



School-tool Training and Internet Setup
at
Shree Siddabeni Lower Secondary School,
Belbas, Tanahun.

Submitted by:
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Sanepa, Nepal.

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Introduction:

OLE Nepal is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of and access to education through the integration and advocating for the ICT (Information and Communication Technology) in education. The major work of the organization are to develop and distribute high quality educational materials that are accessible and free of cost to all, and preparing teachers to use the materials effectively in the classrooms as well as in the school administration.

Project Background:

With the contribution from Rabobank and MeetIn Netherlands, OLE Nepal had introduced laptop-based teaching-learning project in Siddhabeni School in Belbas, Tanahun in 2011. In addition to 50 laptops, the project had provided digital learning materials, E-Paath, and digital library, E-Pustakalaya, that were developed by OLE Nepal. Teachers from the schools were trained on integrating digital curriculum in classroom teaching, and a school intranet was installed to allow students to access materials in the school server. After successful implementation of the project in 2011, the project was extended in 2012 to provide further support along with introduction and training of student records management software, School-tool, and installation of Internet connectivity at the school with contribution from Mr. Harrie Volland.

Project Activities:

1. Prior Information for Internet Setup:

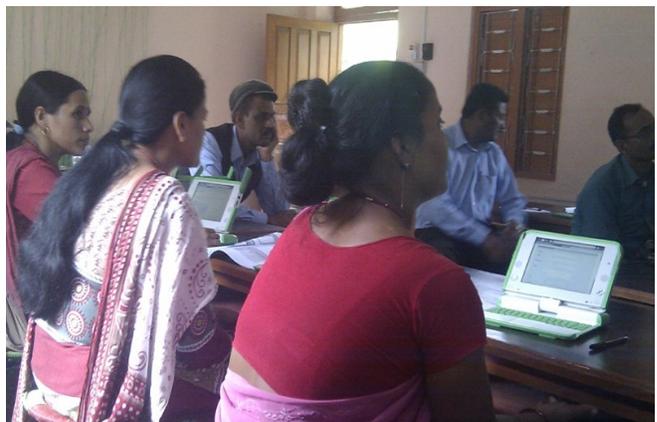
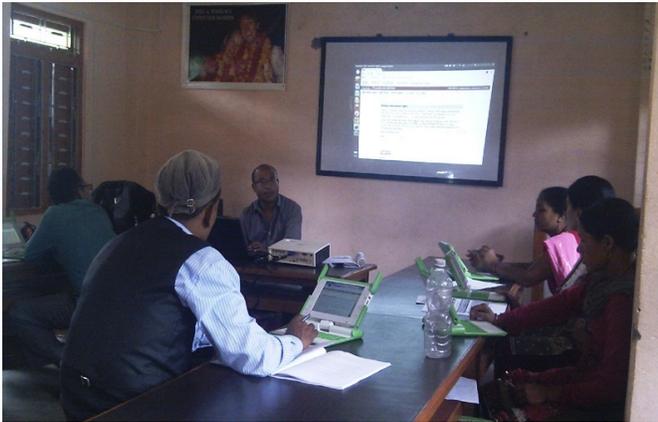
Prior to the commencement of the project, OLE Nepal established a communication with the principal, Mr. Laxmi Kant Misra, and gathered information regarding landline connection of telephone in the Belbas region. The landline connection was not available in the area. However, there was a preferred location at Damauli Bazar from where the ADSL connection could be relayed to the school. OLE Nepal engineers had studied the topology of the area in a previous survey visit. There was a deciduous forest towards Damauli Bazar area from the school, where relay point for Internet had to be installed.

2. School-tool training:

OLE Nepal provided school-tool training to a group of 8 teachers at Siddabeni Lower Secondary School from 15th Sept to 16th Sept 2012. The training team was led by Mr. Basanta Shrestha, with assistance from intern Sumit Acharya.

