

Solukhumbu Visit

March 18 – 22

Purpose: District and School Selection feasibility study visit

Participants:

1. Mr. Baburam Poudel, Deputy Director, Department of Education
2. Mr. Arjun Aryal, Computer Engineer, Department of Education
3. Ms. Sharmila Panta, Department of Education
4. Mr. Rabi Karmacharya, Executive Director, OLE Nepal
5. Mr. Rajeev Adhikari, Director, OLE Nepal
6. Mr. Basanta Shrestha, Network Engineer, OLE Nepal
7. Mr. Ngima Tendup Sherpa, Chairperson, Himalayan Health and Environmental Services
8. Mr. Asta Lama, Section Officer, DeO Salleri

The team left Kathmandu for Solukhumbu district headquarter, Salleri, on March 18th to conduct a feasibility study to see if the district and the schools would be suitable to expand OLPC program in proposed eastern hill/mountain district. The team spent all their time in the district visiting different schools and holding discussions with various stakeholders. The team had an interesting discussion session with the Solu stakeholders organized at District Education Office, the participants for the discussion session included local politicians, teachers, government officials from different offices (mainly from CDO and LDO) and local media. Many questions were raised about the program from the cost of the XO laptops to its sustainability but at the end everyone agreed that innovation in education is need of the hour and OLPC program will be a welcome addition to the Solukhumbu education system.

Schools Visited:

1. Jana Jagriti Ni.Ma.Vi.

Salleri VDC,

Elevation: 2371 m

Coordinates: 27°30'07.5" N, 86°35'09.8" E

Head Teacher: Prem Kumar Rai [contact numbers: M: 9743000962, S:038-520020]

School supervisor: NA [Contact number: DeO Solu]

Resource Person: NA [Contact number: DeO Solu]

Total number of students: 338 (from ECD to grade 7)

Teachers:

- Total number of teachers: 13
- Male: 7, Female 6

Students:

- Total: 338
- Grade 1: 46, Grade 2: 29, Grade 3: 31, Grade 4: 53, Grade 5: 39, Grade 6: 72, Grade 7: 52
- Mostly Janajati and Dalit Students
- Has five feeder schools for enrollment in grade 6

Infrastructure:

- 7 Class rooms, one new block constructed with funding from other resources
- Class rooms were tight with bench and schools
- School has electricity but most of the class rooms needs to be wired
- No boundary walls in the school
- Has a library (books mostly from Rato Bangala and room to read and other donors) and a computer
- Separate rooms for teachers, also used as library and to store education materials

Miscellaneous Observations:

- Library has around 1000 books
- Separate toilets for students (girls and boys, teachers)
- SMC not active
- Active PTA
- Not much monitoring visits by outside agencies, including DeO

2. Swornim .Ma.Vi.

Salleri VDC,

Elevation: 2542 m

Coordinates: 27°29'16.1" N 86°35'14.9" E

Head Teacher: [contact numbers: M:]

School supervisor: NA [Contact number: DeO Solu]

Resource Person: NA [Contact number: DeO Solu]

Total number of students: 32 (from ECD to grade 3)

Teachers:

- Total number of teachers: 4

- Darbandi: 2, ECD: 1, Private: 1

Students:

- Total: 32
- Grade 1:12, Grade 2: 10, Grade 3: 10
- Mostly Dalit Students

Infrastructure:

- 3 Class rooms, one new block constructed for MGML teaching
- Class rooms were tight with bench and schools
- School has electricity but discontinued at the moment
- No boundary walls in the school

Miscellaneous Observations:

- Separate toilets for students (girls and boys, teachers)
- Head teacher trained in MGML and will be teaching from this academic session
- SMC not active
- Not much monitoring visits by outside agencies, including DeO

3. Dudh Kunda Ni.Ma.Vi.

Phaplu VDC,

Elevation: 2516 m

Coordinates: 27°30'50.2" N 86°35'11.6" E

Head Teacher: Sunil Karki [contact numbers: M:9741048963]

School supervisor: NA [Contact number: DeO Solu]

