SEMINAR AND TRAINING PROGRAM ON ACCESSIBLE PUBLISHING

23-28 February, 2015

Department of Education/ Curriculum Development Center, Sanothimi, Bhaktapur

Event Report

(Group Photo of the Training participants)

1. Background:

There are approximately 95,000 people who are living with print disabilities according to the National Census 2011. According to a recent survey, the number of students living with print and visual impairment is about 1500. One of the major reasons that such a low number of persons with print disabilities pursue education in Nepal is the non-availability of books in accessible formats such as braille, audio, or large print. ADRAD has been working to improve this situation by providing texts in accessible audio formats.

The experience of ADRAD reveals that the publishers often consider and wish to assist the large number of people who are not able to read printed publications. Yet publishers may not know how to assist these persons with print disabilities to access printed books. Publishers are found also hesitate to assist such persons because they are unsure about the legal protection and their entitlements. Similarly, it was realised necessary to orientate the concerned Government officers about the capabilities of persons with print disabilities who can participate in education, employment, culture and the general life of society if they are able to read the same material as others, at the same time and at no additional cost. This can be achieved by producing mainstream publications in a fully accessible digital format. Towards this end, ADRAD organised training for concerned Government and commercial publishers on how to produce books in accessible formats. This training is administered by the funding support of WIPO under the activities of the Accessible Books Consortium and technical cooperation of DAISY Consortium.
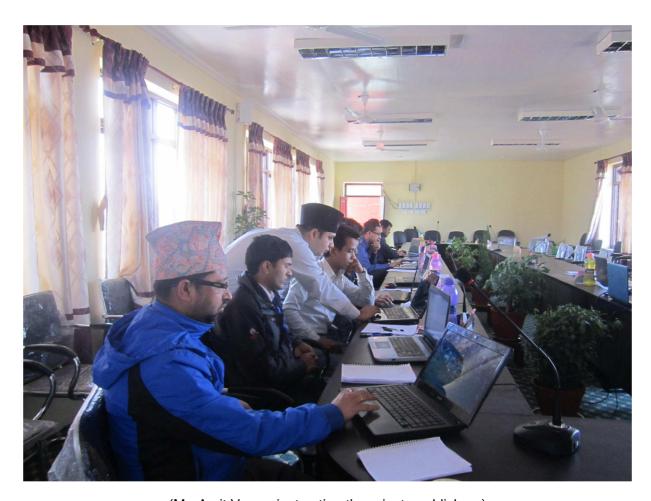
Training components:

The training convened during 23 February to 28 February. The training session were planned to be conducted simultaneously in two segments such as the Epub platform to the books publishers and the DAISY production tools to the DPOs and blind serving organisations. The first day and the last day sessions were concurrently conducted where the common contents were delivered.

(Session of first day is presented in Annex I-A)

The 6 (Six) days training was conducted in the following two segments;

I.   Two (2) days (Additional 1 Day concurrently) of the Training seminar concentrated to instructing commercial publishers (5 different publishers, 5 from Nepal National books distributors and publishers) and 5 representatives from the Department of Education, curriculum development center (15 persons in total), the training was based in the production of textbooks in the EPUB3 accessible format and in the use of mainstream publishing tools "InDesign".

Training contents is presented in Annex I-B)

(Mr. Amit Varma instructing the private publishers)

The training Seminar was conducted in the training hall of Department of Education (23 February), in Curriculum development center (27 February) and Massala Cottage (28 February, on Saturday).

Name list of the participants

S.No.	Name	Organisation	Designation
1	Dhurba Gyanwali	ADRAD-Nepal	Assistant Trainner
2	Guna Raj Pokharel	CDC	Under Secretary
3	Tarjan Rai	CDC	Under Secretary
4	Shrihari Shrestha	CDC	Library in charge
5	Rudra Prasad Adhikari	Department of Education	Under Secretary
6	Dipak Majhi	Department of Education	Officer, Inclusive Education
7	Nir Kumar Magar	NAB	Braille Press in charge
8	Rajendra Subedi	PN Campus	Digital Librarian
9	Prashant kumar Danuwar	NBPAN	Office secretary
10	Parmeshor Poudel	Vidhyarthi Pustak Bhandar	Designer
11	Rajiv Bistha	Kathalaya Publication	Designer
12	Anuj Sitoula	Nepal Book House	Designer

13	Chiran Ghimire	Himal Books	Designer
14	Rashila Bajracharya	NAWB	Braille Press in charge
15	Tilottama Gyanwali	ADRAD-Nepal	Recording Assistant

II.   There was Four (4) days and concurrently 1 day (23, 24, 25, 26 February and concurrently 28 February) of the training seminar was devoted to instructing representatives from organizations serving the physically and visually impaired (25 persons in total), in DAISY production, using publishing tools such as OBI, TOBI and save as Microsoft Word.

