Proceedings of Kick-off Workshop on

FACILITATING DISTANCE LEARNING USING DIGITAL CONFERENCING FACILITY

[WP5-A@C Project: BdREN]

25-27 September 2018
Office of the Higher Education Commission, Bangkok, Thailand

[1] INTRODUCTION

The Kick-off Workshop on WP5-A@C Project entitled 'Facilitating Distance Learning using Digital Conferencing Facility' awarded to BdREN was held in Bangkok during 25-27 September 2018.

[2] OVERSEAS PARTICIPANTS

Sl. No.	Name	Designation and Affiliation	Country
1.	Professor Dr. Md. Akhtar Hossain	Member, University Grants Commission	Bangladesh
2.	Mr. A K M Habibur Rahman	Chief Executive Officer, BdREN	Bangladesh
3.	Mr. Mohammad Tawrit	Chief Technical Officer, BdREN	Bangladesh

Sl. No.	Name	Affiliation	Country
4.	Professor Dr. Harunur Rashid	Department of Fisheries Management, Bangladesh Agricultural University	
5.	Mr. Bhushan Raj Shrestha	Nepal Research and Education Network,	Nepal
6.	Mr. Chencho Tshering	College of Language and Culture Studies, Royal University of Bhutan	Bhutan
7.	Mr. A.L.Sayeth Saabith,	Director, Centre for Information Communication Technology (CICT), Senior Lecturer, Computer Science, Eastern University,	Sri Lanka
8.	Mr. Clarence Salting	University of the Philippines	Philippines

Local Participants and Staffs (Thailand):

Sl. No.	Name	Affiliation	Country
1.	Dr. Chalermpol Charnsripinyo	ThaiREN	Thailand
2.	Mr. Sittichai Sangdee	ThaiREN	Thailand
3.	Prof. Dr. Panjai Tantatsanawong	ThaiREN	Thailand
4.	Mr. Sumnuan Hirunwong	ThaiREN	Thailand
5.	Mr. Nuttapat Hirunpong	ThaiREN	Thailand
6.	Mr. Wachira Chaowalit	ThaiREN	Thailand
7.	Mr. Sadit Sathianpaison	ThaiREN	Thailand
8.	Miss Piyanuch Prangmanee	ThaiREN	Thailand
9.	Miss Saowanee Juiritt	ThaiREN	Thailand
10.	Mr. Tawee Sribuddee	ThaiREN	Thailand

Instructor/Resource Person:

Sl. No.	Name	Affiliation	Country
1.	Mr. Erik Kikkenborg	NORDUnet	Denmark

[3]   PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Time	Topic	Responsibility /Remarks
Day 1		
09.00-09.30	Welcome and Opening Remarks	ThaiREN
09.30-10.45	WP5: Asi@Conect-DLE Project-Introduction and Implementation Strategy; Selection of Topics for DLE Courses and DigiNars; Selection of Location for TTT programs; Responsibility Matrix for BdREN, NORDUNet and Participating NRENs	BdREN

10.45-11.00	Tea/Coffee	
11.00-12.30	Introduction and Connecting to the Zoom Service	NORDUnet
12.30-13.30	Lunch Break	
13.30-15.00	Introduction to Open Source Learning Management Software and incorporation of Zoom Service with LMS	NORDUnet
15.00-15.15	Tea/Coffee Break	
15.15-17.00	Course Management [Creation of Courses, Content of Course, Resource Management, Assignment, Examination and Grading], User Management (Administration) and Learner Module Management (Instructor/Student Creation/Registration, Resource Management, Assignment, Exam and Grading, Scheduling)	NORDUnet
Day 2		
09.00-10.30	Identification of System Requirement from User Perspectives	All participating NRENs
10.30-10.45	Tea Break	
10.45-12.30	Preparation of Specifications for Hardware/Software for the proposed DLE Platform	All participating NRENs
12.30-13.30	Lunch Break	
13.30-15.15	Important settings of the Zoom Service, Configuration of Zoom System and the ecosystem namely PC/MAC/Mobile client	NORDUnet
15.15-15.30	Tea Break	
15.30-17.00	End to end Demonstration of LMS from Student Registration to conducting courses using Zoom Software. Also other modules of LMS will be demonstrated.	NORDUnet
Day 3		
09.00-10.30	Introducing online learning tools in the classroom, Tips and tricks for preparing virtual classroom, Issues on pedagogical aspects and support of new teaching methods and Evangelization of Distance Learning to its stakeholders	NORDUnet
10.30-10.45	Tea Break	
10.45-11.30	Reviewing and Wrapping up Discussions	BdREN/UGC
11.30-12.00	Presentation of Workshop Proceedings	BdREN
12.00-13.30	Lunch and Closing of Workshop	

[4] DECISIONS MADE IN THE WOKSHOP

4.1 Project Schedule

The agreed project schedule is given below:

M1	September-18	Preparatory Workshop (3d)	Activity-1
M2	October-18	Procurement of Resources	Activity-2
M3	November-18		
M4	December-18		
M5	January-19	Installation & Commisioning of Platform	Activity-3
M6	February-19		
M7	March-19		
M8	April-19	Train the Trainers (3d)	Activity-4
M9	May-19		
M10	June-19	Digital Seminar-I (2d)	Activity-5
M11	July-19	DLE Course (4w)	Activity-6
M12	August-19	Workshop on Performance Evaluation (2d)	Activity-7
M13	September-19	DLE Course (4w)	Activity-8
M14	October-19	Digital Seminar-II (2d)	Activity-9
M15	November-19	Digital Seminar-III (2d)	Activity-10
M16	December-19	Train the Trainers (3d)	Activity-11
M17	January-20	DLE Course (2w)	Activity-12
M18	February-20		
M19	March-20	DLE Course (2w)	Activity-13
M20	April-20	Knowledge Sharing Workshop (3d)	Activity-14

