



Language **Technology** Kendra

Use Models of Technology Project, a case study of Himalya Milan Secondary School, Tangting

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Project Inception

- Deployment of ICT and the establishment of ICT centers – a popular practice in Rural Nepal.
- Initiatives by the Government, Non-Governmental Organizations, Donor Agencies
- A welcoming endeavor but the crucial aspect remains to be addressed – “How to maintain sustained use of these site?”
- How to prevent the sites from closing down in due process?
- What are the challenges of such deployments?
- Should we learn from our experiences?



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- Start Date: August 1, 2011
- End Date: March 15, 2012
- Supported by: International Development Research Centre (IDRC) under the PAN Localization Project, <http://panl10n.net>

Project site



Himalaya Milan Secondary School, Tangting

Project site...

- Himalaya Milan Secondary School, community run school in Tangting village, Namarjung VDC, Kaski District.
- Hosts 300 students – 85% belong to the Gurung community, 14% from the Dalit community, 1% from the Bahun Chhetri community
- Electricity is available through the local micro-hydro power plant managed by the local community
- Internet connectivity managed through NT SAT technology



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Project Objectives

General Objectives

- 1. Examine the process of learning technology across different end-user groups**
- 2. Investigate the effective mechanism for transferring knowledge and technology skills among the end-users of non-uniform capacity and skills**
- 3. Assess the impact of the introduction of technology in the individual and social lives of the end users**
- 4. Investigate the requirements for a self sustainable use model of technology**

Project Activities

- Lab setup and technology deployment
 - Lab of 11 machines connected to LAN
 - 5 machines part of Project's support, 6 machines contributed by the site.
 - 10 webcams, 5 headphones, 2 digital cameras, 1 recorder have been provided by the Project.
 - Internet connection would be provided to the lab through the locally available NT-SAT technology
 - Ubuntu 11.4 has been installed with the following applications:
 - Nepali Locale and input
 - Nepali Spell checker with Libre office
 - Nepali Sabdakos (off-line version)
 - School Wikipedia (off-line version)

Project Activities...

- Training
 - Two phases of training
 - Trainers' Training (Teachers and Community people)
 - Using the system and basic troubleshooting
 - Basic networking and system support
 - Basic orientation on the applications
 - End-Users' Training
 - Typing in Nepali Unicode
 - Using Office Applications
 - Using E-mail, Internet, Skype, browsing web pages, Googling
 - Working with images and videos (recording and basic editing, uploading on the web)

Training and Installation Sessions



Project Activities...

- Evaluation modes
 - After the trainings, we conducted the lab sessions in basically two modes:
 - Unsupervised sessions
 - Supervised sessions

More on the evaluation modes and preliminary findings to be covered by my colleagues

On sustained use and sustainability

- Use models of technology – outcome of the local engagement and not something prescribed in advance.
- Website – <http://tangting.com.np>
 - Hub for communication, promoting Tangting as a potential tourist destination, information dissemination about the school and community
- Selected site – example of a struggling society for development on its own on all aspects – education, health, economy etc. Live example of community run village.