



A Monthly Newsletter

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## About the Project

**Launch Date of the Project**

18<sup>th</sup> February, 2016

**Project Duration**

48 Months

**Project Location**

Nagpur

**Stakeholders**

Local Government Officials, State Government, Citizens, Urban Poor, Elected Representatives, Civil Society Organisation (CSOs)

**Beneficiaries**

Citizens and officials working in Local Authority and organisations

# Workshops for transforming the Urban Canvas of Nagpur City

The team Equi – City along with Nagpur Municipal Corporation (NMC) organized 2 workshops in the month of September 2017 for NMC Officials. The workshops are first of its kind sensitizing Municipal Officials about practices of 'Innovative Teaching Techniques' and 'Disaster Response Programme'.

During the past few years, the world has witnessed a phenomenal growth in communication technology, computer network and information technology. Development of new broadband communication services and convergence of telecommunication with computers have created numerous possibilities to use a variety of new technology tools for teaching and learning system. The integration of computers and communications offers unprecedented opportunities to the education systems with its capacity to integrate, enhance and interact with each other over a wide geographic distance in a meaningful way to achieve the learning objectives. The growth of these communication and computer systems, their ease of use, the power and diversity of information transfer allow teachers and students to have access to a world beyond the classroom. It has the potential to transform the nature and process of the learning environment and envision a new learning culture. Interactivity, flexibility and convenience have become the order of the



day in the ICT supported environment. ICT opens up opportunities for learning because it enables learners to access, extend, transform and share ideas and information in multi-modal communication styles and format. It helps the learner to share learning resources and spaces, promote learner centered and collaborative learning principles and enhance critical thinking, creative thinking and problem solving skills. The ICT revolution is sweeping through the world and the gale has even caught up with developing countries like India. Information and communication technologies have introduced new methods of teaching and conducting research and have been brought into education facilities for online learning, teaching and research collaboration. The impact of ICT on all sectors of education raises challenges for policy makers, administrators, teachers and students. Underpinning the realization of the potential of ICT to improve educational practices is a practical challenge.

How these challenges are met will determine the effectiveness of the application of ICT as a means for improving systems of education. ICT is impacting on how education is delivered and how students learn. The 'ICT workshop' examined some of the key issues surrounding the application of ICT in education.

On the other hand creating awareness is most challenging, when dealing with a multi-lingual, multi-cultural population with different levels of literacy. However in doing so it is crucial for strengthening the capacity by improving infrastructure and providing trainings to people, and finally marshalling resources of every kind to cope with natural or human-induced hazards and to prevent them from turning into disasters. The Disaster Risk Programme aims at contributing towards the social, economic and developmental goals of the National Government and enabling State Governments to minimize loss of development gains from natural disasters and reduce vulnerability. It demonstrates a sustainable model for mainstreaming of disaster risk management at all levels with focus on district and community level activities.

The 'Disaster Response Programme workshop' has provided a vital output in multi-hazard risk management and sustainable recovery plans at city level and strengthening institutions responsible for sustainability and replication of these efforts.



# Innovative Teaching Techniques workshop

The workshop included two sessions,

- ◆ Innovative Teaching Techniques, Rules and Regulations,
- ◆ Tools and Techniques of ICT.

The first session was delivered by Cluster Head and Subject Co-ordinator, State Institute of Science Education (Shri. BupeshChavhan& Smt. PratibhaGohane), focused majorly on Outcome based education and Public Relations, and how to implement them in the context of Municipal schools in case of Nagpur. Second session was delivered by Head of ICT, Centre Point School (Shri. AshishkumarDalwankar), focused on the use of ICT in supporting language learning is necessity, not only to improve the effectiveness and quality of education, but more importantly to enhance the ICT literacy for teacher and learners as their life skill, in theera of rapidly changing and progressing technology. The shift is necessary because this is the age of information and technology, an age that requires that teachers facilitate the gathering of this information and not merely teach.

