

*A Presentation on*

**E-learning – exploring its potential  
in Nepal**

▪ By Er. Amrita Khakurel

# Objective

- To explore effectiveness of e-learning in Nepal by
  - analyzing its benefits and
  - analyzing the hurdles in its implementation

# Condition of E-learning in Nepal

- Nepal, a very young player in the field of ICT.
- E-learning , thus, is still at infancy.
- Nepal relies mostly on the traditional approach to teaching and learning.
- Some educational institutes in cities are trying to adopt E-learning in recent years.

## *Contd.*

Nepal is interested in exploiting E-learning

- for the development of competitive human resource,
- for building knowledge-based society , and
- for bridging the gap between the education level of city-dwellers and that of people living in rural areas.

# Benefits of E-learning to Nepal

- Rural Population – 80% of the total population
- No. of educational institutes in rural areas – low
- Situation of these educational institutes
  - Overcrowded
  - Shortage of teachers
  - Lack of effective teaching-learning methods

# *Contd.*

E-learning can solve the problems as through e-learning,

- any number of individuals can access learning materials from any place.
- migration of people, seeking good education, to already over-crowded cities will be reduced.
- competent manpower that can work for uplifting rural areas of Nepal will be available.

# *Contd.*

E-learning can also benefit Nepal by

- pulling people who do not prefer traditional teaching-learning style.
- enhancing an individual's knowledge and skills.
- attracting people (of urban and rural areas ) who want to study further while continuing their job and other commitments.

# Hurdles in implementation of E-learning in Nepal

- Lack of basic infrastructure like telecommunications and electricity in most parts.
  - 45% of total VDCs have access to telecommunication facilities. Electricity supply is limited to about 18% of the total population (in case of rural population, it is only about 5%).
- Adverse geographic condition of Nepal making it difficult to connect rural areas.

## *Contd.*

- Low income-level

- 38% of the total population of Nepal is below poverty line.

- Income of rural people much lower than that of people living in urban areas .Hence, they can not afford equipments, like computers, that facilitate e-learning.

## *Contd.*

- Concentration of ISPs in major cities.
- Literacy rate of Nepal: 58% of male population and 22.8% of female population.
  - Huge population is still illiterate or lacking in good knowledge of English or lacking in the skill of accessing and using e-medias (like computers). Since, e-learning entails all these and as there is a shortage of relevant materials in local languages, a barrier is created between e-learning and most of the Nepalese people.

# **Recommendations for implementing** **E-learning in Nepal**

- All the barriers, like lack of electricity, telecommunications and internet facilities, that hinder the growth of e-learning should be gradually eliminated.
- The Government of Nepal should formulate new policies and amend the policies that are curbing the growth of ICT.
- E-learning should be encouraged by incorporating its use in all educational courses and organizations.

## *Contd.*

- Different technology should be used in different areas of Nepal since the diverse geographic conditions form a hindrance in the process of connecting rural areas and villages.
- Government should provide free access to the internet services and computers in several locations of rural areas so that they can benefit from e-learning.

# To conclude.....

- In the long run, Nepal will gain a lot from E-learning as its benefits will outweigh all the costs involved initially and later.
- Nepal should gradually implement and encourage E-learning all over the country.



**Thanks**