



Beyond the Net

Rural Communities Access to Information Society (RUCCESS)



**Nepal Chapter
Interim Report
March, 2017**

1. Project information

Project Coordinator:

Mr. Rom Kant Pandey, General Secretary of Nepal Chapter,
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Team Members:

Mr. Bikram Shrestha, President Nepal Chapter
Mr. Babu Ram Aryal, Immediate Past President Nepal Chapter
Mr. Santosh Singdel, Senoir Vice-President Nepal Chapter
Mr. Basant Ban, Forum for Digital Equality
Mr. Suraj Adhikari, Treasure, Nepal Chapter

Partner organizations:

Owner: Internet Society Nepal Chapter, Kathmandu
Co-partner: Forum for Digital Equality, Kathmandu

Supporting Organizations:

Kabre Village Development Committee, Dolkha
Hanumanteswor Higher Secondary School, Kabre, Dolkha,
CAN Federation, Sindhupalchok Branch
Giranchaur Integrated Village and Tourism Development Committee
CODEC, Dhading
Nilkantha Municipality, Dhading

Total amount awarded: \$30000.00

Period covered by this report: 7 month out of 24 month

2. Project Summary

The project has established ICT-enabled community learning hubs in three localities of rural Nepal that are not connected or scantily connected to the Internet. High-speed broadband Internet connection, ICT equipment such as computers, photocopiers, scanners, printers and solar power backup will be the primary features of the learning hubs.

In the first phase, community-learning hubs have been established in rural locations of Dhading, Sindhupalchowk and Dolakha districts of Nepal with collaboration of local communities. These are some of the worst hit districts by the April/May (2015) earthquake in Nepal.

The project locations are:

- Nilkatha Municipality ward no 8, Ramkot, Dhading
- Melamchi Municipality ward 8, Giranchaur, Sindhupalchok
- Kabre VDC ward no 4, Maina Pokhari, Dolkha

The project has ensured the establishment and operation of the Community Learning Hub along with one-time purchase of equipment like computer, printer and scanner and display. Similarly, the project has made provision for initial training for the operation of such equipment, and a two-year tariff to Internet Service Provider for internet connection.

Project is also provided training for local operator and local communities on social media (Facebook, twitter) and internet telephony services like (Viber, skype). Local communities are benefited on the community learning center use of government e-services, e-commerce's services, online payment services, remote communication services and reach to digital world.

3. Project Background and Justification

Even as the importance of Internet in daily personal and professional life is increasing day by day, Nepal's rural area remains largely disconnected with the Internet. Due to the lack of elected bodies at local level and lack of pro-active community leaders thinking towards this end, rural population particularly youths remain largely disadvantaged compared to Nepali urban population and international population due to the digital divide.

The problem is further aggravated by the devastating 7.8 Richter scale earthquake and the subsequent aftershocks that have been shaking Nepal since April last year (2015).

The project aims to contribute towards solving this digital divide. It aims to provide Internet and ICT access to those who were denied of it. The importance of access to communication and global knowledge is even more important at the present context where earthquake-affected Nepalese are in the rebuilding process.

4. Project Objectives

Following are the objective of the project:

- provide high-speed and reliable Internet access to rural population.
- To provide ICT services to rural population.
- To provide technical skills to operate the ICT equipment to people who operate the Community-learning hub.
- To facilitate communication and information flow required for the rebuilding process .
- To provide a model of community ICT hub for other interested groups to replicate in other villages.

5. Project Activities Completed so far

These activities are complete on the reporting time:

s.n.	Activities	Sub-Activities
1	Community Identification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define Area Section criteria by project team. • Link communication to community in Dolkha, Sidhupalchok and Dhading. • List out the possible areas of three district. • Feasibility Study with support of local stakeholder • Select the best area by project team.
2	Working Communities Formation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visit the ISOC team in field dolkha, sindhupalchok and dhading. • Formation of 5-7 member Learning Hub-Operational Committee. • Meeting with local committee. • MOU between community learning center and ISOC Nepal chapter.
3	Procurement of Equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepared the specification of equipment • Verification of technical specification. • Call quotation to supply the equipment in our web, Facebook and mailing to all members. • Quotation evaluation and provide work orders.
4	Trained Local Operator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design the learning hub operational guide line and technical training class. • Request to committee to select the two operator form each center. • Conduct the 40 hrs. in-depth operational training in Kathmandu.
5	Internet Connection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selection of ISP to connect three remote location. • MOU between ISP web surfer. • Work order to connect the ISP. • Connection 1 Mbps (Dedicated) Internet each hub for two year.
6	Collaboration of the other stakeholder	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify the supporting stakeholder to delivery of services and suitability of center . • MOU between other supporting stakeholder
7	Installation of Community Hub	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set-up equipment and establish the learning hub in three places. • Provides in house training to operate the day to day operation. • Consultation meeting with local communities to suitable to learning hub.

6. Project outcomes

These are the project outcome during the reporting date:

- Established the three communities learning center and operation.
- Connect the 1Mbps dedicated bandwidth for two year.
- Provide the training to seven community center operators to fully operate the center.
- Daily around 100 peoples take the internet services in each learning center.

7. Any changes in the design of the project

No major change the pre-plan activities.

8. Dissemination and Chapter presence

During the implementation of the project, different rural communities are interested to collaboration with internet society Nepal chapter. We gain the trust form government, local government and communities to rural connectivity to work together. Some the of local communities are replicating our sustainable connecting model.

In the society, peoples are interested to join internet society and be a member of Nepal chapter.

All of the local news paper and FM radio cover our news.

Include project web site, Facebook page

<https://isoc.org.np/2017/02/second-ict-center-giranchaur/>

<https://isoc.org.np/2017/02/mainapokhari-ict-center-established/>

<https://isoc.org.np/2017/03/dhading-ict-center-installed/>