Unfortunately, in India, ICT is largely associated with the use of computer and Internet. What one uses ICT for and how one uses it, is not addressed sufficiently. Schools and colleges acquire computers, Internet connection, LCD projectors and then send their teachers for crash courses that supposedly teach them to use technology. The trouble is this whole approach is devoid of focus. But, until teachers are made to realize the need of ICT, no amount of computerization can help.

The session started with a small activity to understand Capacity and the Goal. Outcome of the activity was to recognize the capacity and act accordingly for the betterment of schools. This was an interactive session stating the qualities of students as described



in the rules and regulation by the state and on the other hand as what should be focused for development of students as stated for agenda for year 2020. The importance of Outcome based education (OBE) for students is discussed and explained its need for overall development of the students to make them ready for 21st century also discussed about Public Relations and communication skills for teachers which will help them to communicate with parents and supporting members to the schools. For the code of conduct for teachers the discussion started with leadership qualities and discussed the importance of leadership qualities in administration of schools. The Expert also suggested that leader should have qualities to lead a team along with the students and other staff to have and overall development of teachers and students along with school. The various rules and regulation which stated the Obligations of teachers to students, parents, community and to the colleagues or teachers are discussed with focus about means to deal

with violations of the above rules. The Session also included innovative teaching techniques like mind mapping, ICT tools for betterment of students and teachers. Incorporation of innovative methods one with involves audio visuals and interaction with each and every student for their development has been suggested.

In the second Session Expert focused on the use of ICT in supporting language learning necessity, not only to improve the effectiveness and quality of education, but more importantly to enhance the ICT literacy for teacher and learners as their life skill, in theera of rapidly changing and progressing technology, also focused on the advantages of ICT for teachers and students. The integration of ICT into the very idea of teaching and learning always places pedagogy over technology. It is not the only concern to master ICT skills, but rather it involves using ICT to improve teaching and learning. The major emphasis of ICT infusion in pedagogy should be such that it tends to improve learning, motivate and engage learners, promote collaboration, foster enquiry and exploration, and create a new learner centered learning culture. It permits the move from reproductive model of teaching and learning to an independent, autonomous learning model that promotes initiation, creativity and critical thinking with independent research. Learners are expected to collect, select, analyze, organize, extend, transform and present knowledge using ICT in authentic and active learning paradigm. Teachers are expected to create a new flexible and open learning environment with interactive, experiential and multimedia based delivery system. ICT should help teachers and learners to communicate and collaborate without boundaries, make learners autonomous and



allow teachers to bring the whole world into classroom activities. It is ultimately important to understand the roles of ICT in promoting educational changes. A basic principle is that the use of ICT changes the distribution and ownership of information resources in the space of teaching and learning and thus changes the relationship among educational participants. While designing any innovative teaching and learning environment using ICT, the teacher should always keep the learning at the center of all activities, pedagogy should be at the heart and integration of pedagogy-technology should be the central focus. Expert discussed its importance in our education system and listed out the various devices which falls under the category of ICT, which are beneficial for innovative teaching techniques. The expert also talked about the use of social media platforms for communication between students and teachers, how to use our day -to- day gadgets like mobiles and tablets or Televisions in ICT for teaching and communicate with students. The expert also suggested the use of PowerPoint presentations and interactives whiteboards while teaching stating that the using ICT will boost confidence and motivate students and make learning process interesting. Using ICT will also add value to the schools. As we become increasingly supported by ICT, teaching and learning will not be the same as before. We will have to make use of the rich and exciting opportunities offered by the new technologies in education to reach our training goal and mission. One of the objectives of the present paper is to provide better understanding and appreciation of the role of ICT in teaching and learning system. Several viewpoints of integrating ICT in teaching and learning system has been discussed. Learning is not a transfer of knowledge, rather an active construction. This paradigm shifts give the learners a completely new role that was not earlier described in the transmission model of teaching. Technology and teacher professional development in its use are best introduced in the context of broader educational reform which embraces a shift away from teacher-centered, lecture oriented towards learner centered, interactive and constructive learning environment. Multimedia and ICT can play the role of catalyst for such educational reforms. Multimedia courseware can promote effective instruction that is more engaging; learner centered, interdisciplinary and more closely related to real life events and processes and adaptive to individual learning styles and needs. It also encourages higher order thinking skills and help to construct knowledge socially. Thus teacher professional development in the use of interactive technology should embody and model the forms of pedagogy that teacher can use themselves in their classroom.

