

Retreat Programme of D.Net held during December 21-22, 2010 at CDA, Dinajpur



D.Net family at annual retreat in CDA, Dinajpur

D.Net organised its retreat at Dinajpur during December 21-23, 2010. Before the 10th Anniversary on January 13, 2011 it was a great opportunity to plan for next five years by reviewing the Mission 2010 strategy paper. All the Staff of D.Net attended the two day long retreat programme. Two committees had been formed for review of Mission 2010 and prepare next five years plan.



Mahmud Hasan is in introduction session

After the introduction speech made by Research Coordinator, Ms. Afrina Tanzin, Mr. Mahmud Hasan introduced some steps to involve participants with the whole process of retreat. During the retreat all the members participated in a number of self developing

activities and dialogue sessions. One of them which turned out to be very useful was the session on 'Review of Mission 2010' presented by Md. Forhad Uddin, team leader of 'Mission 2010 Review committee'. Main focus of the session was to discuss regarding the successes and failure of D.Net. Second part of the presentation focused on relation amongst D.Net's Mission, Vision, Objectives, Thematic area and Projects activities. Third part of the presentation highlighted on staffs' opinion regarding D.Net's management and thematic area. The summary was prepared based on the result of online survey responses by D.Net current staff. At the end of this session participants took part in a group work and proposed how it could be possible to take D.Net Management a Global Standard.

Another important session was 'Strategic Planning for Mission 2015 including Management Issues' which has facilitated by Md. Masum Billah, team leader of 'Mission 2015 planning committee'. The session focused on planning of the next five year plan for D.Net. This session ended up with the proposal to clustering the interests raised at the first day to see whether they match with D.Net's present thematic areas or not. All participants took part in a group work to set their priority amongst 150 proposals. 'Environment and Natural Resources' sector become

highest prioritize working sector when 'Education' sector got second place. At the end of the session Mr. Mahmud Hasan request all staffs to explain motive to support particular sector.



Ananya Raihan is in his speech on Social Enterprize session

On of the important session of the retreat was 'Lecture on Social Business' by Dr. Ananya Raihan, Executive Director of D.Net. In his speech he explained what social enterprise is and pointed out some merits of being a social enterprise. After his speech he collected staffs opinion regarding the future nature of D.Net.

End of the second day Mr. Emdadul Islam, Head of Operation presented the skill development issues and process. After his presentation Mr. Mahmd Hasan pointed out few issues on skill development. Later on all staffs took part in a group session where they identified their training need. Mr. Masum Billah concluded the session mentioning few future plans. Dr. Ananya Raihan and Mr. Mahmud Hasan rapped up the retreat programme and congratulate to D.Net staffs for organising a very successful retreat.



D.Net staffs at Ram Sagar, Dinajpur

The two day long retreat was a great success and it turned out to be a total get-together where each and every person thoroughly enjoyed with their families and returned to work with fresh ideas and clear mind.

Seminar on 'Sustainable E-waste Management: Bangladesh Perspective' held



Dr. Sarwar Uddin Ahmed is presenting key note paper

D.Net organised a seminar on "Sustainable E-waste Management: Bangladesh Perspective" to bring various stakeholders such as policy makers, manufacturers, importers and users together to evaluate the current status of e-waste in Bangladesh and discuss the steps that can be followed for hazard-free e-waste management in Bangladesh. The seminar was held on November 23, 2010 at Conference Room, BRAC Centre INN, Dhaka.



Speakers at the seminar

Dr. Mihir Kanti Mazumder, Honorable Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF), Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh was present as the Chief Guest while Dr. Ahsan Uddin Ahmed, Executive Director of Centre for Global Change was present as Special Guest in the occasion. The seminar was chaired by Dr. Ananya Raihan, Executive Director, D.Net.

Dr. Sarwar Uddin Ahmed, Associate Professor and Coordinator Finance and Accounting School of Business, Independent University, Bangladesh presented the key note paper. Participants took part in the open discussion and provide their valuable feedback on e-waste management situation.

Workshop on Content Development Using EasyNow held



Participants and guests at the closing ceremony of the workshop

Four days long refresher training workshop on Content Development using EasyNow was held at D. Net premises during 06-09 December 2010. The workshop was organised by D.Net with the technical and financial support of CEMCA, India. Participants from local and national level participated in the workshop. Dr. Neeti Misra, Associate Professor, Acharya Narendra Dev College, (University of Delhi)

and Dr. Rukmini Vemraju, Programme Officer, CEMCA facilitated the workshop interactively.

