

1 Year Group Graduation

Twenty-eight Students graduated from ECEC on Friday 11th March 2016. The 1 Year Course batch of 2015 celebrated their graduation at Siddhartha Cottage. ECEC congratulates all the graduates for their success in bringing out new developments in the lives of children in Nepal.



Inclusive Education (IE)

Handicap International estimated in 2015 that nearly 60% of children with disabilities in Nepal will receive no education whatsoever over the course of their lifetime. In response to this overwhelming need, ECEC's Amber Hohensee, a volunteer special education specialist from the U.S., has been working to develop an Inclusive Education teacher training course. Funded by a grant of the Norwegian Embassy, Amber and 3 ECEC teacher trainers spent many months preparing for this course.



Their activities included: research, observations, practical teaching, and development of the curriculum of a 25-hour Level 1 training. The IE team gave training to teachers in the first ever Introduction to Inclusive Education training April 10th - 15th. As a result of the capacity building training in Inclusive Education, Hadassah, Sharona, and Rabina have all learned valuable skills that they will carry with them for a lifetime. Rabina says that she didn't know what to expect when she joined the project but that her heart has been changed as a result of her work with children with disabilities. Each of the trainers have expressed a desire to continue the work and develop more courses in the future.

Raising interest among 10 + 2 students

Morning fun with 80 college students! Early one morning in the month of January ECEC's Pitambar, Laxmi and Reann went to Khwopa College in Bhaktapur. The students start every day at 6 and ECEC was invited to be part of the program after eight. The students are studying Bachelors in Social Work. ECEC staff motivated them to make a difference by letting the children have fun while they are at school.

Thanks college students for such a great class with you where we could explain about holistic education and the necessity for this in Nepal!

One of the students came to Reann afterwards and mentioned that he was a student from Everest English School. What a joy to meet friends. Many of you know that ECEC is in close contact with this school and all the teachers there are familiar with the content of ECEC's courses. The coordinator from Khwopa college had his child enrolled in Genuine school. This is another school where ECEC has trained all the teachers in Pre Primary.



Testimonials



Anju Acharya
Step 1 Level 1

I know it is not only the teacher's job to have a good learning environment but we have to encourage our parents as well. If I would not have taken this course I would have done everything wrong I want to be a loving teacher. We can use resources that don't cost so much money and how to decorate is important.



Sunita Shrestha
Step 1
LKG Teacher, Thimi

I took many trainings before this and I was confused now I know what the child friendly environment and I have to teach according to their age and interested. I got now many new ideas but I feel parents training is so essential in this 21st century.



Diana Lhomi
Sankhuwasabha

"Before ECEC training, I used to react very strictly and the students were not able to express their feelings. My plan was not done before and I had less activities. The textbooks were more emphasized but now to do those fun things and come to know that play way methods with various activities can develop holistically and also realized that the natural resources are very useful to develop children's creativity and make them skillful."



Upasana Gurung Prasai
Project Coordinator, WVIN

"WVIN is pleased to work in direct partnership with ECEC. I and Purshotam sir were the incharge to look after this project. We personally would like to thank ECEC for their kind cooperation and hard work. They are systematic and prompt to do their work. They trained all our participants very well, we have found the trainees much more confident than before. Many of them got jobs in school after taking Step 2 training. The main objective of this project was to make them independent. Now all of them have started to work in schools and we are happy to hear their success.

International Child Development Programme (ICDP)

A second group of 23 ICDP facilitators graduated on February 12.

They received this facilitator training from the international ICDP trainers who came all the way from Norway. The participants were from different organizations. As part of the course the facilitators conducted a series of 8 meetings with parents and caregivers. It is not enough just to give good food and good education to the children; the caregivers training improves the interaction between parents and the children in their charge 114 parents received their certificate as well.

Parents shared how the ICDP course changed the way they relate with their children and how, in turn, that brought changed behavior in their children. The graduation program was held at Sidhartha Cottage, Dhobighat, Lalitpur. This was possible by the joint efforts of ECEC, ICDP and Himal Partner (a Norwegian organization that supports this programme). Along with many organizations working among the children, the three ICDP international trainers were also present in this graduation program.



Cooperation with Universal Learning Solutions

Notice on the Face book page of Universal Learning Solutions, a not-for-profit organisation from the UK that works with government, educators, donors and experts around the world to provide services that deliver innovative literacy solutions: "We were delighted to host Pitambar Neupane, Head of Teacher Training at the Early Childhood Education Centre in Nepal, and Jolly Phonics Trainer Andrea Coates, at our office in Lancaster. It was great to discuss how we can be working together towards our shared vision of enabling all children across Nepal be able to read and write. We look forward to working together!"



NORHED

(Norwegian Programme for Capacity Development in Higher Education and Research for Development.)

A very good start of the New Year: Tribhuvan University is positive about partnering with ECEC and NLA University College (Norway) in a bachelor level teacher training college!



Ruth (NLA) was in Nepal again to talk about details of the project proposal were going to submit to NORHED. Lots of meetings were held with Tribhuvan University representatives, our own project group and the staff of ECEC



Daily email contact and weekly Skype meetings with Ruth about the NORHED project proposal that was submitted on the 15th of February in cooperation with Tribhuvan University.



In Norway the signing of the NORHED application by representatives of ECEC , NLA University College and representatives of Bergen University College.



1 Year Course in the Kathmandu Office

A record total of 61 (!) students have started the one year course at ECEC this year: 47 (divided over 2 groups) at our Head Office and for the first time 1 group (14) in the Kathmandu branch. Another milestone for ECEC!

All of them are ready to invest time and effort to study and bring about changes in education in Nepal.

Principals, coordinators, teachers and students from different places have enrolled this year.



Impact of Community Healing Course

Miranda Hagoort and Rianke Klapwijk from Holland did a survey among children, teachers and parents on how they have benefited from ECEC's community trauma training after the earthquake. They had a very creative way of assessing the children with Yes and No boxes where the children could put in the cards.



They have done many interviews and are in the process of review the results. The initial results are very encouraging for us: the teachers, children and parents had benefited from the training. We look forward to the final survey results.



Staff Retreat



All the staff of ECEC went on a retreat day to celebrate life. Every one of them had been personally affected by the earthquake in some ways or other. These organisations had to change their programs because of the earthquake. "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases and his mercies never come to an end: they are new every morning." That was worth celebrating!

ECEC Reception

Teacher Training is the most visible service of ECEC, our core business. ECEC's receptionists Kris Tamang and Pabitra Magar play an important role in the process of offering training courses. They talk to the many people that contact ECEC every day to inquire about the available course, be it by phone or face to face.

They follow up on contacts made to inform them about courses starting (or being postponed!)

They accept the payment of the fees, they take care of the attendance list for every course and answer any question the trainees have about ECEC. Besides this they are responsible for the running of the library; entering new books, documenting the lending of the books and keeping track of the books coming back.

Thank you Kris and Pabitra for this very important work!



Training Schedule for Headoffice & KTM office (June – December 2016)

Course	Step 1 Lv 1		Step 1 Full		Phonics		Parent		Aya Training		Primary		Inclusive	
	HO	KO	HO	KO	HO	KO	HO	KO	HO	KO	HO	KO	HO	KO
Jul	10 & 31	-	5	4	11 & 18	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Aug	21	-	-	8	-	-	10	-	18, 25	18	-	-	-	22
Sept	-	-	23	12	-	-	-	-	15	-	-	-	5	-
Oct	2, 16 & 23	-	-	17	-	3	16	-	-	-	17	-	-	-
Nov	13	-	-	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dec	4 & 26	-	1	-	16	19	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

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