

Workshop report on
Creating Local Content Using WikiEducator and EasyNow



Venue: D.Net, Dhaka, Bangladesh

Date: 12-15 December, 2009

Organised by



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Creating Local Content Using WikiEducator and EasyNow

BACKGROUND

D.Net started content development in Bangla language for underprivileged communities using various media and channels in 2003. “Jeeon” livelihood content is a reputed name in Bangladesh for livelihood content. Starting with text and picture based content; D.Net is working in the area of multimedia content applying video, animation and audio media. Rural people use the content from the Pallitathya Kendra (rural information centre) with the assistance of infomediaries. Currently, D.Net is providing technical assistance to 50 grassroots organisations in operation of Pallitathya Kendra (rural information centre) and 107 educational institutions to operate ‘Computer Learning Centre’. Both of these models have been spread out to 45 districts. It is a big opportunity in creating the indigenous knowledge base by utilising this network. Considering the need and strength, D.Net is currently focusing content development on indigenous knowledge using various media. WikiEducator and EasyNow can add a value to the content presentation style more attractive and efficient, was discussed in a meeting between CEMCA and D.Net. As a part of common interest and follow up of the meeting both organisations taken initiative to organise a workshop for the infomediaries who are working at Pallitathya Kendra (Rural information centre) in the rural areas of Bangladesh. The objective of the workshop was, developing skills of infomediaries for local content creation in an interactive way using WikiEducator and EasyNow to contribute to the effort of D.Net’s focusing issues.

WORKSHOP IN BRIEF

Finally, four days long workshop was organised by D.Net at Dhaka, Bangladesh during 12-15 December 2009 with the technical and financial support of CEMCA, India. It was a basic hands-on training for interested learners. Infomediaries were selected for the workshop through a competitive test. All infomediaries (more than 100) were invited to submit 3-4 pages content on indigenous knowledge using PowerPoint slide. Finally 10 infomediaries got the workshop ticket based on the quality of their content and presentation style, level of technical skills, and level of understanding English and Hindi conversation. Three (3) staffs of D.Net, who are working with the content development team, participated in the workshop fulltime. They were selected in a scene of they will coordinate and assist the local content development team in future. Naimul Huque Joarder, expert of D.Net’s multimedia wing also participated in the workshop fulltime as assistant facilitator and technical language translator. Dr. Savithri Singh, Principal, Acharya Narendra Dev College, (University of Delhi) and D. Rukmini Vemraju, Programme Officer, CEMCA facilitated the workshop interactively. Day-to-day activities of the workshop are given below:

DAY 1: DECEMBER 12, 2009: The workshop commenced with an informal inaugural session at Training Room, D.Net attended by Mr. Masum Billah, Research Fellow of D.Net and Dr Savithri Singh, Principal, ANDC, University of Delhi. Participants introduced themselves and expressed their expectations from the workshop at a glance (Annex 5). Dr. Savithri presented the nature of the workshop and overview of OER and WikiEducator. After the short inaugural session, Dr. Savithri started the main session as designed before.

In the first half of the day participants got hand-on training on creating an account in www.wikieducator.org, basic wiki syntax, creating own page, writing into the own page, editing and text formatting (insert heading, sub-heading, bold text, italic, location and breaking the paragraph). Participants were guided to prepare list, numbering, indenting, font coloring,



internal link, external link, use of color codes, opening new page, sub page, info box, resizing photos, location of photos and photo gallery.

In the second half of the day, participants learnt about 'discussion option', writing each other, insert signature in the discussion page and use of template in WikiEducator. They got practical training to make pdf format and upload the file at WikiEducator. At the end of the day, participants shared what they learnt from the whole day session, what they liked most and where they felt difficulties. After that participant continued exercise to resolve the difficulties. It is to be mentioned that D Rukmini Vemraju, Programme Officer, CEMCA joined in the 2nd half of the workshop and introduced with participants.

DAY 2: DECEMBER 13, 2009: Before starting 2nd day session, Ms Rukmini conducted review session on the yesterday topics. In this session, all problems faced by the participants (identified yesterday) solved practically. In generally, participants faced problem in creating internal link, write caption for photos and numbering. After completion of the review, next session was started as designed before.



