

SISM2 UPDATE



The Project for Support for Improvement of School Management Phase-II

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Emergency Response through SISM2

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The School Sector Reform Plan (SSRP) has been implemented to enhance the quality and relevant school education so as to have easy access and quality education for all children. SISM2 project has contributed SSRP to improve the quality education through strengthening the capacity of stakeholders for effective service delivery. The technical support of the project focuses on active participation of the schools and other stakeholders and enhancing their capacity on formulation and updating School Improvement Plan (SIP).

The 7.8 and 7.3 magnitude "Gorkha Earthquake" on 25 April and 12 May respectively had a devastating impact on the education sector mainly in 14 districts of Nepal. The total of 35,986 classrooms and other infrastructures were collapsed, and "Teachers Guide", "Curriculum & Textbooks" and other teaching materials were lost. As a result, 1,109,000 children aged 3 to 18 years old have been unable to return to their permanent classrooms when classes resumed on 31 May, 2015. Considering the negative impact of the learning achievement of the students, the necessity was felt to initiate the Disaster Risk Reduction and Preparedness including flood, land slide and fire along with earthquake.



Recourse persons are receiving Teaching Materials (Sindhuli District)

In this changing context, SISM2 has planned to support teaching materials to the community schools of earthquake most affected districts. Three districts namely Ramechhap, Sindhuli and Okhaldhunga which are less supported by the development partners and I/NGOs were selected in consultation with DoE, NCED and CDC. The types of materials supported were decided based on the needs of the each district which were as follows:

	District	Common Support	Additional support (district specific)
1	Ramechhap	- Curriculum book (from Grade 1 to 8) - Teacher's guide books (each subject from Grade 1 to 6)	- Reading books of Room to Read (27 books for each school) for 307 schools except schools which are supported by Room to Read - "We father/mother" book (1 set for each school)
2	Sindhuli		- Whiteboard for 424 damaged class rooms
3	Okhaldhunga	- Student's attendance book (one book for each grade up to Grade 8)	- Science charts and reference books for 122 Lower Sec. and Sec. Schools and DEO - Reading books of Room to Read (27 books for each school) for 210 Primary Schools.

In order to reconfirm the relationship between the curriculum and the teachers' guide and to orient on how to use the above mentioned materials, SISM2 conducted an orientation workshop for RPs/SSs in each of the target districts.



After district-level orientation, each RP is supposed to conduct RC-level orientation and distribute the materials to the schools in their RCs during the regular head teachers' meetings.

As it was planned, all three districts successfully accomplished the orientation and the materials were distributed to concern RPs by the end of August.



*Orientation on best use of Teaching Materials
(Ramechhap and Okhaldhunga)*

Collection of Good Practices with SIP Formulation and Implementation

Saraswati Lower Secondary School (Mr. Narayan Saud, Head Teacher) in Dadeldhura with a total of 167 students, 7 teachers, 10 SMC members, 11 PTA members and 103 members in mother's group have been conducting some good practices in the school through SIP process. Following DEO instruction, the school conducted workshop with the presence of 50 stakeholders that included SMC/PTA, students, teachers, mother's group and guardians/parents on 20-21 April, 2015. The school updated new plans including activities like annual and daily lesson plans, extracurricular activities plan, a teaching learning improvement plan, CAS progress plan, parent/guardian's participation plan, an environmental protection plan and a daily hygiene plan. Based on the SIP, the school has been putting efforts for implementing the plans and these are some good practices.



Trees for better environment & better future!

A. Environment Protection related activities:

- Plantation activities around the temples, providing plants to the nearby school and community households under the plan of environmental protection campaign
- Management of two wastes, disposable and non-disposable waste
- Prohibition of junk food and plastic in school

B. Teaching, Learning and Child Friendly related activities:

- Extra coaching class for the weaker students only after the formulation of the annual lesson plans
- Child friendly environment for Grade 1-3
- Practice of planned teaching
- Eye contact in teaching learning activities in the U-shape sitting arrangement in class
- Display of educational materials, reports and project works prepared by teachers and students
- English medium teaching in Grade 1-3 due to the interest of parents towards English
- Book corner in classes and management of computer laboratory
- Class rules, a monitor of each classes, responsibility assignment will be all managed by the student themselves
- Management of separate toilets for boys and girls. Management of safe (filtered) drinking water



Information sharing in parents' gathering

C. Extracurricular activities:

- Student competition on Fridays and uniform management according to the students' groups in the school
- Quiz contest and awarding during a morning assembly
- Speech by students for the leadership development during a morning assembly
- National anthem, national symbols, code of conduct of teachers and students are written on the wall

D. Mobilization of parents and community:

- PTA gathering, initiation of educational debate among mothers, community awareness dissemination program
- Providing and also taking information, suggestion from parents twice in a year on student achievement

Intensive Review & Awarding Program is an Inspiration

Mr. Surya Prasad Bhusal, ADEO
DEO, Kapilvastu

District Education Office (DEO), Kapilvastu conducted 3 layers of cascade training on SIP formulation and updating. A three-day District level Training of Trainers (D-ToT) was conducted from February 3 to 5, 2015 with technical support from DoE/SISM2. The D-TOT facilitators were 2 Officers of DEO, Kapilvastu, who were trained in the Regional-level ToT at the Regional Educational Directorate, Kaski, Pokhara that was held on January 2015. There were all together 31 participants including Resource Person (RP), School Supervisor (SS) and other officers in D-ToT. The RP together with SS and other officers were the facilitators for the Resource Center level Workshop (RC-W) to train Head Teachers and SMC members of the schools of their Resource Center (RC) to conduct the School-level Workshop (SLW) on SIP formulation and updating. The details of RC-W, SLW and SIP preparation up to now are given in the figure.

