Open School Project

National Institute of Education
Maharagama
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Why Open School?

All are not equally benefited by the formal school system

- At the end of the primary circle 6.3% have become drop-outs (Grade 5)
- During the secondary circle (6–10) it increases up to 18%
- From the GCE (OL) 49% have become drop-outs
- From the GCE (A/L) 45% have become drop-outs

(World Bank Report (2005))
Street children

Beach Boys

Prisoners

Child laboures

Unskilled workers

delinquents

Drug traffickers

Geographical barriers

Cultural barriers

Inequalities in socio-political, and economic

Natural disasters

War

Disability
Why we are unable to provide formal education for out-of-school children, youth and adults? ......

Rules?

Regulations?

Structures?

Qualified Teachers?

Resources?

Cost?
How can increase accessibility for education?

- Braking all traditional barriers to learning
  - pre-qualifications
  - age
  - sex
  - geographical location
  - availability
  - scheduling
  - learning style and
  - cost.
How can break barriers for education?

Providing an alternative path

- Non-formal
- Flexible
- Innovative
- Remedial
- Enjoyable
Our education system does not provide opportunities to access education

- Children those who
  - dropped-out and failures from their formal education in a variety of reasons
  - stopped their schooling and engage in income generation activities for survival of their families
  - do not like to enter formal school due to their cultural lifestyle (eg: Gypsies, Vaddas and religious groups)
Children those who

- are in prisons and rehabilitation centres due to engage anti social activities

- girls who have been unable to come to the formal school due to look after their siblings

- Disabled children

- girls who culturally affected
What is Open School?

a low cost, non-formal innovative learning channel

to bring
real, collaborative, flexible, enjoyable and meaningful learning

to the doorsteps of the thousands of children, youth, and from braking all barriers to learning through adapting Open and Distance learning system.
Level of Education Needs Survey - 2004

Level of Education Needs Survey 2005
Objectives

- Provide an alternative path for those who need to continue their education
- Provide assistance for those who need to complete secondary education
- Provide learning opportunities for those who are unskilled and semi-skilled to promote their livelihood
- Strengthen the link between education and the "world of work"
Objectives (contain....)

- Ensure importance and value of life long education for improving quality of life
- Promote social justice and Social harmony
- Promote a learning society
Target groups

- School drop-outs and failures
- Culturally affected children
- Children in indigenous groups
- Children and youth in war affected areas
- Displaced children and youth
- Children in correctional centres and prisoners
- Disabled children
- Unskilled and Semi-skilled workers
- Other disadvantaged groups
Target group

Children in correctional Centres
Target groups

War affected children and youth

Displaced children
Children belong to indigenous group

Girls who look after their siblings

Target groups
Drop-outs
Disabled children

Culturally affected girls
Education Programmes

- Foundation courses
- Bridging Courses
- Secondary Education Course
- Senior Secondary Education Course
- Supplementary Education Courses
- Technical and skill development Courses
- Continuing Education Courses
- Language Courses
- Life Enrichment Courses
Implementation process

- Awareness programmes
- Needs surveys
- Establishment of Regional Study Centers
- Recruitment of tutors and enrollment of learners
- Provision of learner support for learning
Regional Study Centres: 16

Sub Study Centres: 40
Current Statistics

1. No. of Regional Study Centers: 20
   Sub Study Centres: 40

2. No. of Learners: 2189
   Sinhala: 552
   Tamil: 1637
   Male: 1186
   Female: 1003

3. No. of Tutors/Resource persons: 206
   Sinhala: 106
   Tamil: 100
Learner support system

- Face-to-face sessions
- On demand study circle
- Individual tutoring
- Printed self-Learning materials (Modules and activity books)
- Audio cassettes
- Library books
- Stationary
- Sport Goods
- Refreshment
Delivery mode of Instructions

- Self–Learning kits
- Audio-video cassettes
- Study circles
- Assignments
- Mentoring
- Library
- Radio & TV programs
- Mobile Tutoring
- Personal contact programme
- Telephone conversations
- Study centre
- Practical work
- Field visit
- learner
- Comm: Mem's:
- Re: leaders
- Experts
- Employer
- Teachers
- Peer Grps:
- Family
Learner supports System

- Face to face sessions
- On demand Study Circle
- Individual tutoring
- Learning materials
- Stationary
- Sport goods
- Refreshment
Activities in the face to face sessions
Learning Materials

Material

Guidelines

Modules

Activity books

Hand books
Lessons learned

- Those who missed their education are willing to continue their education for better life.

- Those who have low educational qualifications are willing to continue their education through open school to get certificates.

- Open School could break cultural and social barriers and increase accessibility for education.
An effective learner support system could be encouraged learners for open schooling

Different remedial measures should be applied to develop active learning process and maintain engagement of learners due to poor family background
Challenges and issues

- Utilization of technological devices
- Tutors’ adaptability for ODL
- Immediate intervention for learners’ needs
- Inculcating of self-directed learning
- Convincing of the significant of Open School concept to policy makers and higher authorities
Prepare an organizational structure with the functions to implement Open School System at provincial level in focusing following factors.

- A Suitable mechanism to implement Open School System at provincial level
- Certification and evaluation of learners at school level
- Provision of human and physical resources
- The sustainability and continuity of Open School System