

Activity No. 2.2 Promotion of creativity in education

Activity No. 2.2.1 Form cultural clubs

In total, eight child clubs (CCs) formed in eight selected schools (one in each project district) comprising of 102 (or Girl 52/Boy 50) selected children during the period of January - April 2011.

Topics/activities covered

Child club (CC) was an entry point for the promotion of creativity in education. Purpose of CC was to build capacity of CCs on the performance of cultural music, creation of art and extracurricular activities in the selected schools as a means of creativity in education. In order to facilitate the process, the project has developed and implemented basic operations guidelines. The guidelines contained school selection process, membership size of CC, formation and functions of CC were the major ones.

School selection process went through visit to the potential schools in the project area, consultation with the school management committees (SMCs) and teachers, keep inform on purpose of CC, project activities and the role of schools, and collection of basic information on the existing facilities and willingness of the schools.

Basic information on the location (does the potential school located in the project area?), school catchments (do the target communities located in the catchments of the potential school?), existing facility (how is the physical conditions of the potential school? and what are the available facilities- class room, furniture?, etc.) and the willingness (are the SMC and the teachers willing to support the project?) of the schools made the selection process easy.

A total of eight schools (one school in each project district) were selected and formed CC consisting of 13 members as the representatives of entire students in each selected school. Then, the project organized an orientation to the CC on the purpose and role of CC in performing extracurricular activities as means to promote creativity in education.

Reason for modification or delay

None.

Results

A total of eight CCs were formed in the selected eight schools consisted of 102 (or Girl 52/Boy 50) children during the period of January - April 2011, ***please refer to Annex 10: Distribution and membership size of child clubs- CCs.***

It is observed that the project is the initiator of extracurricular activities, i.e. sing and dance, debate, quiz, drawing, etc. in the selected schools, in which CCs played vital role to conduct extracurricular activities. CCs are alive and carrying out extracurricular activities as the continuation of creativity in the selected schools. It is hoped that CCs can continue such activity in the future. Brief information on the formation of CC as:

Table 16: Brief information on the formation of CC

SN	Location, name of school and date of formation	No. of CC	Total no. of members		
			Girl	Boy	Total
1	Kaski: Shree Annapurna secondary school, Parche, May 22, 2011	1	7	6	13

2	<u>Lamjung</u> : Shee GramKanya LS school, Ghanpokhara, May 27, 2011	1	7	6	13
3	<u>Gorkha</u> : Shree Dhansira secondary school, Ghyalchowk, May 30, 2011	1	8	5	13
4	<u>Kavre</u> : Mahankal lower secondary school, Kanpur, March 20, 2011	1	7	6	13
5	<u>Dhading</u> : Chautara secondary school, Semjong bensi, March 10, 2011	1	8	5	13
6	<u>Rasuwa</u> : Saraswoti lower secondary school, Dhunche, April 8, 2011	1	7	6	13
7	<u>Chitwan</u> : Majbang secondary school, Siddi, March 25, 2011	1	4	7	11
8	<u>Makwanpur</u> : Silinge secondary school, Kankada, January 20, 2011	1	4	9	13
Total		8	52	50	102

Activity No. 2.2.2 Conduct training to CCs (of 7-days)

A training program on performing cultural music and creation of art conducted in Tikas' Holiday, Pokhara with a total of 24 (Girl 17/Boy 7) selected members of eight CCs for seven days in June 10 - 16, 2011.

Topics/activities covered

Purpose of the training was to increase knowledge and capacity to perform cultural music and creation of art as a means to increase creativity in education. A total of 24 (Girl 17/Boy 7) selected members of eight CCs formed in eight selected schools participated in the training, conducted in June 10 - 16, 2011 at Tikas' Holiday, Pokhara for seven days.

It was a residential training scheduled from 08:00 am to 18:00 pm to complete the agenda of the day, including the time for refreshments and foods. A team of four resource persons (RPs) has developed training course, a manual, necessary handouts and reading materials and facilitated the training as well.

Major contents of the training included the concept and understanding of child and cultural rights, introduction to and practice on popular forms of folk songs and traditional dances, i.e. Kaouda, Chudka, Salaijo, Maruni of the Gurungs; Selo, Manedora, Syfru, Fapar Whais of the Tamangs; and Mankham, Tomthyak, Laulau and Kanchhi of the Chepangs harmonizing with traditional musical instruments. Similarly, knowledge of and practice on creation of art, i.e. painting and drawing, introduction of and practice on pencil and water color, and knowledge of and skills on personal development, i.e. easy writing, debate, group management and child to child approach were also contents of the training.

Principal methods and techniques employed in the training were short structured lecture sessions well combined with muck drill at individual and group level, ***please refer to Annex 11: Key contents, methods, RPs and participants of the training on performing cultural music and creation of art.***

Reason for modification or delay

None.