In this session, participants gained knowledge of photo conversion in JPG format from PowerPoint slide. They were introduced with collaborative video, video editing, transition and uploading video; editing audio with Audacity and Lame, and upload audio.

In the second session of the day, participants were introduced with the use of history in WikiEducator, table creation in WikiEducator, easy technique of text formatting like as export text into Open office for saving in Mediawiki. At the end of the day, all participants wrote their impression about today session into http://wikieducator.org/L4C_Dhaka, created by Dr Savithri and all did that.

DAY 3: DECEMBER 14, 2009: At first, participants were introduced with EasyNow software package like 'Lame' for MP3, 'Audacity' for audio editing, 'cdex' for copying audio cd, 'Text Allowed' for preparing text to voice, 'Any Video Converter' for video conversion, Open Office and ODL CODE (Open Distance Learning). Afterward, they were guided to use 'Windows Movie Maker' and video making in combination of voice (as mp3) and photos (as jpg). Using EasyNow technique, participants developed visual content on medicinal plant (related to indigenous knowledge).



At the end of this day, participants gave feedback about what they learnt, what they like most, what problem they faced or felt difficult. Some of them faced problem for uploading audio-video in ODL.

DAY 4: DECEMBER 15, 2009: At first, Dr. Savithri and Ms. Rukmini conducted the review session. They discussed the yesterday problems and difficulties and helped participants to resolve it. New session started with introducing the way of uploading pdf in 'Print the Lesson option' and Magnification audio format in 'Support for Visually impaired option' at ODL page. Participants learnt to resize the photo using photo resizing software and batch photo resizing using Adobe Photoshop. All the participants produced their content.

In the 2nd half of this day, a recap session was conducted by Ms. Rukmini and Mr. Forhad Uddin, Coordinator of this workshop. Participants showed their output that they developed. All participants expressed their feeling about the workshop and future plan. Dr. Ananya Raihan, Executive Director, D.Net gave a big thanks to CEMCA for providing support. He discussed about the future plan of this programme and expectations from the participants. He finally announced a digital camera as award for the best local content developer. This camera will be provided to a participant based on the competition of content development using the skills that they gained from this workshop. He added that, D.Net is planning to produce indigenous knowledge publication. Participants who received this training will get the opportunity to contribute as content writer. He mentioned that if you really feel the importance of this training, please apply your knowledge. Our team will provide you technical assistance. If it is needed we will try to arrange further skills development training.



As the closing word of the workshop, Ms. Rukmini said that this is one of the best workshops we have conducted; this is an advance group, all participants performed very well. She gave a big thanks to D.Net for taking the initiative and arranging the workshop. She added that in this workshop we transferred basic knowledge about WikiEducator and EasyNow. Participants will be able to produce a completed shape of content if they receive 5-days advance training on EasyNow. Generally, we provide 3 level of training on Easy Now. They have completed first level; second level will be

enough for them. They do not need third level of training. Participants should have to continue exercise and work. Before joining in the second training, they have to write a complete content and capture a number of photos. We will continue communication with D.Net. Based on the demand, interest and future plan we can arrange advance training.

At the end of the day, all together, developed 6 months comprehensive work plan for indigenous knowledge content development. Major milestones of the workshop are as below:

- Indigenous knowledge content finalization for every participant: 2nd week of January 2010
- Text development and editing, capturing picture on the content topic: 2nd week of March 2010
- Content development using EasyNow: 1st week of April 2010
- Feedback and draft finalization (EasyNow): 4th week of April 2010
- Start content development on 2nd issue: 1st week of May 2010
- Draft finalization of content (EasyNow): 30 June 2010

Finally Mr. Forhad Uddin gave thanks all and invites Ms. Rukmini Vemraju and Ananya Raihan for giving certificate of appreciation to the participants.

LESSONS LEARNED

Participants gained the basic knowledge about EasyNow from this workshop. Advance training inclusively on EasyNow will be required to get a quality and complete shape of content from them in future.