4.2 Selection of Venue for Workshop/Training:

- **Activity#7 : Workshop on Evaluation of System**
    - **Venue: Dhaka [Confirmed]**
    - Target Date: August 2019
    - Duration: 2 days
    - Participants (15): BD (10), Participating NRENs (5)

- **Activity#14 : Sensitizing and Knowledge Sharing Workshop**
    - **Venue: Dhaka [Confirmed]**
    - Target Date: April 2020
    - Duration: 3 days
    - Participants (25): BD(16), Participating NREN (5), NORDUnet(1), GEANT(1), Internet2(1), WACREN-1

- **Activity#4: Train the Trainer Program-1**
    - **Venue: Sri Lanka (LEARN) [TBC]**
    - Duration: 3 Days
    - Target Time: April 2019

- Participants (18): Host (5), BdREN (5), 8 from 4 NRENs

- **Activity#11: Train the Trainer Program-2**
  - **Venue: Philippines (PREGINET) [TBC]**
  - Duration: 3 Days
  - Target Time: December 2019
  - Participants (18): Host (5), BdREN (5), 8 from 4 NRENs

4.3 Selection of Topics for DigiNars (Activity#5, 9, 10)

Short-listed Topics for Digital Seminars (DigiNar) are given below:
- Competitive Edge of NRENs and Financial Sustainability
- Progress and Challenges in introducing Federated Identity under Asi@Connect/GEANT
- Challenges in Implementation of LMS
- Innovative Services and Applications leading to sustainability of NRENs
- One Suitable topic on Medical Issue

4.4 Selection of Topics for DLE Courses (Activity#6, 8, 12, 13)

Short Listed Topics for Distance Learning Education (DLE) Courses are given below:
- Practical Cryptography: 2 weeks
- Cyber Security: 4 weeks
- One Health – in the nexus of climate change: 4 weeks
- Software defined networking: 2 weeks
- Artificial Intelligence: 4 weeks
- Ethical Hacking: 2 weeks

4.5 Determination of System Requirements-Hardware

- Learning Management System (LMS)
  - Will be installed in Rental Virtual Machine in BdREN
  - Number of Cores: 4 (Four)
  - RAM: 8 GB
  - Storage: 512 GB

- ZOOM
  - Will be Appliance based to start with
  - If any QoS issue comes during testing, we might consider decentralizing the system
  - NORDUnet will provide the Hardware

- Web Portal for Visibility and Support
  - Will be installed in Rental Virtual Machine in BdREN
  - May share the same VM to be used for LMS

4.6   Determination of System Requirements-End Devices

- Desktop: Corei7, 16GB DDR4 RAM, 1TB HDD [Budget: 500 Euro]
- Laptop: Corei7, 8GB DDR4 RAM, 1TB SSD, Brand: Dell/Compac/ASUS [Budget: 700 Euro]
- iPAD: iPAD 9.7-inch Apple, Capacity 32GB WiFi [Budget 500 Euro]
- Android Phone: 6" 3D Glass Metal Frame, Octa Core (2.2 GHZ + 1.6 GHZ Hexa), 6GB RAM, 64GB Storage, Brand: Samsung Galaxy-a8-Plus [Budget 600 Euro]
- iPhone: iPhone 7/8/9 - 32/64GB RAM [Budget 800 Euro]

4.7   Determination of System Requirements-Distance Learning Courses

- LMS
    - Registration: will be done through Federated Login
    - Management of Accounts: will be available
    - Assignment Module: Still not sure. Needs update from NORDUnet
    - Quiz Module: will be available
    - Chat/Blog Module: will be available
    - Generation of Certificates: Need to be explored.

- Zoom
    - Will be used for Live Classes
    - Integration between LMS and Zoom
    - Presentation, Screen Share and Opinion Poll

- No other Licensing Issue

- Recording
    - Will be accomplished in BdREN cloud
    - May be recorded in participating NREN cloud if they offer space

- Responsibility:
    - LMS & Zoom: NORDUNet
    - Recording: BdREN/Other NRENs

4.8   Determination System Requirements-Digital Seminars

- LMS: might not be required
- Registration: might be done through web portal
- Zoom: will be used for live presentations
- No other Licensing Issue
- Recording: will be accomplished in BdREN cloud
- Responsibility
    - Zoom: NORDUNet
    - Web Portal: BdREN
    - Recording: BdREN

4.9   Determination of System Requirements: Web Portal

- Features
  - Registration: For DigiNars and DLCs
  - Project Information: Scopes and Activities
  - Visibility/Awareness: for DigiNars and DLE Courses
  - One Point Technical Support
    - Call Center Support
      - Mobile: for BdREN and ThaiREN
      - Skype, Viber: For All participants
      - Email: For All participants
      - Ticket Generation: For all participants
    - Drivers for End Devices
    - Useful Links
  - Responsibility: BdREN

[5]   PICTURES

Some pictures of the workshop are exhibited below: