

Project learn, share and create together



On January 9th, 2011 members from the Himalayan Care Hand Nepal foundation and dr. Albert Kampermann from OpenWijs foundation Holland visited and brought 10 laptops to the Kavre school for the deaf in Banepa (Nepal).

The laptops were voluntary donated by several Dutch companies. The specially designed XO laptops are made as a result of the 'One Laptop Per Child'- project, to provide each child with a rugged, low-cost, low-power, connected laptop. With access to this type of tool, children are engaged in their own education, and learn, share, and create together. They become connected to each other, to the world and ultimately to a brighter future.

The Kavre school for the hearing-impaired has 80 students and is located about an hour's drive from Kathmandu. After a warm welcome by the head of school and the children from different ages and classes were instructed on the use of the laptops. They were very eager to learn all about this 'magic' machines, including the possibilities of making and sharing photo's, video's, word files and to interact with each other and the teachers.



from left to right sitting: a student, dr Albert kampermann, Govinda Khatiwada, Jagat Dahal

But not only being a laptop, it covers a wide range of useful (open source) programs to foster educational use. Therefore training materials to get acquainted by its potential use were also delivered on USB sticks, as for the teachers and the students.



“The main problem is that just delivering machines, its potential use depends on the empowerment of teachers and children”, says dr Albert Kampermann. “So we will provide additional assistance and will monitoring the project from its early start”. From Holland he will coach and from Nepal Govinda Khatiwada will supervise the project from a local perspective. Currently he is developing a Nepalese language

version and will install a network compound that enables the interaction between the laptops for optimal use in the classroom.

“Also we try and build a close collaboration with Open Learning Nepal and OpenWijs, both known for their expertise on developing online learning materials”.

In October 2011 there will be a new visit to the Kavre school for a first evaluation and possibilities to extend the project by bringing a first XO schoolserver and expanding the number laptops. Therefore additional funding is needed and anybody who wants to contribute (financially, volunteering work), is more than welcome.

This educational project is the first of the new established foundation of Himalayan Care Hands Nepal. The foundation also can provide volunteering (caring & educational) work and all needed ‘travel and stay-‘ arrangements.

“We really want to make this project exemplary for the aims of the foundation”, says Jagat Dahal from Himalayan Care Hand Nepal.



Contact: Dr Albert Kampermann, associate professor Dutch Open University,
mailto:kampermann@gmail.com