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### COMPETITION GUIDELINES

#### Background

In March 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic forced schools in Trinidad and Tobago to close, which immediately shifted learning, teaching and interaction to the virtual world.

In order to support the teachers and the mandate of the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, the National Institute of Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology (NIHERST) is launching a competition for the creation of the best Virtual Curriculum Video Lessons in Trinidad and Tobago. This will take the form of an online competition for all primary school teachers and secondary school Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics teachers to create the best curriculum video lessons to showcase different approaches to teaching subject material. NIHERST Curriculum Support Manuals may be used as a resource. These video lessons will be later used to support teachers and students in the virtual classroom.

The competition is part of NIHERST's school-based intervention, *the Teach ME Project*, which is funded by the Ministry of Planning and Development through the Public Sector Investment Programme (PSIP).

#### Description

The online competition will be held for all teachers of primary schools and all Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics teachers of secondary schools of Trinidad and Tobago. Final participants would be judged and awarded in the two (2) following categories:

- Primary Schools; and
- Secondary Schools.

These finalists will participate in an online training programme (webinar) facilitated by NIHERST aimed to improve their video presentation skills. After completing the training, finalists will apply these new techniques and record their videos, using the same format and criteria developed by the consultant.

The best videos in each category will be determined by a panel of judges comprised of representatives from the Ministry of Education, NIHERST and experts in videography. As a result, participants will produce high-quality videos, which will be distributed to primary and secondary schools throughout Trinidad and Tobago and provided to the Ministry of Education for use on their online teaching platforms.



### Aims

The Teachers Virtual Curriculum Competition aims:

- To create a series of short video lessons tailored to primary and secondary school curricula.
- To support teachers in remote teaching by developing their teaching, digital, and presentation skills.
- To be used as a tool to aid teachers in the classroom.

### Stages

The competition will run through the following stages:

No.	Stage	Deadline Date
1	Call for Participation	June 1, 2021
2	Training (Webinar) for All Participants	July 5, 2021
3	Recording of Video Lessons by Teachers	July 27, 2021
4	Selection of Finalists in 2 Categories	July 30, 2021
5	Training for Finalists	August 6, 2021
6	Recording of Standardized Video Lessons	August 20, 2021
7	Selection of Winners	August 26, 2021

### Call for Participation

NIHERST will announce the Call for Participation to the public via print, broadcast and social media. All registered primary school teachers and secondary school Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics teachers will participate in the webinar.

### Training for All Participants

The competition entails training for teachers via a webinar to demonstrate how to create high-quality video lessons. The consultant will conduct an informational webinar for the teachers on how to create an effective video lesson focusing on content and production; and will create requirements (with support from the Ministry of Education and NIHERST) so that all videos have a common style and format. Webinars will be recorded for future use and reference by any teacher.

### Recording of Video Lessons by Teachers

All participants will have a chance to apply the knowledge and skills they gained from the training to the creation of their own video lessons. Participants will choose a topic(s) from the primary or secondary school curricula as the content for their videos. NIHERST Curriculum Support Manuals may be used as a resource, which are available via:

- Teach ME: [Teach ME | NIHERST](#)

Teachers will record their video lessons of the selected topic and activity according to the requirements provided by the consultant and submit the videos to the project team as instructed. Each video must be between ten (10) to thirty (30) minutes.

### Selection of Finalists

The panel of judges, comprised of personnel from the Ministry of Education, NIHERST and videography experts, will select finalists with the best videos who will then be invited to the second

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stage of training.

### **Training for Finalists**

Teachers will participate in the second stage of training, where the consultant will focus more on individual and practical work with the finalists and provide specific advice on how to improve their videos. The consultant will train the teachers in production of professional videos and create requirements (with support from the Ministry of Education and NIHERST) so that all videos have the same quality, style and format. Webinars will be recorded for future use and reference by any teacher.

### **Recording of Video Lessons by Finalists**

Finalists will record their second videos on a topic of their choice. They will select different scientific topics from the primary or secondary school curricula. NIHERST Curriculum Support Manuals may be used as a resource, which are available via:

- Teach ME: [Teach ME | NIHERST](#)

The teachers will record their video lessons of the selected topic and activity according to the requirements provided by the consultant and submit the videos to the project team as instructed. Each video must be between ten (10) to thirty (30) minutes.

### **Selection of Best Video Lessons**

The panel of judges comprised of representatives from the Ministry of Education, NIHERST and experts in videography will select the best videos in both the primary and secondary category. The winners will be awarded attractive prizes, which can be used in remote teaching.

### **Prizes**

Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) in prizes to be won! Prizes will be awarded to 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners, as well as a special category prize.

### **Duration**

The competition will take place from May 2021 to August 2021.

### **Outcomes and Sustainability**

By the end of the competition:

1. A series of video lessons will be created to support teachers in remote teaching, to be used as supplementary material to their main textbook or as self-study by students.
2. High-quality video lessons will be distributed among teachers in Trinidad and Tobago and will be provided to the Ministry of Education.
3. Teachers will have acquired skills and may wish to work collaboratively in producing new video lessons.
4. Teachers will have participated in the competition and developed their digital and presentation skills.
5. The competition will have been promoted on social media platforms to relevant audiences across Trinidad and Tobago.

### **Secondary School Subjects that Fall Under the Umbrella of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics**

- Additional Mathematics
- Agricultural Science
- Animation & Game Design
- Applied Mathematics
- Biology
- Building and Mechanical Engineering Drawing
- Building Technology
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Electrical and Electronic Engineering Technology
- Environmental Science
- Food, Nutrition and Health
- Geography
- Green Engineering
- Human and Social Biology
- Industrial Technology
- Information Technology
- Integrated Mathematics
- Integrated Science
- Mathematics
- Mechanical Engineering Technology
- Physics
- Pure Mathematics
- Technical Drawing