IPADS IN PARLIAMENT OF UGANDA

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Friday, October 7, 2016
In 2013, a strategic decision was made by Parliament of Uganda to use ICTs in Parliamentary Business. This landmark intervention paved way for acquisition of computer tablets (iPads) for the legislators.
The iPad Project
The Objectives of iPad Project

- To operationalise centralized electronic Document Management for effectiveness and efficiency of Parliamentary business
- To cut costs on paper by embracing a paperless Parliament
- To facilitate access to internet and mobile computing
Use of Paper in Parliament
Project Implementation

- Amendment to Rules of Procedure to allow use of electronics in chamber
- Procurement of 386 iPads for all members of Parliament
- Wireless Network (APN)
- Parliamentary Information System using Alfresco

Friday, October 7, 2016
MPs Using iPads
Impact of iPads in Parliament

- Improved management of electronic Parliamentary documents and records
- Access to online information made easier, improving quality of debates
- Drastically reduced expenditure on paper
- Increased communication and discussion through Parliamentary email amongst the members
Challenge

- Limited bandwidth (Internet) leading to controlled access to social media
- Lack of productivity software
- Public out cry particularly CSO about the facilitation of members with iPads
Lessons to Pick

- Parliamentary Business can be greatly improved through use of ICTs
- Availability of ICT Infrastructure
- Political will to use ICTs in Parliament
- Continuous capacity building of Members and technical staff
How have other Parliaments managed the journey to towards a “paperless parliament” using ICT?

What opportunities does a “paperless parliament” offer to parliamentary libraries and research services

Friday, October 7, 2016
THANK YOU