The training was given considering a school scenario where there were teachers, students in each of the two classes (grade 6 and grade 7), and 2 subjects being taught to them. A database was created collecting profiles for each students and teachers. The teachers were trained on creating such databases for large number of teachers and students. Similarly, for an academic year, how different quarter's information of school could be added to the database, how the

grades could be uploaded to respective profiles of students in the server so that final reports could be generated based on their performance, were some other aspects of training.



School-tool Training in session

3. Internet Setup:

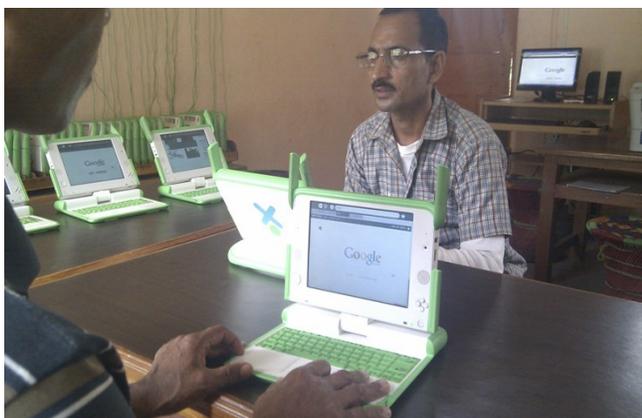
OLE Nepal network team visited the school during 17th to 20th September for Internet setup.

Limitations:

The forest in-front of the school was creating a problem for establishing a network link from the preferred location at Damauli Bazar. No proper line of sight was observed. The height of the relay points was another problem. Increasing the height could solve the problem, but increasing the height using a pole beyond 4 meters could be risky.

Solution:

A locally available Internet Service Provider (ISP), Worldlink, was contracted for the purpose. An agreement was made between the school and the ISP. Having a local ISP would also allow for easy maintenance in case of any interface level problems during the contract period. The initial installation cost and the first quarter service charge was made by OLE Nepal. The next quarter charges would have to be paid by the school itself. The school had agreed for the same.



Internet access from laptops



Wireless receiver on the roof

OTHER RELATED ACTIVITIES

Educational Content Update

a) E-Pustakalaya:

E-Pustakalaya, 'the digital library', contains more than 4000 books under different categories of art, literature, reference materials, course materials, teaching materials and other materials. Besides that nepali dictionary, school wikipedia, videos, E-learning for kids and Easy Learn English for kids has been added to the new content. All these books and materials had been updated to the school server.

b) E-Paath:

OLE Nepal has recently completed creating the interactive digital learning activities for Grade 2 to 6 for the entire academic year. The activities belongs to the subjects- Nepali, English, Maths and Science, and are available in both English and Nepali versions. These activities had been updated in the laptops.

Conclusion:

The school has been equipped with the Internet facility. The school-tool training has been provided. Hence, making the best use of these resources and facilities now completely rely in the hands of school administration and teachers.

Recommendations:

1. A bamboo pole is currently being used at the receiving point at school. It should be replaced with more solid pole and concrete can be used at its bottom for better support.
2. School should immediately start using school-tool software for administrative purpose. Otherwise, they may lack interest and may get back to traditional approach.
3. School administration can refer manuals, being provided to them, to troubleshoot any problems they face during school-tool administration.
4. Teachers should get to using internet correctly. They should not get occupied with social networking sites, rather they can make preparations for upcoming classes thinking how they can give best to the students.
5. All the students should get chance to access Internet. Proper guidelines may be needed for initial users.

TEACHERS TRAINED

S. No	Teachers	Remarks
1	Laxmi Kant Misra	Head Teacher/ Focal Teacher
2	Arjun Raj Laudari	Teacher
3	Khadga Bahadur Subedi	Teacher
4	Indrakala Naral	Teacher
5	Sarada Bastola	Teacher
6	Sabitri Khanal	Teacher
7	Phal Bahadur Thapa	Special Class Teacher
8	Parvati Tiwari	Teacher