



New Way to a Sustainable Transformational Educational Programme

NEWSTEP (101083210)

Transforming Nepal's Educational Landscape in terms of Digitalization



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Acronyms and Abbreviations

CBHE	Capacity Building in Higher Education
EU	European Union
NEWSTEP	Nepal Way to a Sustainable Transformational Educational Programme
EACEA	European Education and Culture Executive Agency
HEI	Higher Education Institution
SC	Steering Committee
WP	Work Package
WPL	Work Package Leaders

Deliverable 2.1 Innopeda and Online pedagogical framework

(For Sample : Report containing NEWSTEP kick-off meeting)

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Introduction to the deliverable:

One of the important project objectives of NEWSTEP project is to mitigate challenges such as infrastructure limitations, outdated facilities, and inadequate resources via collaborations with international institutions aim to enhance education and research quality, yet many institutions in Nepal struggle with insufficient funding, hindering academic and research program development. Additionally, access to higher education remains uneven across regions and socio-economic groups, contributing to enrollment disparities. NEWSTEP aims to address these challenges, fostering innovation and quality improvements in Nepal's education landscape.

Key activities under work package 2 include:

- D1 Online Learning Platform
- D2 Introduction to the pedagogical approach to teachers
- D5 Innopeda® Training
- D6 Theoretical understanding of online pedagogy principles
- D7 Teaching tools in the online learning environment
- D8 Development of digital competencies in the online learning environment
- D9 Piloting the online courses

The detailed work plan and timetable of WP2 is presented in Annex 1.

Objective of the deliverable:

The first step in fulfilling Work Package 2 (WP2) objectives required creating a learning platform that would facilitate all the activities related to improving the quality of education.

The learning platform provides a space for educators to exchange their thoughts, seek clarification, and work together towards enhancing the curriculum. The itslearning learning platform has been designed, developed, and launched by the Turku UAS team. In the future, it is intended to serve as a dynamic platform for achieving various project activities and goals.

Accomplishments:

The Turku UAS team has successfully designed, developed, and launched the Itslearning tool based learning platform, providing users with a user-friendly interface and robust features to support effective learning and collaboration. In order to make the project results sustainable, NEWSTEP partners will make a choice for an alternative platform with which they can realistically work for the remaining time of the project and especially for after the project is ended.

Reflection on the role of online teachers

Before getting started with online pedagogy theory and practice, the participating lecturers and staff in Nepal were invited to engage into a reflection with regards to the role of online teachers. There

are differences in the perception of the role of online teachers between partner institutions and even individuals of the same institution. Therefore the discussions were important in opening minds of all partners' representatives towards considerations on the role of online teachers. Results of the brainstorming are shown in ANNEX 2.



Figure 1: presentations, discussions and activities where essential for progress in WP2 Deliverable 2.1

The working sessions were led so that each institution team had their own table, giving possibility to engage in conversation with their teammates. At regular intervals reflections were exchanged between teams to nurture a common understanding of opinions and perspectives with regards to online teaching and learning, in the process of achieving NEWSTEP first deliverables. NEWSTEP has shown a very strong team spirit and collaborative work between EU and Nepal partners from Kathmandu and remote area Sindhuli. Team building was fostered by using rotative mixing of institutions representatives as shown by the table below:

UPV + SMC	Lunch 12:30-1:30	Nov 2
Turku + SCTI and PK		
SVI + SA		
UPV + SVI	Dinner 7:00-	Nov 2
TUAS + SA		
SCTI PK SA		
UPV + SCTI PK	Breakfast 7:30	Nov 3
TUAS +SMC		
SA SVI		
UPV + SA	Lunch 12:30-1:30	Nov 3
TURKU +SVI		
SMC PK SCTI		

Figure 2: rotation plan of partner representatives for fostering project team spirit

Itslearning online education platform training:

In October/November 2023, user training sessions were conducted in Nepal to familiarise NEWSTEP student teachers and management staff with the various functions available to facilitate their learning experience on the itslearning platform.

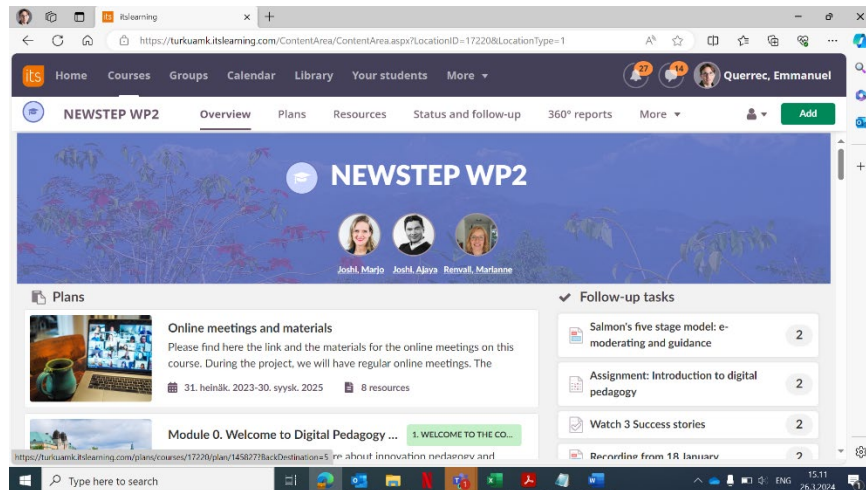


Figure 3: Landing page for the online learning platform.

