Integration of KENET BigBlueButton with Moodle LMS

USER GUIDE

Kenya Education Network

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Introduction

Kenya Education Network KENET has a web conferencing platform running on BigBlueButton BBB and is free to all its member institutions. The platform can be integrated with Learning Management System such as Moodle to support real-time sessions with instructors, faculty and learners.

This guide is designed to help System/LMS administrators to use BigBlueButton plugin in Moodle LMS and link it to the KENET Web conference platform via a shared secret key and URL.
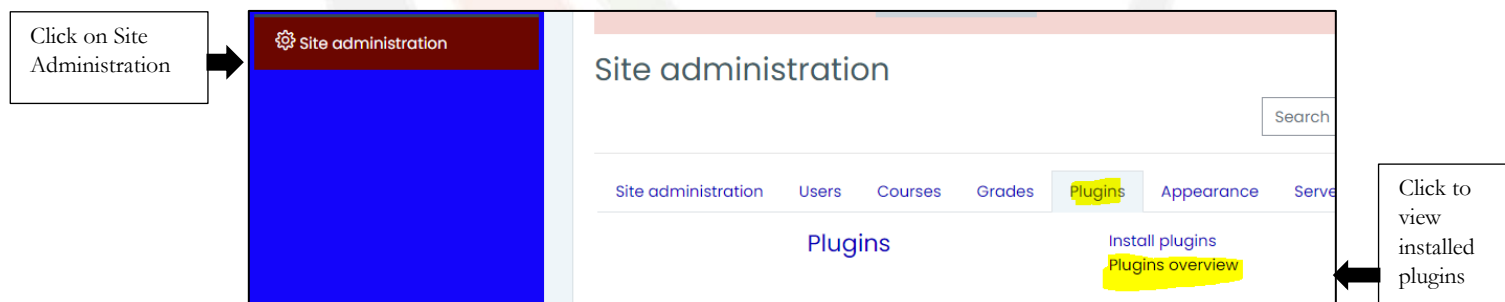
Getting Started

The BigBlueButton plugin is included **as a core feature in Moodle 4.0 and all newer versions**. However, its not automatically enabled and configured for use. This, therefore, requires one to enable the plugin and configure it by providing necessary credentials such as the URL and secret key.

Enable BigBlueButton Plugin in Moodle.

To verify that the plugin is successfully installed and enabled in Moodle:

1. Go back to "**Site Administration**." And from there
2. Select "**Plugins**." Click on "**Plugins overview**" link.

Confirm if the plugin is available. If available, you can now allow faculty to create their virtual classes in Moodle LMS.

Plugin name	Version	Availability	Actions		Notes
Activity modules⚙					
ⓑ Assignment mod_assign	2021051700	Enabled	Settings	Uninstall	
ⓑ Assignment 2.2 (Disabled) mod_assignment	2021051700	Disabled		Uninstall	
ⓑ BigBlueButton mod_bigbluebuttonbn	3.0.2 2021101010	Enabled	Settings	Uninstall	Additional

Caption (left margin): BigBlueButton Plugin is installed and enabled

3. Click on the **Settings** Action Feature to configure your BBB plugin where you will be required to share the **BigBlueButton Server URL** and **BigBlueButton Shared Secret Key.**

4. Worry not, The BigBlueButton plugin in Moodle LMS may be configured for it to use the KENET BigBlueButton Servers via **BigBlueButton Server URL** and **BigBlueButton Shared Secret Key.**

Integration of BigBlueButton plugin with KENET Web Conference Platform.

1. Member institutions should formally request KENET for the BigBlueButton Server URL and BigBlueButton Shared Secret Key for their BigBlueButton plugin to work seamlessly with their Moodle LMS.

2. Once you receive the server URL and shared secret key from KENET, just fill the two required fields.

KENET Online Learning Platform

The settings shown below were added during your last Moodle upgrade. Make any changes necessary to the defaults and then click the 'Save changes' button at the bottom of this page.

New settings - General settings

BigBlueButton Server URL
bigbluebuttonbn_server_url

https://sc.conference.ke/bigblueb   Default: http://test-install.blindsidenetworks.com/bigbluebutton/

The URL of your BigBlueButton server must end with /bigbluebutton/. (This default URL is for a BigBlueButton server provided by Blindside Networks that you can use for testing.)