Results

All together, 24 (or Girl 17/Boy 7) selected members of eight CCs trained on performing cultural music and creation of art for seven days.

The training was successful in transferring knowledge and skills to perform most popular forms of folk songs, traditional dances and music existing in the target communities and knowledge and skills of art, particularly pencil and color drawing, including basic knowledge of personal development.

To encourage and continue creativity in the selected schools, the project has provided essential musical instruments, i.e. handy loud speaker, notice board, khajadi (a traditional handy drum), madal (nepali

common drum), chanp (singing beads), bamboo flute, dhamphu (traditional drum), marchunga (traditional rhythm instrument made up of bamboo or metal), tamporian and key board; and art and other education related materials- color set, painting brush, sketch pad, palette, paper cutter, drawing board, eraser, plastic bowl to the CCs, ***please refer to Annex 12: List of materials provided to child clubs.***

It is observed that the CCs have been organizing and performing different types of extracurricular activities, such as singing, dancing and other forms of competitions in every friday in their respective schools. Brief information on the participants of the training is provided as:

Table 17: Participants of performing cultural music and creation the training

SN	Participants by CCs in the selected schools	Total no. of participants		
		Girl	Boy	Total
1	CC, Shree Annapurna secondary school, Parche, Kaski	1	2	3
2	CC, Shee Gram Kanya lower secondary school, Ghanpokhara, Lamjung	2	1	3
3	CC, Shree Dhansira secondary school, Ghyalchowk, Gorkha	1	2	3
4	CC, Mahankal lower secondary school, Kanpur, Kavre	1	2	3
5	CC, Chautara secondary school, Semjong bensi, Dhading	2	1	3
6	CC, Saraswoti lower secondary school, Dhunche, Rasuwa	2	1	3
7	CC, Majbang secondary school, Siddi, Chitwan	2	1	3
8	CC, Silinge secondary school, Kankada, Makwanpur	1	2	3
Total		12	12	24

Activity No. 2.2.3 Conduct informal classes

In total, 81 informal classes on different aspects of indigenous cultures conducted in eight selected schools in the project areas with a total of 5093 (or Girl 2733/Boy 2360) students during the period of September 2011 - March 2012.

Topics/activities covered

The purpose of the activity was to increase knowledge on different aspects of indigenous cultures among school children by conducting informal classes, as to promote creativity in education. To realize this purpose, the project has developed a plan and a broader framework to conduct informal classes in association with the selected schools. The framework suggested the topics/lessons, resource persons, duration, lesson plan, documentation, etc. of informal class. However, classes in few schools were postponed due to the arrival of terminal examination and Dashain and Tihar for a short period.

Informal classes were conducted without hampering formal classes of the schools. The topics were selected as per need and relevance of local context by following the framework. Local knowledgeable persons and experts outside the locality have conducted informal classes by developing lesson plan of each topic/lesson.

The topics taught in informal classes included significant Gurung cultures and cultural heritage, endangered cultures of the Gurungs, traditional governance, i.e. Rodhi (council of the Gurungs), Ghantu (a form of spiritual dance), Losar (the New Year), etc. in the selected schools of Gurung community.



Informal class conducting in Mahankal LS school, Kavre

Similarly, life ceremonies (birth, marriage and death), Damphu hwai (the popular tradition of dance and music), traditional institutions- Tamba (historian), Bonbo (shamen) and Lama (priest), traditional healing practices, Pong (culture of sovenior) in the selected schools of Tamang community; and traditional institutions- Mijar, Gauru and Taluke, customary practices, history of the Chepangs, Chepang language, festivals, Windrai (myths and tales) and folk songs in the selected schools of Chepang community.

Informal class was scheduled for 40 minutes, whereas it ran for 40 to 90 minutes as per the interest of the students. Key methodologies and tools employed in conducting informal classes were structured lecture, demonstration, story telling, sharing and lesson plan.

Reason for modification or delay

Due to arrival terminal examination and the major festivals- Dashain and Tihar, informal classes were postponed in few schools for a short period and resumed from November 2011.

Results

At least 5093 (or Girl 2733/Boy 2360) students of eight selected schools got knowledge on different facets of indigenous cultures, traditional knowledge system and practices and cultural resources through 81 informal classes. They also got knowledge of the child rights and the importance of cultures in education, ***please refer to Annex 13: Detail information on informal classes conducted in selected schools by subject and date.***

It is found that informal classes on local cultures and cultural resources helped to widen knowledge mong the children and the topic and entrance of instructors made learning more interesting and live to understand local cultures and cultural treasures among school children.

It is also found that the initiation of informal classes itself the beggining of extracurricular activities in the selected schools which inspired the schools and the child clubs to continue extracurricular activities to add creativity and interest in school teaching and learning.

