Beyond Schooling

Sombath Somphone
29-10-2009
Ha Long, Vietnam
Participatory Approach

1. Understand the present
2. Learn from past experiences and experiences of others
3. Plan for the future
4. Make correct decisions and take actions
Transformation of Education

1. Identify needs among key players
2. Experiment and demonstrate one thing at a time
3. Youth as agents of change
4. **Training of teachers**
5. Produce teaching aids of various types
6. Promote participation from key players
7. Exhibitions and shows for sharing
8. Towards an ecology of learning
1. Identify needs among key players

- Young people
- Teachers and principals
- Parents
- Communities
- Clergies
- Authorities
- ??
Contentment of children at different ages

**Phys 33%**
- Activities
  - Nature 73%
    - family 24%
    - friends 3%
  - Upper second
  - Lower second

**Emo 67%**
- knowledge 26%
- family 22%
- friends 14%
- love 5%

**Phys 46%**
- materials 27%
- health 13%
- work 6%

**Emo 54%**
- family 15%
- Good child 10%
- friends 10%
- knowledge 9%
- Help others 7%
- love 3%
2. Slow change: introduce one thing at a time

- Story telling
- Extra-curricular activities
- Youth servicing communities
- Youth volunteers assisting teachers
- Experimental Quality Schools
- Standard lesson plans
- Indigenous knowledge as local curriculum
- Integration of subjects
- Project based learning
3. Youth as Agents of Transformation

Youth volunteers assist teachers in training students on aerobic dance.
4. Training of Teachers
Linking activities to subjects (integrated learning)

- Math
- Language
- Science
- Values
- Community service
- Leadership
- Hands Work
- Head Manage Business
- Cultural identity
- Local knowledge
So much can be learned from simple activities
Various learning activities
Transfer of indigenous knowledge to new generation outside of classroom situations

Education is life. It is about sustainable life styles or ESD.
Education is life
It is not schooling
It is not certification

Process of education:
know 
understand 
apply 
accountable 
Servicing 

wisdom
Schooling is compartmentalized

Education is integrated and holistic

Separated subjects
1. Math
2. Language
3. Science
4. Arts
5. Physical Ed

100%

80%

Integrated
- Interests based
- Activities
- Integrate subjects
- Stimulate intelligence

Holistic
- True values
- wisdom
- freedom
- No suffering
- contentment

20%
Managing Education

**Input**
1. administrator
2. teacher
3. management
4. curriculum
5. facilities
6. environment

**Process**
1. Child centered
2. Teaching aids
3. Knowledge banks
4. ambience
5. monitoring
6. evaluation

**Outcome**
1. heart
2. head
3. hands
4. No suffering
5. contentment
6. sustainable

*What are the indicators? How are they scaled?*
Administering Education

Other Players

• authorities
• family
• community
• clergy
• development institutions
• private sector

Process

Child centered

Integrated

Outcome

• heart
• head
• hands
• No suffering
• contentment
• sustainable

What are the indicators? How are they scaled?
1. Integrating subjects

Activities that Kids Love

Language

Math

Science

Forum

Exhibitions

Shows

Kids Love
Growing Rice

Choosing Activities

Implement Activities

Language

Math

Science

Monitor

Evaluate

Summary

Present

Shows Exhibitions
Rice in the fields

Activity
- survey
- Interviews
- games
- seasons
- Water regime
- propagation
- festivals
- cooking

Language
- essays
- Stories
- dictation
- poems
- songs
- presentation

Math
- Counting
- Measure
- areas
- calculation
- plotting
- graphics

Science
- Type plant
- Plant needs
- germination
- nutrition
- tradition
- presentation

Shows & Exhibitions
2. Holistic Education

Activities That Kids like

Human
1. Heart
2. Head
3. Hands

Wisdom

Values
That
Kids like

Contentment

Language

Society
1. Peace
2. Harmony
3. Culture identity
4. Local knowledge

Ecology
1. Economize
2. Safe environment
3. Nutritious food
Where do human come from?

Nature
- Sun light
- Water
- Soil
- Air
- Minerals
- Animals
- Plants
- Organisms

Human
- Father
- Mother
- Sperm
- Egg
- Cells
- Society
Plants: where do rice plants come from?

**Rice Plant**
- seed
- leaves
- stem
- flower
- stamen
- roots
- tissues

**Nature**
- Sun light
- Water
- Soil
- Air
- Minerals
- Animals
- Plants
- Organisms
**Animals: Where do chicken and eggs come from?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Animal</th>
<th>Nature</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• father</td>
<td>• plants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• mother</td>
<td>• animals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• sperm</td>
<td>• soils</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• egg</td>
<td>• water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• cells</td>
<td>• air</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• minerals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• sunlight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• organisms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• human</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What constitutes an economy?

Management (industry)
- human
- society
- nature

Nature
- sunlight
- water
- soil
- air
- minerals
- animals
- plants
- organisms
Human being cannot live alone

We need good
• health
• society
• environment

We strive for
• Wellbeing
• Peace
• Harmony
• Healthy ecology
• Freedom
• Contentment

Wealth
• As basic need, moderation
• not excessive and destructive desire
Thank you

Holism

peace

ecology

sustainability
Sample activities for integrated education

1. Gardening, including herbs
2. Safe and nutritious food
3. One school one product
4. Dance, songs, aerobics, handicrafts
5. Recycling
6. Organic fertilizer and pest repellents
7. Earthworm raising
8. Indigenous knowledge
9. Cartoon books
10. Small projects
Transformational Results:

- Students
- Teachers
- Communities
- Clergy
- Authorities
- Parents?
- Media?
Education is not only for life, but Education is life
5. Scaling up

- Use of simple and electronic media
- Competition exhibition and awards
- Exposure and exchange visits
- Conduct more training
- Incorporation into policy
Courage and Confidence to make change