(The training session is presented in Annex I-C)

(Mr. Prashant Ranja Varma instructing the DPOS about DAISY publishing tools)

Name list of Participants

S.No.	Name	Organisation	Designation
1	Birendra Raj Pokharel	ADRAD-Nepal	Training Coordinator/ Chairperson
2	Dipak Majhi	Department of Education	Officer
3	Neera Adhikari	Department of Women and	Section Officer

		Children	
4	Ramesh Pokharel	NAB	Chairperson
5	Khom Sharma	KAB	Technical Expert
6	Sugam Bhattarai	NDRS	Technical Expert
7	Sushil Adhikari		Technical Expert
8	Manju Dhakal (Thapa)	Abilis Foundation	Office In charge
9	Avishekh Kumar Roy	ADRAD-Nepal	Computer Assistant
10	Ramesh Tiwari	NFHRDN	Computer Assistant
11	Om Prakash Banjade	NBSA	Chairperson
12	Kaladhar Bhandari	NYA-Nepal	Chairperson
13	Mahendra Thapa	NDYA	Chairperson
14	Laxmi Maharjan	ADRAD-Nepal	Assistant
15	Ram Prasad Dhungana	NRCD	Chairperson
16	Shristhi KC	Blind Rocks	Chairperson
17	Biplav Acharya	TU	Special Education student
18	Junu Gautam	FNCCI	Translator
19	Bol Maya Banjara		Volunteer
20	Prakriti Basnet	ADRAD-Nepal	Receptionist
21	Prashant Jha	NFDN	Finance officer
22	Ram Pyari Karki	NDWA Nuwakot	Chairperson
23	Sundar Shyam Thakur	Inland Revenue Office	Officer
24	Binod Poudel	School	Teacher
25	Bashudev Adhikari	Gorkha Radio	Anchor

Closing Ceremony:

The closing session was convened on 28 February where Honorable Rabindra Adhikary, the chairperson of Development committee of Parliament was presented as chief guest where all together 41 persons represented. The participants were amongst aforementioned training program.

The first training was convened together by Prashant Ranjan Jha and Amit Varma.

The second training was conducted by Prashant Ranjan Varma.

By the end of the ceremony, the certificates were distributed to the participants of both the trainings. The evaluation form was also filled by the participants (Annex II present the evaluation form)

(The Honorable Rabindra Adhikary expressing commitments of supporting the ratification of Marrakesh Treaty)

Output and result of the closing ceremony:

The closing session was focused on orientation and the discourse on how to legally produce accessible books under Nepal's copyright legislation, as well as information on the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons with visual and print disabilities.

The principle trainer Mr. Prashant Ranjan Varbma highlighted that the books on the open market are an exciting development when they are produced accessibly. These e-publishing technologies can enable persons with print disabilities to read content at the same time and convenience and at no higher cost as their sighted peers which are the fundamental rights of persons with visual and print disabilities.

The representative of the private publisher Mr. Prashant Danuwar, the office secretary of Nepal National Association of Book Seller and Publishers expressed commitments of providing access to their books to print and visual impaired persons by supporting and assisting the ADRAD.

The Chairperson of ADRAD explained the overview of existing situation of accessible publication, the availability of accessible resources to students and their fundamental rights to have the accessible books. He emphasized that the ongoing constitutional drafting process in Nepal which is going to transform the state mechanism inclusive of all vulnerable communities including Persons with Disabilities, that can be materialized only by providing educational rights based on article 24 of UNCRPD. The accessible books are prerequisite for inclusive development which is mentioned in article 9 of the convention. He continued that in Nepal, the government has adopted various means for educating Children With Disabilities from special schools, resource centers and inclusive classes in regular schools but the remarkable outcomes has not been realized because of lack of policy for collaboration with non-Government sectors working for the education of children With Disabilities and providing accessible books to them. He urged Nepal Government to ratify the Marrakesh Treaty so that it is mandatory for the Government to facilitate access to published works for persons who are Blind, Visually Impaired, or otherwise Print Disabilities.