Moreover, the project has identified and mobilized local knowledgeable persons to facilitate informal classes in their fields of expertise. It is valued as the protection and promotion of local knowledge and cultures, and such practice helped to build relationships between the local knowledge and schools.

It is reported that the informal classes are highly appreciated by the schools and students as the real investment in promoting creativity in school education. Thus, it is hoped that the activity will continue to build strong linkage between culture and education, boost creativity in education and protect and promote local cultures by the young generations in the future. Brief information on the informal classes is provided as:

Table 18: Brief information on informal classes conducted in the selected schools

SN	Name and location of schools, and name of facilitators	No. of classes		Duration of execution	Total no. of participants*		
		Target	Achiev.		Girl	Boy	Total
1	Annapurna secondary school, Parche, Kaski	10	10	Nov 29 - Dec 13, 2011	409	279	688
2	Gram-kalyan lower secondary school, Dhanpokhara, Lamjung	10	10	Dec 6 - Dec 25, 2011	357	298	655
3	Shri Dhansira secondary school, Ghyachowk, Gorkha	10	11	Nov 11 - Dec 23, 2011	389	247	636

4	Mahankal lower secondary school, Kanpur, Kavre	10	10	Nov 4 - Dec 27, 2011	369	359	728
5	Chautara secondary school, Semjong bensi, Dhading	10	10	Nov 7 - Dec 25, 2011	396	172	568
6	Saraswoti lower secondary school, Dhunche, Rasuwa	10	10	Sep 4 - Dec 16, 2011	271	353	624
7	Majbang secondary school, Siddi, Chitwan	10	10	Jan 6 - Mar 23, 2012	272	402	674
8	Silinge secondary Kankada, Makwanpur	10	10	Jan 6 - Mar 23, 2012	270	250	520
Total		80	81	-	2733	2360	5093

*figures in cumulative terms

Activity No. 2.2.4 Organize competitions

In total, 80 different competitions as a means to promote creativity in education conducted in eight selected schools with a total of 5212 (or Girl 2765/Boy 2447) students during the period of December 2011 - June 2012.

Topics/activities covered

This activity also planned to promote creativity in school education, organized as extracurricular activity in the selected schools. Competition covered a wide range of activities, such as drawing, cultural shows, poem on mother language, folk song and dance, quiz, essay writing, debate on local culture and its importance, story telling, arrow shooting, , etc. guided by the framework developed by the project.

Competition was scheduled for the second half of every Friday in a regular basis for a total of 10 events in each selected school. All the competitions were accomplished as per the plan. However, competitions in the selected schools of Kaski, Lamjung and Gorkha were uneven due to political disturbances for a short period of time, and accomplished by speeding up of the events.

The competition lasted for 3 - 4 hours depending upon the topics. Competitions were facilitated and managed by the child clubs with the help of school administration, which helped teach child club to manage extracurriculum activities. CCs also presented rewards to the winners of the competitions with the support of the project.

Formal notice of and encouragement to participate in competitions, prior arrangement, i.e. building team of juries, invitation to neighbouring schools, parents, social leaders, local authorities, etc., on-the-spot support from the project staff, etc. were adopted measures to make competitions effective.

Reason for modification or delay

None.

Results

In total, 80 different competitions as a means to promote creativity in school education conducted in eight selected schools with a total of 5212 (or Girl 2765/Boy 2447) students during the period of December 2011 - June 2012.

It is fact that the initiation of informal classes itself the beginning of extra curricular activities in the selected schools which helped to inspire the schools and the child clubs to initiate different forms of and included different forms of extra curricular activities, such as singing, sports, creation of art, informal class

on local culture, matters of cultural importance, child rights, different forms of competition, etc. kicked off by the project.

Mr. Arjung Chepang, a primary teacher of Silinge secondary Kankada, Makwanpur says: *'when the child club formed in this school, we have learnt some creative methods of teaching, such as extra classes and competitions on different subject matters. These methods provided a true bridge between the students and the text books and effective way to develop our student physically and mentally'.*

It is reported by the selected schools that the competition helped to establish linkage between students and the curriculum and increase their interests to gain knowledge of different subjects of learning. They also demonstrated their commitment to continue such extra curricular activities for the development of their students in the future. For detail information on competition organized in different schools, ***please refer to Annex 14: Detail information on competition organized in selected schools by subject and date.***