# Disaster Response Program/Workshop

The workshop sessions are

- ◆ Disaster Management, Disaster preparedness and Risk reduction.
- ◆ Emergency response training and Incident command management.

In the first session the experts focused majorly on the policy and the origin of Disaster management in recent past, references were also shared for Kyoto Earthquake and Yokohama Earthquake, explained about Sendai Framework (2015) and the importance of Converting goals for Risk Management along with the terms like hazard, Disaster, Vulnerability with respect to Nagpur city and roles and responsibilities for the participants and their respective departments suggested to use Vulnerability assessment as a tool for Disaster Risk Management. The expert also focused on importance of Scaling the disaster Management by help of parameters like Vulnerability, age factor for humans and buildings. He explained the importance of coordination within the departments and various third parties for the first aid after the disaster and suggested to use scaling methods for Disaster management and vulnerability analysis. Floods, earthquake, super cyclone are very common in our country. Lots of lives took place, properties are damaged. The people who are in distressed due to natural calamity, they are evacuated by the rescue teams. The state police, civil defense personnel are employed. Even Indian Armed forces personnel also deployed if situation arise. It is reported in most of the cases that rescue teams reached the site quite late. Each district, sub division & block levels civil authorities plan and review the same in a regular manner how to tackle the disaster. The probable shelters are identified beforehand where people can move in case of real situation arise. In

each area there are young volunteers who are keen to help the distressed people. It will be of great help if these people can be given proper training. It is like Civil Defense's Warden, Casualty services training.

Communication is one of the vital set up, which is urgently to tackle the situation. The prompt communication is the better relief, rescue and rehabilitation. At present the communication set up is developing very fast in our country, but the flood, earthquake disturb the communication.

During such emergency communication from Police and Civil Defense may extent their cooperation in a restricted manner for providing wireless communication.

There are amateur wireless operators and stations that are very active, helpful during various natural calamities. These operators are individually and also as societies. The Ministry of Communication, Government of India, and issues the licensees, this is issued after written and practical test. The various educational institutes, state offices of Bharat Scouts & Guides are also having such stations. The communications are made radiotelephony and radiotelegraphy as per the Indian Wireless Telegraph (Amateur Service) Rules 1978 (as amended in 1984).

For Disaster risk reduction and establishing the importance of preparedness for a disaster and risk management on a city level, expert focused on Earthquake resistance building for important places like schools and hospitals. The expert also suggested the "shift of approach" while dealing with effective implementation of disaster management system focusing on priorities of Sendai framework for disaster risk management and reduction of risk with emphasis on built back better. The expert suggested to identify the risk even from household level to city level



## Upcoming Events

- ◆ Workshop no. 6 on Resource Mobilization
- ◆ Workshop no. 7 on Administrative Efficiency  
10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> October 2017



and added that the proper awareness and capacity building training exercises can help us achieving this goal. Awareness is necessary even for government officials also suggested physiological awareness for the victims.

In the second session, the Expert focused on Emergency response planning. The expert also advised to plan and act accordingly. He majorly focused on Chemical hazards and safety from chemicals and with examples on Bhopal gas tragedy. Discussed on Safety key points as given by Emergency Response Guard book (ERG 2016) and explained the importance of it. The Expert also advised safe working practices like: limiting the exposure, use of proper equipment and tools, avoid mixing of chemicals and the use of common

sense.

The roles and responsibility of various departments and individuals were clearly explained in the session by the expert. The expert discussed the Management of Incident on site and explained how to control the above efficiently. The expert also focused on team structure pertaining to Primary incident command function. This session also had a small practical training about how to control the incident with a staged live incident and the participant successfully participated in it to perform various rules in the activity. The session or the activity was useful for the participants in understanding their roles on site and got a lot leaning and execution techniques from it.



## PARTNERS



**CITYNET**  
THE REGIONAL NETWORK OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES  
FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF URBAN SETTLEMENTS



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