The Government representative from Curriculum Development Center, Mr. Gunaraj Pokharel, and the Under Secretary clarified the perspectives of the Ministry of Education that the responsibility of the Government is to provide books to each child in compatible format. Whereas the accessible books are the fundamental rights of the children with print and visual disabilities. He also expressed on behalf of Curriculum Development Center that the further production of the Government books will be designed in the standard form that can be converted into E-pub format. His deliberation with very encouraging to DPOs and the ADRAD in supporting its mission of providing accessible books to each student.

Since the objectives of the seminar and closing ceremony was to sensitize the members of parliament about the importance of accessible publishing and the ratification of Marrakesh Treaty and its positive aspects in accessing books in accessible format and the copy rights exemption.

There was gracious presence of the chairperson of the development committee of parliament, Honorable Rabindra Adhikari as the chief guest of the closing session. There were 41 participants including representatives of various Government agencies and the organisations serving persons with disabilities.

In his deliberation, the chief guest focused on the necessity of legislation with copy rights exemption after ratification of Marrakesh Treaty and enactment of necessary domestic act for the best implementation of the Treaty.

The chief guest also recalled the existing formal practice to ratify the convention, roles of parliamentarians and civil society for the ratification and implementation of the convention. He mentioned about his role for ratifying the CRPD in past. Likewise expressed commitments of supporting and advocating with other parliamentarians to ratify the Marrakesh Treaty by Nepal in the coming days.

It was remarkable deliberation of Chief Guest that, once the treaty is ratified, the constitution drafting process from disability perspective will be more specific including the provisions of copy

rights exemption for the persons with print and visual disabilities as mentioned in the Marrakesh Treaty.

He finally called upon all disability community to join hands for drafting the rights based constitution and work together for ensuring accessible publishing.

(Training about accessible publishing in Department of Education)

This closing ceremony has been a time to make an immense commitment to ensure ratification and implementation of the Marrakesh Treaty, ensuring universal design of books, accessible for all.

Reported by:

Birendra Raj Pokharel
President-ADRAD
15 March, 2015

SEMINAR ON INCLUSIVE PUBLISHING

23 February 2015
Kathmandu, Nepal

Morning session

- Inauguration (Introduction of participants, Objectives of the program, logistics)
- Brief overview of various disabilities
- Why care about accessibility
- Understanding how persons with disabilities consume information
- Brief orientation of various assistive technology tools used by PwDs
- Demonstration of how PwDs interact with the computer
    - Screen reader
    - Magnifier
    - Refreshable braille

- Comparison of accessibility of popular electronic formats e.g. HTML/web page, PDF, DOC, RTF, TXT
- What is an Accessible format? (alternative to standard print)
- Understanding Accessible document formats

- About the daisy format
- Demo of daisy on different devices

- About the EPUB format
- Demo of EPUB on PC, mobile phone and tablet

Afternoon session

- Legal framework regarding Inclusive Publishing in Nepal
- The WIPO Treaty and its implications
- Best practices around the world

MODULE ON PRODUCTION OF FULL TEXT DAISY & EPUB BOOKS

27-28 February 2015
Kathmandu, Nepal

27 February 2015

- Understanding Text only and multimedia DAISY books
- Learning to read multimedia DAISY books in different players
- Understanding EPUB 3
- Using various EPUB Readers to open EPUB of different types
- Overview of other reading options – screen reader, refreshable Braille display, large print
- Key guidelines for preparing accessible content
- Understanding the requirements for preparing the content for accessible publishing.
- References to most widely accepted guidelines and best practices.
- Relation between Content, Structure and Presentation
  - o Treatment of text
  - o Treatment of images
  - o Treatment of Maths & Science content
- Installation and use of Save as DAISY add-in.
- Preparation of the source document
- Use of styles for retaining semantics
- Validation
- Conversion of the document to a multimedia talking book
- Testing output in players
- Converting a document to DAISY book and XML
- Participants asked to install DAISY Pipeline, Tobi & Adobe InDesign CS6
- Conversion of master XML file to other accessible formats (single source multiple output concept)
  - o Digital Talking Book (text only)
  - o HTML files
  - o Braille Embosser Ready formats
  - o Large Print