BigBlueButton Shared Secret
bigbluebuttonbn_shared_secret

••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••• ◉

Press enter to save changes

The security salt of your BigBlueButton server. (This default salt is for a BigBlueButton server provided by Blindside Networks that you can use for testing.)

New settings - Default messages

Default welcome message
bigbluebuttonbn_welcome_default

Default: Empty

Enter the KENET web conference URL

Insert the shared secret key

5. Hit **"Save changes"**. Great! the installation is done!

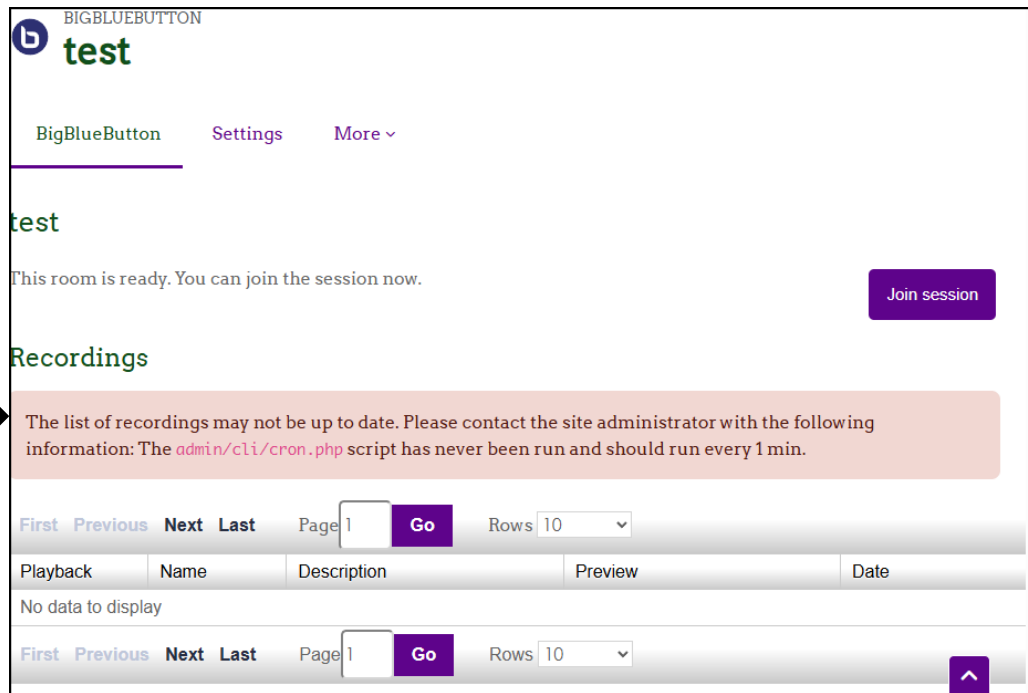**New settings - Experimental features**

Register live sessions
bigbluebuttonbn_meetingevents_enabled

☐ Default: No

If enabled, live sessions will be processed after the session ends. This feature is required for Activity completion and will only work if the BigBlueButton server is capable of processing post_events scripts.

Save changes

Click to save changes

Further Settings on Recordings

To ensure consistencies in the recordings, the Moodle System Administrator needs to ensure that **cronjob is enabled** on your LMS server: https://docs.moodle.org/500/en/Cron

Error showing cronjob not enabled

BIGBLUEBUTTON

test

BigBlueButton   Settings   More ˅

test

This room is ready. You can join the session now.

Join session

Recordings

The list of recordings may not be up to date. Please contact the site administrator with the following information: The `admin/cli/cron.php` script has never been run and should run every 1 min.

First Previous **Next Last**   Page 1 **Go**   Rows 10

Playback	Name	Description	Preview	Date
No data to display				

First Previous **Next Last**   Page 1 **Go**   Rows 10

Enabling Cronjob

1. SSH to your server

2. $ sudo crontab -u www-data -e
   - Add the following line to the file

   ```
   * * * * * /usr/bin/php /var/www/html/moodle/admin/cli/cron.php >/dev/null
   ```

3. $ sudo systemctl restart cron.service

Once enabled, the cron job will automatically run Moodle's scheduled tasks, ensuring features like recordings and notifications function properly.

THE END