Table 19: Brief information on competition organized in the selected schools

SN	Name and location of schools	No. of competition		Date of execution	Total participants*		
		Target	Achiev.		Girl	Boy	Total
1	Annapurna secondary school, Parche, Kaski	10	10	Dec 15, 2011- Mar 22, 2012	362	242	604
2	Gram-kalyan lower secondary school, Dhanpokhara, Lamjung	10	10	Dec 15, 2011- Mar 22, 2012	565	506	1071
3	Shri Dhansira secondary school, Ghyachowk, Gorkha	10	10	Jan 2 - Feb 24, 2012	375	242	617
4	Mahankal lower secondary school, Kanpur, Kavre	10	10	May 25 - Jun 19, 2012	286	251	537
5	Chautara secondary school, Semjong bensi, Dhading	10	10	May 23 - Jun 29, 2012	353	164	517
6	Saraswoti lower secondary school, Dhunche, Rasuwa	10	10	Jun 7 - 19, 2012	269	299	568
7	Majbang secondary School, Siddhi, Chitwan	10	10	May 4 - Jun 29, 2012	313	474	787
8	Silinge secondary School, Kakada, Makwanpur	10	10	May 4 - Jun 29, 2012	242	269	511
Total		80	80	-	2765	2447	5212

*figures in cumulative terms

Activity No. 2.2.5 Organize exposure to the student

Altogether, eight exposure visits at different cultural and historical locations in the proximity of the selected schools organized with a total of 478 (Girls 281/Boys 197) students for one day of each during the period of March - November 2012.

Topics/activities covered

This activity aimed at providing an opportunity for students of the selected schools to observe and learn about their own culture and cultural heritage by organizing exposure visits in nearby places. This is a complementary activity in building linkage between culture and education, and increasing creativity in education.

The project with the CCs in the selected schools organized exposure visits to observe and learn their cultures and cultural heritages in their proximity. The members of CCs, students, teachers and the

members of SMCs of the selected schools participated in the visits. Exposure visit was of a full day in each school for a total of eight schools.

Locations of the exposure visits were selected on the basis of their cultural importance, proximity and prospects of education and inspirations to increase respect to the culture and cultural resources among the students. Locations of exposure visits included Kanma (a historic place of the Gurungs) in Kaski, Arghun (death rites of the Gurungs) in Lamjung, Srinath, Ajir and Liglig (a place of castles/forts) in Gorkha, Namobuddha (a sacred place of Buddhist) in Kavre, Dapsangjong Durbar (a historical and religious place of Rimpoche Dapsangjon) in Dhading, Tamang Museum in Rasiwa, Tharu cultural museum in Chitwan.

Observation, short lecture from and interaction with the representatives of the cultural and historical places, foods and other managerial arrangement and summing up of the visits by the project personnel were the major programs of the exposure visits.

Reason for modification or delay

None.

Results

A total of 478 (Girls 281/Boys 197) students from the eight selected schools of the project areas directly benefited from the opportunity to observe and learn different important cultural and historical inheritances.

Exposure visits helped increase respect to their culture, cultural resources and historical places among the students and inspire them to understand the importance of those heritages in their identity, education and life.

A student participated in the exposure visit in Kavre expressed her experience as: *'I have visited to Namobuddha several times with my faith on Lord Bhuddha. I had no idea why this place named as Namobuddha. The story shared by the main Lama helped me to know the secret behind the name of the place- Namobuddha', please refer to Annex 15: A narration on the secret behind Namobuddha.* Brief information on the exposure date, location and beneficiary is given as:

Table 20: Brief information on the exposure to the student

SN	Name & location of school	Execution date & location of exposue	No. of exposure visits and participants					
			Target		Achivement			
			unit	Bene-ficiary	Unit	Beneficiaries		
						Girl	Boy	Total
1	Annapurna secondary school, Parche, Kaski	Mar 25, 2012: Kanma- a historic place, Parche, Kaski	1	50	1	33	17	50
2	Gram-kalyan lower secondary school, Ghanapokhara, Lamjung	Nov 25, 2012: Arghun (death rites), Ghanapokhara, Lamjung	1	50	1	43	37	80
3	Shri dhansira secondary school, Ghyachowk, Gorkha	Mar 6, 2012: Historic place of Hansapur VDC, Gorkha	1	50	1	42	16	58
4	Mahankal lower secondary school, Kanpur, Kavre	May 6, 2012: Namobuddha, Kavre	1	50	1	36	24	60

5	Chautara secondary school, Semjong, Dhading	May 21, 2012: Dapsangjong Durbar, Semjong, Dhading	1	50	1	33	30	63
6	Saraswoti lower secondary school, Dhunche, Rasuwa	Jun 27, 2012: Tamang Museam, Dhunche, Rasuwa	1	50	1	28	28	56
7	Majbang secondary School, Siddhi, Chitwan	Sep 19, 2012: Tharu Cultural Museum, Sauraha, Chitwan	1	50	1	36	19	55
8	Silinge secondary School, Kakada, Makwanpur	Sep 19, 2012: Tharu Cultural Museum, Sauraha, Chitwan	1	50	1	30	26	56
Total			8	400	8	281	197	478