At the end of the workshop Dr. Rukmini Vemraju and Emdadul Islam, Head of Operations, D.Net distribute certificate to all participants. In her concluding speech Dr. Rukmini expressed her gratitude to D.Net and all participants to complete a successful workshop and promised to organise this kind of workshop in future.

Workshop on Pallitathya and Tathyakallani Model Replication held at Dhaka

A workshop titled "Pallitathya and Tathyakallani Model Replication" was held at IDB Bhanan, Agargoan, Dhaka on December 28, 2010 to enhancement the nationwide replication of pallitathya and Tathyakallani model. The workshop was organized by D.Net with the financial support of Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF)



Participants at the closing ceremony of the workshop

Forty two Executive Directors from different local NGOs participated at

the workshop. Dr. Ananya Raihan, Executive Director of D.Net was present as the chief guest and discussed the Social Enterprise system which can ensure financial sustainability of an organisation. Mr. Mahmud Hasan, Joint Director; Md. Forhad Uddin, Mr. Mosharraf Hossain and Mr. Sk. Masudur Rahman, Deputy Directors of D.Net has facilitated various session on Pallitathya and Tathyakallani Model.

MoU has been signed for Pilot Program of ICTs in Education under Public Private Initiative



MoU signing ceremony held at BCC, Dhaka

A Tri-Party MoU has been signed on October 11, 2010 at Bangladesh Computer Council (BCC) premises to implement a pilot programme for ICTs in Education under Public Private Initiative. Government of Peoples Republic of Bangladesh; Association of Non-Residential Bangladeshis 'Volunteers Association for Bangladesh (VAB)-New Jersey, USA' and D.Net will jointly implement the Programme. On behalf of Government of Bangladesh, Bangladesh Computer Council (BCC); Executive Director of D.Net Mr. Ananya Raihan and On behalf of VAB-New Jersey, Computer Literacy Program Coordinator Mr. Ajoy Kumar Bose signed the MoU. The duration of this programme will be July 2010 to June 2013. Sixty four percent of the total budget will be provided by Government of Bangladesh and thirty six percent will be borne by D.Net and VAB.

Objectives of the program are:

- Establish 100 Smart Class Rooms in existing and newly established CLCs;
- Establish 100 new CLCs in secondary schools, primarily in rural areas.

Smart Class Rooms will be used for teaching core subjects through internet and interactive educational CD materials which are already developed by D.Net, Foundation for Education Research and Innovation (FERI) and Institute of Education & Development (BU-IED), BRAC University. CLCs will deliver the basic computer training to use these materials. English, Science and Geometry of class VI to X will be included as core subjects.

This initiative is targeting to provide training to 600 teachers to use ICT educational materials. It will also provide ICT education to 15,000 students and ICT based learning to 35,000 students. Instruction Kits/ Manuals will be developed to support teachers and students. Participation of local community will ensure to create community ownership which will led these CLCs towards financial sustainability.

Mr. Abul Kalam Azad, Deputy Director, Training, BCC; Mr. Tarique Mosaddek Barqutullah, Senior Program Analyst, BCC; Mr. Munir Hasan, Consultant, Ministry of ICT was present at the MoU signing session on behalf of BCC and Mr. Forhad Uddin and Mr. Mosharrif Hossain, Deputy Director were present on behalf of D.Net.

Workshop on Content Development held

Various research findings have proved that Information and communication Technology plays vital role to ensure and enhance quality education. Based on this research findings D.Net is implementing innovation in education program. Under the programme D.Net take initiative to develop digital content of various textbooks.

To develop the content it is essential to know the requirement of the content from the teachers and students end. Aiming this D.Net has arranged several workshops for requirement analysis by the participation students and teachers separately. In this

initiative content will be develop on English and General Science of Class Six, Seven and Eight and Chemistry, Physics and Geography of Class Nine and ten. By the workshops the need from the students' part and teachers' part has analyzed. Eight workshops has already conducted on English, General Science, Physics and Chemistry on November and December 2010 and two more workshops will be conducted on January 2011. The workshops have been conducted by the support of government of Peoples' republic of Bangladesh and World Forge Foundation, Madrid, Spain.



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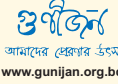
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