves engagement and knowledge retention

Enhances motivation

Collaboration / team-work among learners

Promotes critical and creative thinking skills

Increases teacher and student efficiency

Saves time

Challenges of implementing ICT in Sub-Saharan Africa:

Very few students own mobile phones

Little or no government support

Teachers earn little; data is expensive

Poor Electricity

Low speed of Internet

Internet data is expensive

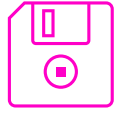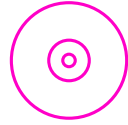**Lack of proficiency on the part of teachers**

Inadequate training programmes

Lack of awareness of the benefits of using ICT

Low-cost tools to bridge the ICT gap
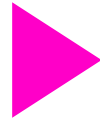
Flash drives

Memory cards

MP3 speakers
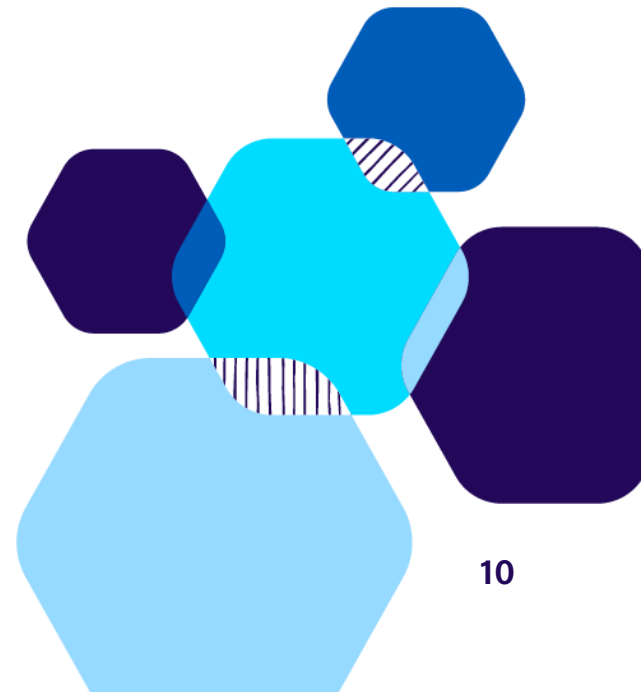
Phone screen amplifiers

Pictures & posters

Offline videos & audios

Low-cost tools to bridge the ICT gap
Examples of low-cost ICT tools :

Flash Drives

MP3 Speakers

Phone Screen Amplifiers
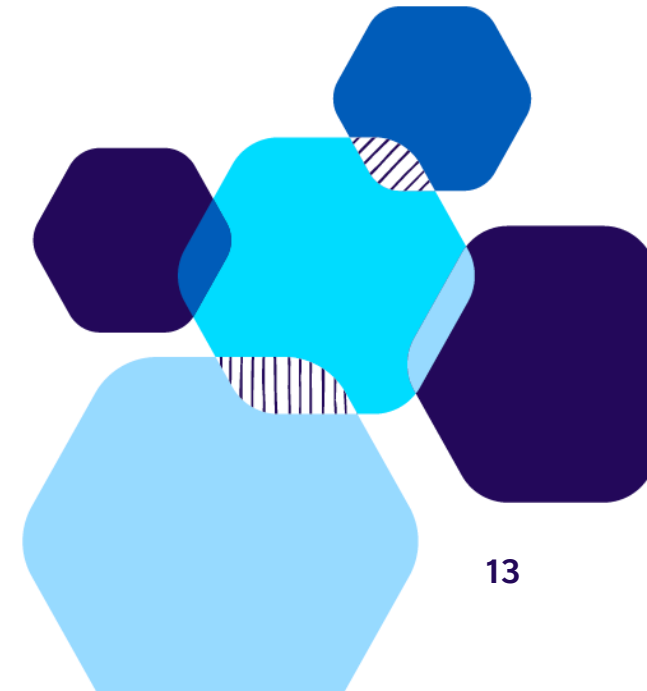
Enhancing teaching and learning with ICT

The Flash Drive/ SD Card and MP3

✓ ICT tools like flash drives and SD cards can be used to record reading/listening comprehension passages, which can be played in class, using an MP3 speaker
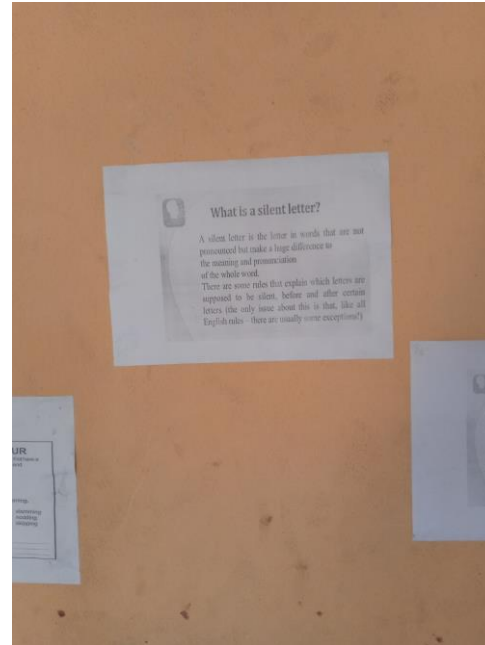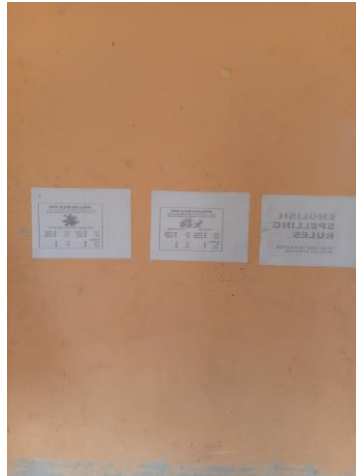
The Phone Screen Amplifier

