

## Monthly Progress Report Ashoj and Kartik 2072

### 1. Nawa Marga:

- i. **Nawa Marga Phase III**, in collaboration with the District Education Office (DEO), Dhading, took place from 2 Ashoj 2072. The one day training aimed at training teachers in child-centered learning approaches in Math, Science and Nepali, covered all 16 Resource Centers (RCs) of Dhading, within a span of 10 days. This phase helped teachers explore unique and effective methods enforcing child-centered learning with emphasis on hands on activities, games and exercises. A total of 37 trainer volunteers participated to train 1039 teachers. Training for Trainers was held at RBS on 22 Bhadra consisting of RBF and RBS staff. In addition there are 4 RCs that are yet to be reached for training of teachers, for math, science and language. Teaching learning materials for math and science will be distributed to 587 schools in Dhading.
- ii. **Nawa Marga Phase IV**: RBF and Karkhana team are working to develop a School Mapping Tool as a part of the work for Nawa Marga Phase IV to be implemented soon in Dhading. The tool being developed is still in its preliminary stage but considerable work has already been done on the same.



### 2. Primary Teacher Training Program (PTTP):

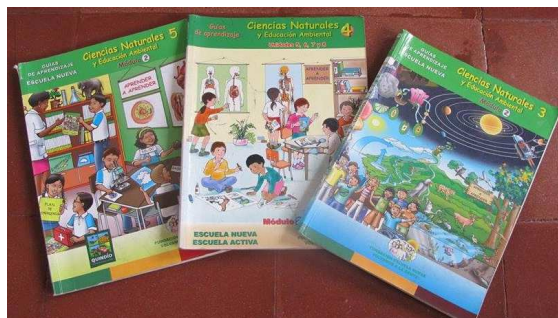
- i. **PTTP Graduation Ceremony**: The PTTP structured to create teachers well versed in the theory of child development is accredited by the National Center for Education Development (NCED). It is a collaboration of Bank Street College of Education in NYC, Kathmandu University and Rato Bangala Foundation. The PTTP graduation ceremony for 2014-2015 was held on Bhadra 31 2072. A total of 22 Graduates received certificates at the program by Chief Guest Khag Raj Baral, Director of NCED.



- ii. **PTTP Report:** A detailed report on PTTP was prepared using the feedback sheets as a reference point to highlight the strength and the weaknesses of the program. The feedback sheets depicted the need for a detailed and an depth feedback sheet, consisting of numbering scales for grading/ evaluating sessions which would be more insightful of the program. RBF interns wrote a report highlighting the expectations of the student teachers, as well as the strengths and weaknesses of the program, seen through the eye of the students. The report was prepared during Kartik.
- iii. Three weeks of PTTP students observing demonstration schools at Rato Bangala, The British School and Lincoln School concluded during Kartik. During the visits students observed ongoing classes and the workings of the school, to enhance and better their knowledge of the same. PTTP Term II and III placements for 17 teachers were finalized in schools around Kathmandu valley.

### 3. Escuela Nueva Study Program:

- i. **Colombia visit:** The RBF team embarked on a journey to Colombia to study the Escuela Nueva model from Ashoj 9 until 14 2072. Designed in the late 1970s, the model aims to improve the relevance, quality and effectiveness of schools in Colombia. Centered on the use of an active learning methodology, EN



has been adopted in more than 30 countries around the globe. The RBF team visited 3 schools in Colombia and spent considerable time interacting with students, teachers and the founder of the program.

- ii. **Follow up program:** A program to update concerned stakeholders after the visit to Colombia was held on 20 Kartik 2072. It included members from the DOE, DEO, Lalitpur, RBF Board Members etc. The visiting staff members to Colombia presented their study of EN, after which the floor was open to meaningful discussion centered on introducing EN in Nepal. Although it was agreed that Escuela Nueva is a good education model for developing countries like Nepal, it was decided that the information needs to be disseminated on a larger scale to ensure active participation from Government bodies and have the right modalities in place.



#### 4. Workshop on Early Childhood Development:

A workshop on Building Early Childhood Development through Creative Teaching Learning was conducted by Amber Johnston and Kelsey Keither at RBF on 11 Ashoj 2072. Attended by more than 70 participants, it consisted of defining quality early childhood education, supporting young students' natural curiosity and creativity as learners,



simultaneously encouraging each participant to deal with each child differently and encourage creativity in children. The workshop was followed by a talk on early childhood development for limited participants on 13 Ashoj.

#### 5. Seminar on Engo Challenge in New Delhi:

RBF staff participated in the prestigious Engo challenge held at the All India Habitat Center in New Delhi on 22 and 23 Ashoj 2072. The highlights of the program consisted of workshops and conferences, participated in by more than 1000 delegates from SAARC countries. NGOs based on their ability to use ICT were awarded by a panel of jurists, screened from applications received from NGOs from all 8 SAARC countries. RBF staff presented on the use and relevance of ICT in the programs implemented by RBF such as the English audio, radio program in Dailekh, newsletters and abundance use of websites etc.