Annexes

Annex 1: List and profile of participants

| Name | Sex | Organization | District | Professional designation | Email |
|----------------------|--------|---|--------------|---|-------------------------|
| Tasfia Dipa | Female | Samsuddin-Nahar trust (SNT) | Bagerhat | Centre Manager and Infomediary | tasfia_dipa@yahoo.com |
| Akhtaruzzaman Mridha | Male | Udayan Pallitathya Kendra | Gaibandha | Centre Manager and Infomediary | akhtarudayan@gamil.com |
| Ali Ahammed | Male | Dollai nowabpur girls high school Pallitathya Literacy Center | Comilla | Trainer and Infomediary | aanumanptlc@gmail.com |
| Baharul Islam | Male | PROTIK Trust Pallitathya Kendra | Satkhira | Center Manager and Infomediary | baharul2010@yahoo.com |
| Roushan Ara | Female | ARBAN Pallitathya Kendra | Netrokona | Programme Manager and Infomediary | roushan3777@yahoo.com |
| Bajlur Rahman | Male | Samaj Jagoron O Unnayan Kendra | Gaibandha | Coordinator and Infomediary | Sjouk@yahoo.com |
| Shahajhan Ali Bipas | Male | Hunger free World Pallitathya Kendra | Jhenaidah | Assistant progremme Officer and Infomediary | bipas2021@yahoo.com |
| Mahasin Hawlader | Male | GOUF Pallitathya Kendra | Jessore | Center Manager and Infomediary | mahasin.dnet@gmail.com |
| Mahmudul Huq Foez | Male | Digonter Dak Pallitathya Kendra | Noakhali | Researcher and writer | mhfoez@gmail.com |
| Kamal Ahmed | Male | WAFH | Moulavibazar | Inforomdeary | pkwaffh1@gmail.com |
| Afrina Tanzin | Female | D.Net | Dhaka | Information Officer | afrina.tanzin@yahoo.com |
| Farha Sharmin | Female | D.Net | Dhaka | Assistant Director | farah451288@gmail.com |
| Asad-Uz Zaman | Male | D.Net | Dhaka | Programme Associate | asad@dnet.org.bd |
| Naimul Huque Joarder | Male | D.Net | Dhaka | In charge of Multimedia wing, D.Net | naimul@dnet.org.bd |

Annex 2: Session plan

Day-1

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| 9.00 - 10.00 | REGISTRATION |
| 10.00-10.30 | Welcome Address and Workshop Objectives D.Net & CEMCA |
| 10.30-11.00 | Self-Introduction by the participants |
| 11.00-11.30 Session – I | Introduction to OER & Overview of WikiEducator - Dr. Savithri Singh Principal, ANDC (University of Delhi) |
| 11.30 – 12.00 | TEA |
| 12.00-13.00 Session – II | Working with WikiEducator Hands – on, How to: Create an account in www.wikieducator.org Introduction to basic wiki syntax |
| 13.00 – 14.00 | LUNCH BREAK |
| 14.00-15.00 Session – III | Hands – on, How to: Create User page in Wiki Edit and format text within a Wiki |
| 15.00-15.30 | Tea Break |
| 15.30 – 16.30 Session – IV | Hands – on, How to: Create internal links Use external link feature Create Sub pages |
| 16.30-17.00 | Review and Recap day's work and feedback from participants |

Day-2

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| 9.30 – 10.30 Session – V | Hands – on, How to: Upload images Edit uploaded images – size, position etc. |
| 10.30-11.30 Session – VI | Hands – on, How to: Create Image Gallery Create Infobox personal |
| 11.30 – 12.00 | TEA BREAK |
| 12.00 – 13.00 Session – VII | Hands – on, How to: Access history & Use of revert back feature Protect against content vandalism Use of discussion and talk feature |
| 13.00 – 14.00 | LUNCH BREAK |
| 14.00 – 15.30 Session– VIII | Hands – on, How to: Tables, Pedagogical templates Upload videos and presentations |
| 15.30 – 16.00 | TEA BREAK |
| 16.00 – 17.00 Session – IX | Hands – on, How to: Process of converting actual educational content and making it available on Wiki format within WikiEducator |
| 17.00-17.30 | Review and Recap day’s work and feedback from participants |