The training materials included three formal linear online learning blocks which are called “modules” and three supporting blocks in addition.

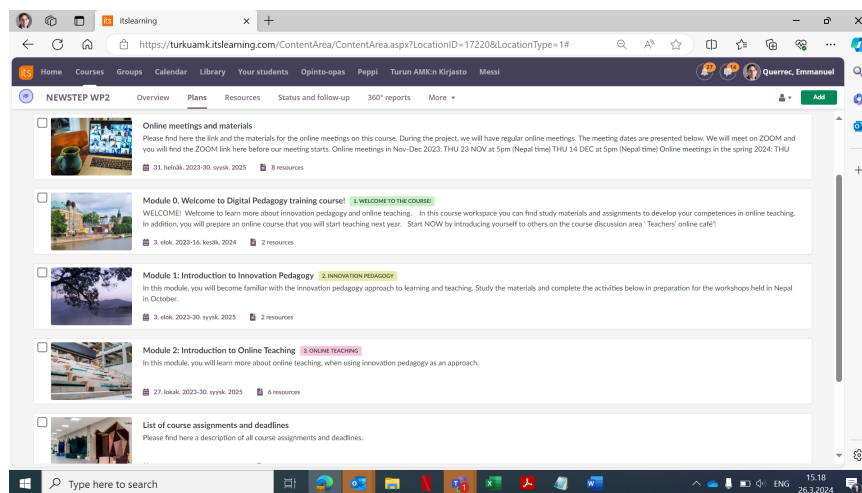


Figure 4: learning blocks in the online learning platform

Practical examples and video tutorials were tailored to accommodate the users. The participants had a vibrant experience of high-end online education platform with clarity and interactivity.

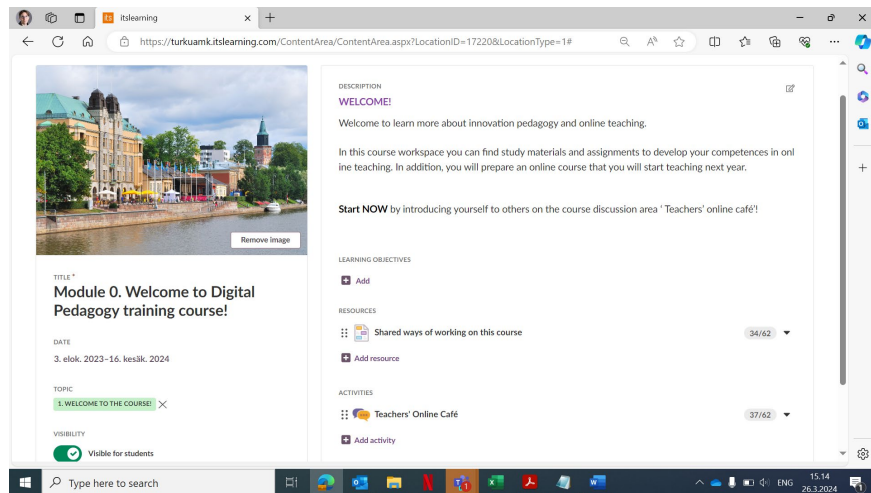


Figure 5: contents of the first learning module

Quality control for the training:

In order to ensure the quality of the training, the organisers led a feedback session. Reflections were first shared in sub-teams and each sub-team delivered their comments in a anonymous way through post-its. Organisers went then through the list of feedback, taking them one at a time to trigger a general discussion including all sub-teams, compromising on certain elements, reflecting on possible improvements.