- **Total batch of RC-W: 29**
- **Number of Schools participated RC-W: 421**
- **Total number of participants: 825 (Women 141 Men 684)**
- **Number of schools which conducted SLW: 381**
- **Number of schools monitored by the RPs during the SLW : 52**
- **Number of schools submitted new SIP to DEO : 75 (Remaining schools are on the process and submitting their SIPs soon).**

Monitoring and awarding:

A review meeting on SIP formulation and updating was organized by DEO, Kapilvastu with technical support from DoE/SISM2 on 26 July, 2015. SIP Contact Persons from Kapilvastu, Arghakhanchi, Palpa and Gulmi presented their progress, shared lesson learnt and experiences as well. Mr. Arjun Dhakal, Section Officer of DoE, Mr. Khem Raj Poudel Deputy Director of RED and Mr. Surya Prasad Bushal, ADEO facilitated the SIP review meeting. The review meeting was followed by an award ceremony of **"The Best School on SIP Formulation"**.

It has three categories such as *Primary, Lower Secondary and Secondary/Higher Secondary School Level*. Considering the meaningful involvement of community in preparation of SIP, preparing a practical, simple and implementable SIP and putting the maximum efforts to improve the SIP in comparison with the previous SIP. The best schools were selected by the panel of judges formed by DEO and awarded accordingly. In Primary level, the winner is Shiva Primary School of Shivapur, in lower Secondary level it is Jana Chetana Lower Secondary School of Motipur and in Secondary/Higher Secondary level it is Jana Jyoti Higher Secondary School of Motipur. Mr. Hari Gautam, DEO and Mr. Koji Sato, Deputy Team Leader participated in the meeting, made relevant remarks and provided necessary input to the session. They also congratulated HTs and SMC Chairs of the winning schools after handing over the award. The HTs and SMC members of the winning schools were so inspired and expressed that it was a good practice which allowed the sharing of knowledge, skills and experiences that enriched others to have good SIP.



Group exercise in SIP review meeting

Achievements and lessons learned:

Cascade training on SIP enabled HTs and all stakeholders to prepare good SIP in a great extent. It became a campaign in the district to have active participation of the stakeholders ensuring the ownership. It made clear concept and process of SIP and strengthened bottom up planning process with behavioral attitude that stakeholders changed. In the past, SIP focused on infrastructures, buildings and furniture's, but now it is clear that it improves learning achievement, and upgrading the standard of the schools.

The technical and managerial aspect of the SIP formulation training up to RC level was excellent. However, the SLW program was little bit critical as the guardians and other stakeholders unable to give enough time. The active participation of the stakeholders such as community people, farmers, guardians, SMC/PTA members are inevitable in SIP formulation and updating of school.

It would have better if the development partners and the line-agencies were invited in the program so as to broaden knowledge and explore possible support for monitoring. In spite of some shortcomings, SISM2 program awakened the district for preparing SIP in line with government education system.



Handing over of the 'Trophy' to a winning school!

Reflection on Resource Center Level Workshop

Mr. Yogendra Prasad Baral
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The participation of all stakeholders must be insured in the planning process, which generates their ownership and sustainable development. SIP formulation started a decade ago, however, the adoption of this bottom up planning process had not been implemented properly due to lack of technical knowledge, skills, capacity and experiences. Considering these facts, DoE with technical support from SISM2 conducted a National Dissemination on SIP formulation and updating process.

A joint monitoring of Resource Center level Workshop (RC-W) was carried out in Shankhuwasabha from April 18-20, 2015. The objective of the monitoring was to see whether or not the workshop was conducted following Operational Guide. We, the monitoring team, visited RC and observed RC-W on the spot. We joined the preparation meeting one day before the training as observers. Then, during the training, we monitored facilitators' presentations and observed how the trainers facilitated the participants. We also checked logistic and managerial process, training venue, and sitting arrangement. Some important outcomes of the review were as follows:

A. Strength points:

1. The DEO was found to be very positive and cooperative to conduct workshop.
2. The training materials and other tools developed by SISM2 were very relevant.
3. All resource centers except Chandrapur, carried out training and workshop following the Operational Guide. The review team advised Chandrapur RC to follow the Operational Guide accordingly.
4. The presentation skill of the trainers was good and all participants were attentively enthusiastic to learn the lesson.
5. The training materials were used appropriately, and sitting arrangement was adapted to the venue environment. It was excellent.



Putting forward the issues to discuss in the session

B. Some suggestions:

1. The cascade model of training program should follow the Operational Guide so as to meet the time management and other procedures. It is suggested that the program must be followed by monitoring.
2. The backstopping and monitoring on SIP program from DEO is inadequate. It may be due to overload of the routine work of DEO.
3. There was a long time gap between D-ToT and RC-W. It may result that the trainers might forget the technical knowledge they have learnt. It should be considered



RC-W Trainers in high spirits!

C. Conclusion:

It is not a big deal to conduct training. The attitude and behavioral change was more important, which was brought from the training. A regular monitoring at every stage is also important to encourage schools. In this regards, the intensive review meeting was meaningful.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES (SEP-NOV 2015)

No	Activity	Month	Place
1	Wrap-up meeting on SIP formulation and updating	September	Kalikot, Sankhuwasabha, Bhaktapur
2	Workshop on disaster prevention education	September	Kathmandu
3	TTT and CC meetings	September-October	Kathmandu
4	Preparation of the third year action plan	September-October	Kathmandu
5	Monitoring of emergency support	October-November	Sindhuli, Ramechhap, Okhaldhunga