#### 6. Level One Closing 32nd Batch:

- i. The 32nd Batch Level One Training Closing Ceremony was held on 18 Kartik 2072. A total of 28 Trainee Teachers graduated from the same. The Chief Guest comprised of the Assistant DEO of Lalitpur, Mr. Khem Nath Pokharel. This 3 month training is best suited for in service teachers, since leanings from the trainings are applied directly to classroom settings. Child Centered Learning- Level One training has come to an end.

- ii. The "Insight" magazine consisting of a variety of articles written by teacher trainees have been edited and published. The articles consist of experiences gathered from the training sessions and participants' experiences during the same. The magazine was handed over to the teacher trainees at the closing ceremony.



## **7. RTI Book Publishing:**

- i. RTI in collaboration with USAID had requested book publishing companies in Nepal to bid for their 200 book titles, to be eventually distributed to 5748 schools in 14 earthquake affected districts of Nepal. The 200 titled books divided into 4 categories targeted students of grade 1-5. This was under the EGRP, involving the government. Rato Bangala Kitab, the publishing house of the Rato Bangala Family won the bid to publish 1149600 books.
- ii. As part of the Rato Bangala Kitab work, RBF interns sorted out ISBN numbers (unique codes for each book) and also filled and sent out ISBN request forms to the related organization. In addition, the Rato Bangala Kitab book lists were prepared so that designated sets of books could be delivered to each targeted school.

## **8. Preparation for Bal Sahitya Mahotsav:**

The BSM for the year 2072 has been scheduled for 23 and 24 Magh 2072. During Kartik, RBF staff held meetings with authorities from Triyog High School, Nisarga Batika, British School, Lincoln School, KISC and Rato Bangala School. The agenda consisted of inviting an author from America to BSM and receiving outlines of workshops to be conducted by teachers from other schools in Kathmandu. RBF has received proposals to conduct workshops from The British School and KISC and Lincoln School. The British School has agreed to partially fund the international author's visit to Nepal. RBF staff also held meetings with AIN to bring teachers from different districts of the country to Kathmandu, enabling them to attend the BSM. The teachers will observe and learn from the same so that BSM can be replicated in schools of different districts in Nepal.

## **9. Planning for Earthquake Drill and Safety Preparation Project in community Schools**

- i. A concrete proposal to introduce earthquake drills in all public schools of Nepal has been submitted to potential donors such as the Japanese Embassy and Mr. Shesh Ghale. RBF staff simultaneously held meetings with NSET to ensure a safety plan and implement school preparedness in the face of an impending disaster. NSET officials

have agreed to review the RBF developed concept and provide feedback. They have in principal agreed to collaborate with RBF and prepare trainers for the work.

- ii. RBF staff prepared two proposals seeking funding from J&J Group at the request of Give2Asia. The first proposal comprised of improving the physical infrastructure of 10 schools in Dhading and the second one comprised of creating a disaster preparedness plan for 6 schools of Kathmandu. Both proposals have been submitted to the potential donor.

## **10. Preparations for Training in Tsoknyi Gechak School (TGS)**

RBF trainers spent considerable time preparing for upcoming training sessions in TGS. The training will focus on library management, use of library books, physical education, drama and introducing Continuous Assessment System (CAS) in schools. In preparation for the above RBF trainers visited the RBS library and met teachers to prepare training packages to include concrete modules.

## **11. Gulmi Visit**

RBF trainers and the Project Manager visited Gulmi from 29 Kartik to 4 Mangshir. The main purpose of the trip included holding meetings with cluster heads, RPs and monitoring schools. Preparation for library management training to be conducted in Gulmi is also ongoing.

## **12. Participation at the Education Cluster Meet**

RBF staff participated in the education cluster meet held at the DEO Office, Lalitpur. The meeting focused on reviewing completed activities, preparing for the upcoming winter months and initiating WASH project in schools. The meeting concluded with a decision to repair the TLCs since most are inappropriate for winter and do not have wall coverings on all sides. Representatives at the cluster meeting formed a coordinating committee with focus on publication. Articles will be collected from each and every organization working on the same and compiled to showcase the work initiated until now. All articles must include details about the organization, emergency activities initiated, procedures followed and all lessons learnt.

## **13. Approval from the Social Welfare Council**

Documents has been submitted to SWC to acquire permission for Nawa Marga Phase III being initiated in Dhading. Documents to initiate and implement the Kavre Project are ready and will soon be submitted to SWC for approval.

## **14. RBF Board Meeting**

RBF Board meeting held on 13 Kartik 2072. The Board approved the annual report for 2071/2072. The annual plan 2072/2073 was approved by the Board along with the audit report 2071/2072. The RBF AGM date was set.

## **15. RBF Annual General Meeting (AGM)**

The RBF AGM was held on 20 Kartik 2015. RBF annual report 2071/2072, the RBF Plan for 2072/2073 and Audit report 2071/2072 was shared at the AGM. The budget for 2072/2073 was approved and audit fee was determined for the year.

## **16. Activity list**

RBF interns are currently working to develop the math syllabus for Grade II. The syllabus is written in Nepali. The tasks for each class throughout the school year will be outlined in the list. The interns' brain stormed and included group based activities encouraging student participation at a higher level.

### **Upcoming activities:**

1. RBF trainer to visit Israel for a 3 week staff development program
2. Nawa Marga Phase IV to be implemented in Dhading
3. Library Management Training to be conducted in Tsoynki Geechek School