- Orientation of Tobi
- Human voice recording in Tobi
- Use of TTS feature in Tobi
- Audio import and synchronization with text
- Image description workflow
- Using Tobi to create EPUB with media overlay
- Using Tobi to create text only EPUB
- Testing the EPUB in reading systems

28 February 2015

- Issues related to Nepali language in DAISY & EPUB 3 conversion
- Conversion of Nepali documents into DAISY
- Conversion of Nepali documents into EPUB 3
- Understanding DAISY fileset
- Validators
- Quality check, validation & troubleshooting
- Training staff for DAISY production
- Book distribution channels – (CD, Flash memory, online, take away)
- Backup and storage considerations
- Troubleshooting common production problems
- Orientation of the DAISY website and technical support
- DAISYpedia
- Posting queries on DAISY forums
- Joining the support mailing list
- Subscribing to the DAISY planet for latest DAISY related news
- Creating EPUB3 with built-in accessibility using CS6
- EPUB3 accessibility guidelines – it is possible to make an EPUB that is not accessible
- About accessibility features in Indesign CS6
- Demo of conversion and mark-up using the adobe samples
- Preparation of source documents in commercial tools used by publishing industry e.g. Adobe CS6
- Final output in most widely adopted format -EPUB
- The well-structured source documents result in accessible output for all end users with or without disabilities
- Testing the EPUB in readers with assistive technology
- Questions & feedback
- Closing

Annex I-C

MODULE ON PRODUCTION OF AUDIO DAISY BOOKS

24-25 February 2016

Kathmandu, Nepal

24 February 2015

- Recap of accessible reading formats for the print impaired
- Understanding the need for DAISY – source of all alternate formats
- Introduction of the Daisy Consortium
- Introduction to the Daisy DTB
- Global & local navigation concepts

- Playback Tools Overview
- Installing Daisy Book players
- Playback of audio Daisy DTBs in different players (including hardware players such as mobile phones)
- Basic training of selected reading tools (software players and dedicated devices)
- Understanding what we can do with playback tools and what we have to consider at the creation process
- Discussion on various workflows for production of accessible reading content in different formats

- DAISY Production Tools Overview
- Overview of Obi, – the Daisy 2.02 & DAISY 3 book production tool
- Using sample projects for understanding the Obi GUI

- Converting a short document into a human voice recorded DAISY book
    - o Project settings
    - o Recording
    - o Editing
    - o Book finalization
    - o Test book in DAISY players

25 February 2015

- Creating DAISY TOC only book using human voice as per Library production workflow
    - Project setup
    - create the document structure
    - about document semantics (inter-relationship between headings and other navigational elements)
    - recording
    - editing
    - Build book
    - Book finalization and validation

- Creating a project from audio files
    - Project setup
    - Importing audio files
    - Creating structure
    - Editing audio for better navigation
    - Book finalization

26 February 2015

- Advanced features of Obi
- Different workflows in Obi – choosing workflow as per available infrastructure
- Orientation of Tobi
- Human voice recording in Tobi
- Use of TTS feature in Tobi
- Audio import and synchronization with text
- Image description workflow
- Using Tobi to create EPUB with media overlay
- Using Tobi to create text only EPUB
- Testing the EPUB in reading systems

Annex II: Evaluation form

Training Evaluation Form

To be filled by the participant after the completion of the training workshop

Name of the participant: Organisation (if applicable):

Topic of the training workshop: Location of the training workshop:

Date of the training workshop:

FEEDBACK QUESTIONS

1. How useful was the training workshop?

   ☐ Extremely useful   ☐ Very useful   ☐ Useful   ☐ Of little use

2. Were the selected topics relevant in addressing the issues faced by you or your organization?

   ☐ Very relevant   ☐ Relevant   ☐ Of little relevance   ☐ Not at all relevant

3. Has the information and experience gained at the training workshop been used by you or your organization?

   ☐ Extremely frequently   ☐ Very frequently   ☐ Frequently   ☐ Not frequently   ☐ Never

   How would you rate the knowledge of the trainers?

   ☐ Excellent   ☐ Very Good   ☐ Good   ☐ Acceptable   ☐ Poor

4. Has what you have learnt at the training workshop impacted on your day-to-day life and/or work-related activities?

   ☐ Yes   ☐ No

   If you select "Yes", please specify the details of this impact.

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5. Please add any comments that you think would help improve similar training workshops in the future.

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Signed: ....   Date: ....