✓ The Phone Screen amplifier can be used to amplify images or videos on mobile phones to enhance visibility
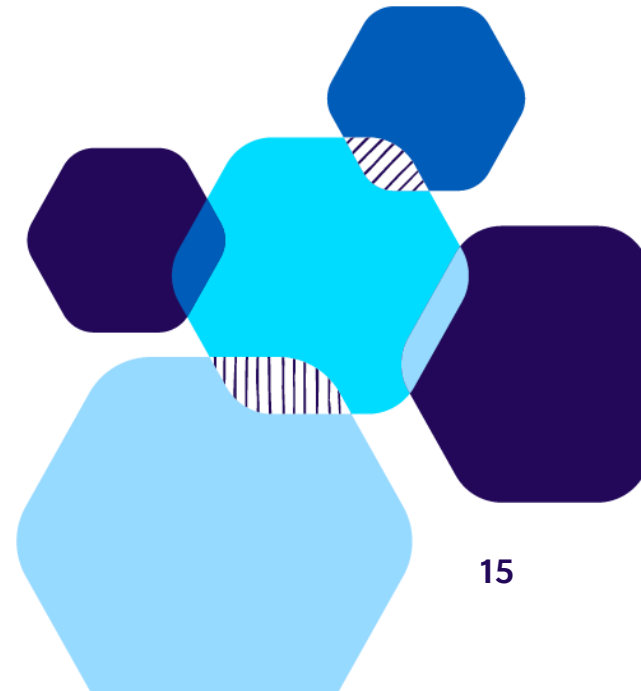
Pictures and Posters
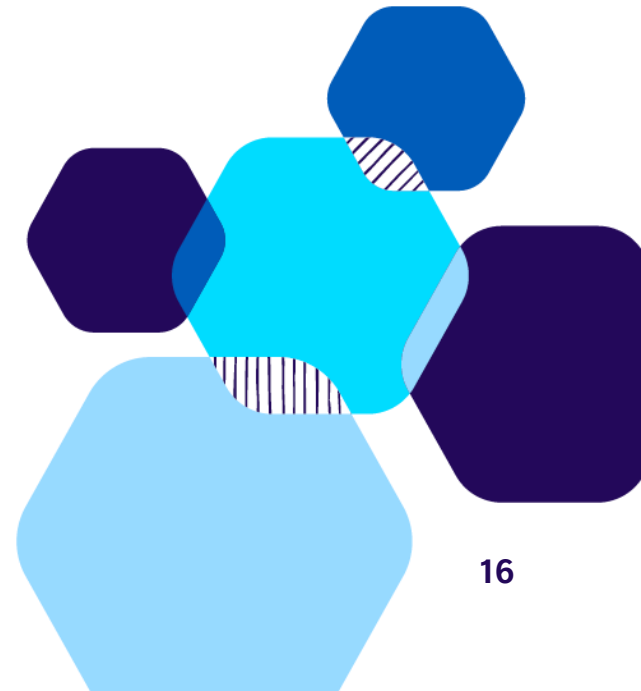
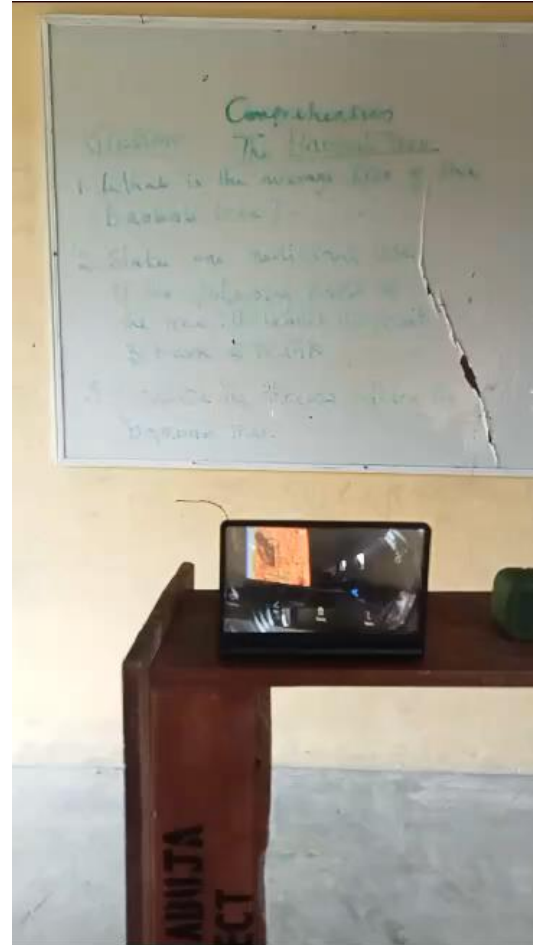✓**Pictures can be posted on the walls of the classroom**

Offline Videos and audios

✓**Videos can be downloaded from the net and stored on your device for later use**

Additional Strategies for Integrating these tools

Questions

a) What challenges have you faced in adopting ICT in your classrooms?

b) Which of the low-cost ICT tools discussed have you used ? Would you like to share your experiences?

c) What other affordable tools would you recommend?

d) How can teachers be supported in integrating these tools?

e) What opportunities do you see for improving ICT access in the future?

QUESTIONS and ANSWERS

Thank you