

# Working in Partnership Botho College



The Open  
University

## The Partner

Founded in 1997, Botho College has grown from a small centre in Gaborone, the capital of Botswana, to a large tertiary institution spread across three major locations in the country. Botho College is a partner centre of NIIT Limited in India, an IT training organisation which has trained one in every three software professionals in India. Botho College and its programmes are accredited by the Botswana Training Authority and the Tertiary Education Council.

Botho College has trained well over 10,000 graduates in various certificate, diploma and degree programmes through programmes offered in relationship with NIIT and its University alliances. The institution currently has over 4,000 students, most of whom are registered on to NIIT's DNIIT (Hons) diploma programme and The Open University's BSc (Hons) Computing and its Practice programme. Students at Botho College come from a wide range of backgrounds, including students from rural regions and urban centres, service personnel such as police and school teachers, and corporate executives.

## The Project

The Open University and Botho College are working in partnership to deliver the BSc (Hons) Computing and its Practice top up degree. This programme builds on students' prior learning through NIIT's DNIIT (Hons) diploma. The Open University (OU) assessed this qualification to ensure its equivalence to 240 points of UK study. Students are required to study full time and complete 120 credits of OU courses over 12 months to complete the full degree. The programme is taught by Botho College faculty who are trained on the OU curriculum. Students are registered, examined and certified by The Open University, use identical course materials and submit the same assignments. The first cohort started the programme in February 2008.

## The Aim

The OU, Botho College and NIIT work together to extend a quality learning experience to students by providing supported open learning opportunities and an internationally accepted qualification in their home country. The relationship is also helping to develop the young and vibrant higher education sector in Botswana.

## The Benefits

The OU learns from the partnership through engaging in new partnership models. The partnership is also helping to spread the OU brand to new markets, helping the institution build a wider and more culturally diverse student body.

## Contact

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