Resource Person: NA [Contact number: DeO Solu]

Total number of students: 161 (from ECD to grade 7)

Teachers:

- Total number of teachers: 13
- 8 Female, 5 Male and 1 office assistant

Students:

- Total: 161, 86 girls
- Grade 1:14, Grade 2: 11, Grade 3: 10, Grade 4: 18, Grade 5: 29, Grade 6: 32, Grade 7: 27

Infrastructure:

- 8 Class rooms, one new block recently constructed
- Small benches and desks
- School has electricity
- No boundary walls in the school

Miscellaneous Observations:

- Separate toilets for students (girls and boys, teachers)
- Active teachers
- Computer classes for students
- SMC not active
- Has library with approx 250 books donated by various organizations

4. Garma.Ma.Vi.

Garma VDC - 7,

Elevation: 2112 m

Coordinates: 27°27'28.9" N 86°34'21.6" E

Head Teacher: Binod Singh Tamang [contact numbers: M:97410-81009]

SMC Chair: Dawa Tenji Lama [contact numbers: M:97410-26028]

School supervisor: NA [Contact number: DeO Solu]

Resource Person: NA [Contact number: DeO Solu]

Total number of students: 187 (from ECD to grade 9)

Teachers:

- Total number of teachers: 13
- 3 Female, 10 Male

Students:

- Total: 187
- Grade 1:20, Grade 2: 23, Grade 3: 22, Grade 4: 22, Grade 5: 20, Grade 6: 26, Grade 7: 15, Grade 8: 14, Grade 9: 13

Infrastructure:

- 10 Class rooms
- School has electricity

Miscellaneous Observations:

- Separate toilets for students (girls and boys, teachers)
- Active teachers and SMC
- Large play ground
- Separate section for Deaf student with a teacher

5. Phaplu Community School

Rokding, Phaplu

Elevation: 2314 m

Coordinates: 27 27°31'40.4" N 86°35'16.2" E

Head Teacher: [contact numbers: M:97410-81009]

SMC Chair: NA [contact numbers: M:97410-26028]

School supervisor: NA [Contact number: DeO Solu]

Resource Person: NA [Contact number: DeO Solu]

Total number of students: 80 (from ECD to grade 4)

Teachers:

- Total number of teachers: 4

Students:

- Total: 80
- Grade 1:20, Grade 2: 20, Grade 3: 20, Grade 4: 20

Infrastructure:

- 5 Class rooms
- School has electricity
- Big classrooms

Miscellaneous Observations:

- Community run school run by support from a local NGO
- Separate toilets for students (girls and boys, teachers)
- Active teachers

Schools visited on Saturday, March 20th

The schools and other locations were visited not for the selection purpose but while scouting for network and relay establishment feasibility

Jana Sudhar Pra. Vi., Khoria, Elevation 2242 m, Coordinates: 27°28'17.8" N 86°33'45.7" E

Ramailo Jyoti Pra. Vi., Jaidu 2431 m, Coordinates 27°29'38.7" 86°34'06.4" E

Possible other relay points

Relay Points	Elevation	Co-ordinates	Co-ordinates	Electricity
Nearby Hill North-East to the Jana Jagriti School	2395 m	27°30'10.2" N	86°35'11.6" E	Yes- Nearby house
Nepal Telecom Office	2390 m	27°30'17.7" N	86°35'11.1" E	Yes
Bouddha Stupa on the Way to Garma School	2153 m	27°28'13.1" N	86°34'18" E	No
Relay For Dudh Kunda School- Just down west	2490 m	27°30'46.1" N	86°35'05.5" E	Yes
Young Star Club	2290 m	27°29'16.9" N	86°34'44.4" E	Yes
Relay for Garma - Gomba Across Hill	2360 m	27°28'45.4" N	86°33'37.6" E	Yes
Relay for Jana Sudhar - Just above the school, Ram Kaji Ghimire's Premises	2277 m	27°28'24.2" N	86°33'48.2"E	No
Relay for Jana Sudhar - House south to school	2264 m	27°28'13.7" N	86°33'41.7" E	Yes