

## In-school Training in Solukhumbu

The 10-day in-school training in 5 program schools in Solukhumbu district was held from 28 June to 8 July 2012.

The visit had the following objectives:

- To understand teachers' and children's perception of the ICT-enabled lessons
- To support teachers in classroom delivery using E-Paath and E-Pustaklaya
- To perform a baseline survey on children's existing knowledge on types of food they needed to consume, their understanding of health and hygiene issues, and their perception of the gender balanced roles at home, field and school.

### Dudhkunda Himalayan Lower Secondary School, Phaplu

The in-school training in Dudhkunda Himalayan Lower Secondary School, Phaplu spanned for two days, 1-2 July 2012.

The discussion with the teachers and the Principal helped to understand how the school at large viewed the program. The teachers were found to be excited about ICT integration in their lessons. The teachers felt that children were excited and more focused in their learning and finding the lessons fun.

The teachers having been happy and excited about the positives of ICT-integrated lessons had been concerned, at the same time, about possibility of lagging behind when it came to covering the course content in stipulated timeframe as E-Paaths added extra teaching learning materials and children inclined to E-Paath more than they were for the books content. Some teachers were critical of not having E-Paaths content similar to the prescribed text books

Five lessons of 5 different teachers were observed during the two days. All the teachers showed a promise in executing the ICT-integrated lesson successfully. Teachers were found to have familiarized themselves with the E-Paath content and they were confident in using them in classroom teaching. Students, however, didn't have much time for playing on the E-Paath.

According to the Principal of the School, Mr. Sunil Karki, the ongoing building construction when the E-Paathis arrived to the schools, prevented children from using the digital device right after the teachers' training held in Phaplu in May of 2012. Children were only two weeks old when it came to using the E-Paathis for their learning when the support team reached the school for the in-school training.

Table 1: Observed Lessons

Teacher	Subject/ E-Paath	Grade
Rit Bd. Bhujel	Mathematics/ Parallel lines	6
Rama Kettel	Science/ मानव क्रियाकलाप र वातावरण	5
Parvati Basnet	Science/ Simple	6

Sita Karki	Machine Mathematics/ Even Odd Numbers	3
Mana K. Shrestha	English/ Opposite words	4

The observed teachers were self-assured in doing the ICT integrated lessons. They exhibited the skills of ICT integration in their lesson well. On contrary, children looked confused and had problem following the instructions their teachers had for them.

Five teachers from Dudhkunda Himalayan Lower Secondary School, Phaplu attended the training in May 2012. Four out of five teachers have been actively involved in ICT-integrated lesson.

### **Swarnim Primary School**

Swarnim Primary School was visited on 3 July 2012. A school of 15 kids, Swarnim Primary School is run by 3 teachers. Two of the teachers, Ms. Sujata Rai and Ms. Kanchi Sherpa, had been two participants of the training in May 2012. Both the teachers were found to be at ease in doing the ICT-integrated lessons. The feedback session held after the demo lessons helped teachers realize the importance of pre-Epaath session. Feedback session in Swarnim School mostly dealt with making children read, understand and comprehend E-Paath content than simply clicking randomly or making wild guesses while doing the exercise in the E-Paaths.

#### Observed lessons

Teacher	Subject/ E-Paath	Grade
Sujata Rai	English/ Domestic Animals	3
Kanchi Sherpa	Mathematics/ Comparing Numbers	2

Pike Secondary School had six teachers attended the seven-day comprehensive training in May. Teachers were found to be extremely delighted and willing to do their part of the work in making the ICT-aided lesson fruitful and lasting learning experience for their pupils but unavailability of electrical connection in their school is proving futile for their new found enthusiasm.

Teachers and children are eagerly waiting for the completion of the micro-hydro plant which they expect will start generating power by the end of first week of July 2012. Teachers said they were carrying five laptops each home for charging and bringing them back the next day for children's use.

Lack of charge in the laptops prevented the visiting team to observe the lessons of teachers train to deliver ICT enabled teaching. Only two lessons were observed and the same number of feedback sessions was held. Guru Prasad Rai and Madav Dhamala did flawless ICT integrated lessons. Others were asked to prepare an ICT-integrated lesson plan for their subject and present their work to the team of teachers.

#### Observed lessons

Teacher	Subject/ E-Paath	Grade
Guru Pd. Rai	English/ Basic Sound	3

Integrated Lesson Plan Presentation

Jas Maya Rai ( English/ English Months)

Santosh Raut ( Nepali/ मेरो सेरोफेरो)

Purna Tamang ( Science जनावार र तिनका वासस्थान)

Santosh Magar (Mathematics/ जोडका शाब्दिक समस्या)

The major hurdle coming in the way to implement ICT-integrated lessons in Pike School was unavailability of electricity. The Principal seemed serious to make the program a success.

### **Meeting with the Principals and the District Education Officer**

OLE Nepal's visiting team held a meeting with Principals and the District Education Officer of Solukhumbu District was held on July 5, 2012 in Jana Jagriti Secondary School in Salleri. The purpose of the meeting was to share the experiences of ICT-enabled teaching learning of each school with fellow Principals, DEO and with OLE staffs. During the two-hour meeting the Principals of the five program schools had their school report relating to ICT implementation shared with the group. The DEO of Solukhumbu district vowed to help the schools to implement the program smoothly.

Indra Kumar Rai, Principal of Jana Jagriti Secondary School, Salleri, was all in praise for the program. According to Mr. Rai, children have been enjoying in-depth learning through the laptops. Mr. Rai demanded for 15 additional laptops to make the number 60. His case in point was that grade 6 had 60 pupils and 45 laptops had created a problem for 15 children.

Chet Bahadur Magar, Principal of Pike Secondary School was of the view that he and his staffs had a long way to go before he could make any comments about the program. He expressed his distress over scanty availability of the electricity in school- a major hurdle to implement the program in full fledged fashion.

Sunil Karki, Principal of the Dudhkunda Himalayan Lower Secondary School, Phaplu expressed his happiness over positive impacts of the ICT aided teaching in his teachers and pupils. He told the attendees of the meeting that absenteeism had been lowered amongst the pupils with the introduction of ICT enabled teaching in the school. He demanded that the program be expanded to the other schools in Solukhumbu.

Binod Tamang had a number of stories to tell. He was glad to have his hearing impaired children making most of the E-Paaths. He told the participants of the meeting that the program had attracted attention of the parents, community and other stakeholders.

Sujata Rai, Principal of Swarnim Primary School felt that children were learning and understanding better. She told the attendees that children were having a lot of fun and at the same time understanding the concept better.

Debendra Prasad Khanal assured everyone that District Education Office would help and support the teachers to implement the program in school efficiently.

<b>Participants</b>	<b>Institution</b>
Debendra Raj Khanal	DEO
Sunil Karki	Dudhkunda Lower Secondary School
Chet Bd. Tamang	Pike Secondary School
Sujata Rai	Swornim Primary School
Indra K. Rai	Jana Jagriti Secondary School
Binod Tamang	Garma School
Sunil Pokhrel	OLE Nepal
Tika Raj Karki	OLE Nepal
Sarina Piya	OLE Nepal
Pratistha Bhattarai	OLE Nepal
Kayo Puri	OLE Nepal