University of Djibouti unveils Oracle e-campus

Sponsored by the Ministry of Higher Education, the University of Djibouti has implemented a software system to help it achieve its ambition to deliver tertiary education to students in countries on the horn of Africa.

Dr Nabil Mohamed Ahmed, Minister of Higher Education and Research, said that the Peoplesoft system will entrench global best practices in delivering and managing higher education. "This is the perfect platform upon which to build our continuing investment in the youth of this region, for whom world-class education is essential." He said that modern technology is a key requirement to advance education in Djibouti and beyond.

"The significance of this implementation lies in the vision of the Djibouti's President, who recognised that modern technology today is a vehicle for progress," said Alfonso di Ianni, Oracle Senior Vice President, East Central Europe, Middle East and Africa. "This implementation has proved that information technology is a very powerful transformational tool for business and government."

Long-term goal

The long-term goal of the university is to provide degree and post-graduate courses to students in surrounding countries, a service the university believes will be supported by the system.

Implementation was conducted jointly by Mahindra Satyam and Mega Bureautique, a Djibouti-based partner which trained up a team of software engineers to provide support. Oracle provided both servers and storage (Oracle Sun X3-2), and software (Peoplesoft Campus, Oracle Database, Oracle Weblogic and Oracle Webcenter).

Principal of Djibouti University, Dr Djama Mohamed Hassan, said that the software platform constitutes a complete university system delivering teaching, research and administrative management in line with international modern practices. "The university would not have had the skills to implement these processes manually, but the Peoplesoft system already has best practices built into the workflows."

"Students, academic staff and administration can have a fluid, seamless engagement whether virtual or physical, thus

allowing them to address student and academic needs dynamically," he said.