

- I. Education continues during school closures and lockdown in Lalitpur
- II. CYO to launch a virtual DRR education exchange project among Japan, Nepal, Philippines and Thailand
- III. CYO welcomes a new intern from Temple University Japan

A new boardwalk along Ooka river outside Yokohama city hall could be an attractive location if inclusive accessibility, entertainment and natural surroundings are integrated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Final report on **Bosai Culture and Disaster Education in Rural Communities in Nepal** has been introduced in the Sendai Framework Volunteer Commitments.

https://sendaicommitments.undrr.org/commitments/20210505_001

UNDRR Japan has also tweeted on the project report through its twitter in Japanese as well as posted through UNDRR Asia Pacific twitter in English.

https://twitter.com/UNDRR_AsiaPac/status/1394610153677201411

I. Education continues during school closures and lockdown in Lalitpur

The rise in COVID-19 cases once again in much of Asia is impacting the already vulnerable education sector. Local governments and schools are struggling to maintain education as the uncertainty over lockdowns and availability of proper medical care continues to impact the day-to-day lifestyle of city dwellers and students alike. One thing for certain is that the method of educating current students needs to be initiated through means that have not been in practice previously. Challenges can be expected on both the school and the student side as the new normal is introduced. Innovative and creative ideas to continue educating students as well as improvisation of contents also needs to be carried out.

Despite all the challenges and uncertainty, some public schools in Lalitpur Metropolitan City have taken steps to mitigate disruption of education. Supported through the assistance of KDDI Foundation and the content development by OLE Nepal, the schools are part of the pilot project to continue education through sharing tablets which contain curriculum-based content but modified for better learning strategy by incorporating graphics, sound and videos. While not all the students are in the city as most returned home before the lockdown started, those living in the periphery of the school are able to borrow the tablets on a rotational basis to study at home. This also allows for those without computers at home to equally access educational material. The lending of the tablets and the rotation is managed by the teachers in charge of the tablets at the respective schools.

This educational strategy through shared technology allows for the sustainability of classes when it is disrupted by cases such as the pandemic, political unrest or other challenges that hamper the smooth running of the regular classes. While there are different forms of online education, affordable and quality education particularly for the public schools is critically important to minimize the educational gap between the public and private schools as well as between those who can afford to have access to computers and those who cannot.

The current distribution of the tablets per school are as below:

| SN | Schools | Tablet computer | | |
|--------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|----------|--------------|
| | | Initial number | Added | Total number |
| 1 | Jalpa Secondary School | 30 | - | 30 |
| 2 | Bal Binod Secondary School | 15 | 4 | 19 |
| 3 | Yashodhara Bouddha Secondary School | 15 | 5 | 20 |
| 4 | Prabhat Secondary School | 50 | - | 50 |
| 5 | Harisiddhi Secondary School, | 50 | - | 50 |
| 6 | Shramik Bal Bigyan Basic School | 15 | - | 15 |
| Total | | 175 | 9 | 184 |

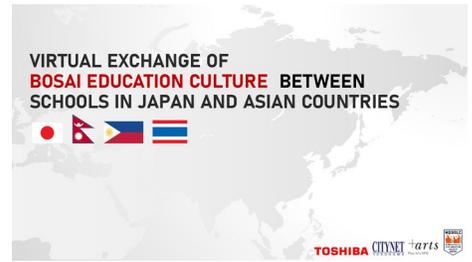
II. CYO to launch a virtual DRR exchange project among Japan, Nepal, Philippines and Thailand

CityNet Yokohama Project Office in coordination with Plus Arts has been providing different forms of DRR education to member cities for the past five years. In Nepal, DRR education activities through CityNet started after the 2015 Gorkha Earthquake which included training of teachers to develop educational material, establishing DRR education clubs in schools and launching a DRR learning center to support various knowledge exchange on DRR. In 2020, the project was further extended to rural municipalities in Nepal through virtual knowledge exchange on DRR



education to train additional teachers particularly from public schools.

In 2021 CityNet Yokohama Project Office will launch a new virtual exchange project on DRR education among students of Japan, Nepal, Philippines and Thailand. Student from elementary to university level are expected to join the program to share and discuss various DRR practices, innovations and ideas that are in practice in respective countries and to come up with new ideas for tool development by the end of the project. This is the first time that such exchange is being conducted online among participants of four different countries. The first exchange is expected to begin in July and the final one ending in December.



The projects in 2020 and 2021 are being supported by Toshiba International Foundation and content developed in coordination with Plus Arts. [The report of the 2020 DRR education project](#) can be viewed on CYO web site.

III. CYO welcomes a new intern from Temple University

Mr. Shinichi Ogura is a fourth-year student majoring in International Affairs at Temple University, Japan. He has strong interests in the field of environment and its relation to people as well as the issues that we face today relating to climate change.



He wishes to understand the urban challenges further and contribute for the programs of CityNet to help cities address the issues they are facing.

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