Day-3

| | |
|--|--|
| 9.30 – 10.00 Session – X | EasyNow: An Introduction Rukmini Vemraju |
| 10.00-11.30 Session – XI | Hands – on, How to: Delivery Modes and Textual Document Handling |
| 11.30 – 12.00 | TEA BREAK |
| 12.00-13.00 Session– XII | Hands – on, How to: Audio Recording, Editing |
| 13.00 – 14.00 | LUNCH BREAK |
| 14.00 – 15.30 | Hands – on, How to: Preparation of slide shows, Creating Streaming Slide Shows |
| 15.30 – 16.00 | TEA BREAK |
| 16.00-17.30 Session –XIII | Finishing up exercises’, Review and Recap day’s work and feedback from participants |

Day-4

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 9.30 – 11.30 Session – XIV | Hands – on, How to: Video editing |
| 11.30 – 12.00 | TEA BREAK |
| 12.00– 13.00 Session – XV | Hands – on, How to: Creating content using EasyNow techniques |
| 13.00 – 14.00 | LUNCH BREAK |
| 14.00 – 15.30 Session– XVI | Hands – on, How to: Merging contents in ODL format for uploading on web |
| 15.30 – 16.00 | TEA BREAK |
| 16.00– 17.00 Session –XVII | Finishing up exercises’, Review and Recap day’s work |
| 17.00– 17.30 Session –XVIII | VALEDICTORY |

Annex 3: Photographs

Workshop photographs have been added with the text and have also been sent the CD copy via postal mail.

Annex 4: Workshop output

A CD copy of workshop output has been sent via postal mail.

Annex 5: Participants expectation and feedback

Before starting the main session every participants wrote three expectations from this workshop. Their expectation is summarized as below:

| Expectations | Status after the training |
|--|--|
| What does it mean by local content? | Addressed |
| How to prepare local content using EasyNow | Addressed |
| How to work on WikiEducator? | Addressed |
| How to prepare educational content using WikiEducator? | Addressed |
| How to prepare local content using WikiEducator? | Addressed |
| How we can use WikiEducator in our personal life? | Addressed |
| How to post content in the webpage? | Addressed |
| What is the importance of EasyNow and how to use it? | Addressed |
| How to make a small video, editing video, voice recording, voice integration and adjustment to make a quality video content? | Addressed but have demand for advance training |
| How to edit and upload picture, video and audio content in the webpage? | Addressed but have demand for advance training |
| How to develop a webpage and website? | Discussed the basic but separate training is needed on website development |

Participants feedback

| Name of participants | Feedback |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Tasfia Dipa | I have got a basic idea about the use of new software and technique. I will continue exercise through providing training to rural youths. Now I am inspired to develop local knowledge content. |
| Ali Ahammed | I am working in a school. I will transfer my knowledge to my students. I also will develop class lecture using these technique. It will be interactive to the student. |
| Baharul Islam | Now we have got the way how we will present the local content. Our community people will be benefit from this knowledge that I gained. |
| Roushan Ara | It is an excellent experience. After going back to village I will continue practice. But I think we need advance training to give a good shape of content. |
| Bajlur Rahman | Previously, we developed much innovative content but could not enrich it. Now we can do it properly. But we need a web space to upload our developed local content. If we get more facilities we can do more. |
| Shahajhan Ali Bipas | Currently we are working to collect local content on herbal plants. This training will help me to present and share that content to other communities in interactive way. |
| Mahasin Hawlader | Before joining the workshop, I could not think that I will learn a lot about the new techniques. I learned a lot and now inspired, the facilitation technique was very friendly and easy. I think, other people missed a lot who could get opportunity to join here. |
| Mahmudul Huq Foez | This training is very much useful, it will help us to develop and share local content with other communities. We learnt a lot, now we have to continue exercise regularly. |
| Kamal Ahmed | It is a very useful training; a lot of local knowledge is available in our community. I will collect the knowledge and work on develop content. |
| Akhtaruzzaman Mridha | All participants have already expressed what I wanted to say. Anyway if we get laptop facilities at our home, it will help us to contribute more. |

.....END.....