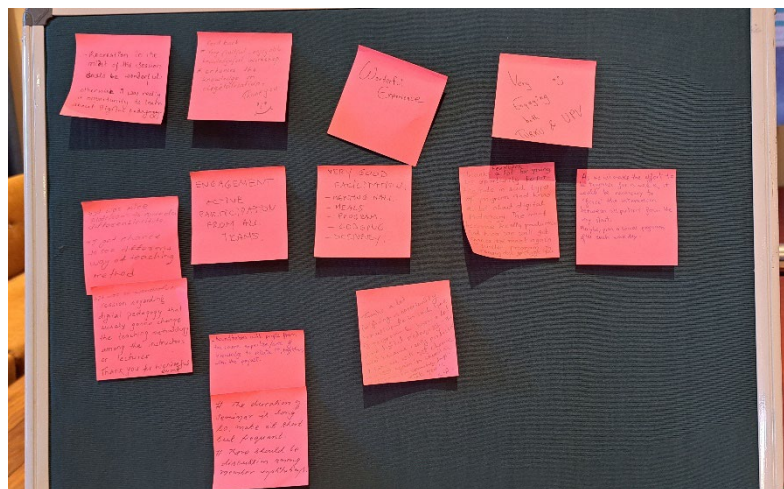


Figure 6: feedback board for leading discussions on the quality of the training.

ANNEXE1 – NEWSTEP project – Teacher training – Work package 2 – Overall timetable and deadlines of assignments

NEWSTEP project – Teacher training – Work package 2 – Overall timetable and deadlines of assignments

Please refer to this timetable to gain an overview of all activities and deadlines. Please complete the tasks on itslearning or during seminars as instructed.

Task	2023	Seminar meetings	Learning objective	Theme	Individual assignment	Group assignment	Assignment deadline
T2	September			Needs analysis and background survey	Answer survey		15 Sept 2023
T2	October		Introductions of participants	Introducing yourself to others	Write your introduction on itslearning 'Teachers' café'		30 Oct
T2		Mon 30 Oct pm	Introduction to Innovation pedagogy	Pretask and introduction to innovation pedagogy	Read the study materials and write your own analysis according to instructions on itslearning		30 Oct
T2.1		Mon 30 Oct am	Gaining an understanding of innovation pedagogy as a new learning approach	Innopeda framework		during seminar	
		Tue 31 Oct am		Online pedagogy framework		during seminar	
		Tue 31 Oct pm		Introduction to T1.2-1.6		during seminar	
T2.2	THU 23 NOV at 4pm		Understanding of different course types and their structures	Course types and design	Materials and activities on itslearning. Write your reflective diary.		30 Nov
T2.3			New approaches to teaching and learning, learning culture, teacher and student roles	Teaching and learning	Material and activities on itslearning. Write your reflective diary.		30 Nov
		Online xy.xy.2023				Online meeting group discussion on T1.2-1.3	
T2.4	THU 14 DEC at 4pm		Approaches to assessment of subject specific and generic competences; tools and techniques	Online assessment competences	Materials and activities on itslearning. Write your reflective diary.		30 Dec
T2.5			Creating and using study materials online; developing one's own data search capabilities and technical skills	Digital resources and digital competences	Materials and activities on itslearning. Write your reflective diary.		30 Dec
		Online xy.xy.2023				Online meeting group discussion on T1.2-1.3	

NEWSTEP project – Teacher training – Work package 2 – Overall timetable and deadlines of assignments

Task	2024-25	Seminar meetings	Learning objective	Theme	Individual assignment	Group assignment	Deadline
T2.6	THU 18 JAN at 4pm		Design a course in an online environment: technical and pedagogical skills, learning materials	Start designing your online course: Choose the course, platform, tools, techniques.	Create a plan for your course	Share your plan with others on its learning and give feedback to each other	
T2.6	THU 15 FEB at 4pm		Design a course in an online environment: Teacher/student roles, timeline, workload	Create an online course plan, timeline and structure	Continue planning your course		
T2.6	THU 14 MARCH at 4pm		Align learning objectives with course deliverables	Create the learning objectives for the course: What will the students learn, how? What do they need to do, when, where?	Continue planning your course		
T2.6	April 2024		Design a course in an online environment	Create the assessment and feedback plan for the course: How is learning assessed and how is feedback given?	Continue planning your course		
T2.6	May 2024		Create online materials	Create digital resources for the course: What do you create, what materials are available?	Continue planning your course		
T2.6	Autumn 2024		Pilot your course with a pilot group of students	Collect feedback from the pilot student group and revise your course based on the feedback	Present the feedback and write a self-reflection on what development needs	Discuss your feedback and share good practices	
T2.7	Jan 2025		Course overview, finalising own online course	Make final adjustments to your course			
T2.8	Feb 2025		Organise an event to share best practices to boost educators to develop online courses	Organise an event		organise an event	
T2.9	March 2025		Educated teachers begin the (T1.2 with teachers from their own institutions)	Make a plan for educating the teachers in your own institution	agreed separately	agreed separately	
T2.9	April 2025		Educated teachers begin the (T1.2 with teachers from their own institutions)	Start educating teachers in own institution according to separate plan	agreed separately	agreed separately	
	May 2025		Start teaching the online course that you developed				

ANNEXE 2: results of brainstorming session on “the role of online teachers”

