

BENCHMARKING VISIT ON DECENTRALIZED MEDICAL TRAINING AT WALTER SISULU UNIVERSITY – SOUTH AFRICA

Dr Njoroge was part of the three-member team from the CHS/UON who visited the Walter Sisulu University in South Africa on March 4 – 9, 2014 with the aim of studying the achievements, best practices, lessons learnt, challenges of implementing a decentralized medical training model at the institution.



A photo session at the Walter Sisulu University during the benchmarking visit on decentralized medical training. From left: Mr. Owek, Prof. Amayo, Prof. Jehu, Dr. Dhaffala and Dr. Njoroge.



A field visit to Dr. Malizo Mpehle district Hospital – one of the decentralized training sites of Walter Sisulu University medical school. From left: Dr. Njoroge (SPH/UoN), Mr. Owek (PRIME K UoN), Mr. Monde (Dr. Malizo hospital), Mr. Toni (WSU), Prof. Amayo (SOM/UoN) and Dr. Godlimphi (WSU)

Lessons learnt from the benchmarking visit

1. Professional organizations have clear roles in Medical and Nursing training
2. Decentralized training contributes to improved interaction between the Department/Ministry of Health and the University. However, it is essential to secure written commitment to teach from health staff as well as commit university staff at the sites to offer clinical services.
3. Decentralized training do not have to be adopted by all departments at the same time; one department or a set of complementary departments can start off and be joined by the others latter.