

**Workshop on
ICT Integration in Teacher Education
to build a**

Communities of Practice for Teacher Educators



**March 10th-14th, 2014
at District Institute of Education and Training (DIET),
Bangalore Urban District**

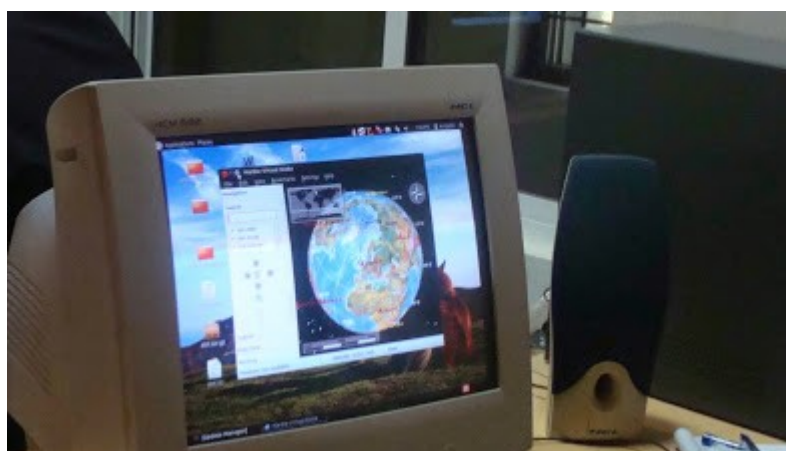
Report from IT for Change

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1 COP workshop summary

A third round of workshops was organised in Bangalore (March 10-14, 2014), for teacher educators from DIETs and CTEs, by DSERT with the support of the Bangalore Urban DIET, to extend and strengthen the **Communities of Practice (COP)**. IT for Change (ITfC) was a resource institution for this workshop, with support from [CEMCA](#). This note is a report of the Bangalore (March 10-14) workshop.

The participants who attended this workshop were mostly first time learners in Information and Communication Technology (ICT). The workshop therefore focused on building basic computer literacy skills; introduction to subject-based educational tools such as [Geogebra](#), [Marble](#), and [Record My Desktop](#); and the adoption of the [COP platform for teacher educators](#), including access to [resources](#) and participation in [mailing groups](#). Participants also learnt about Open Educational Resources (OER)—accessing resources available online as OER and practising the OER principles of re-use, revise, re-mix and redistribute on the [Karnataka Open Educational Resources \(KOER\)](#) platform.

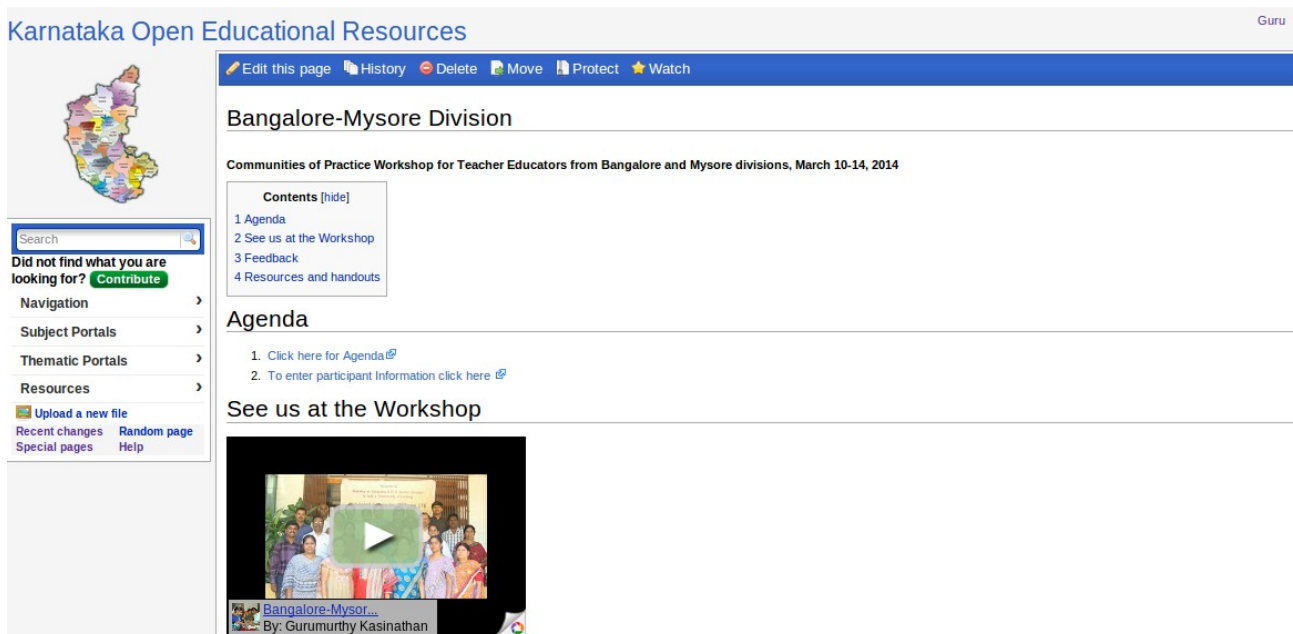


Illustration 1: KOER web page for the COP workshop

The workshop was held at the Bangalore Urban DIET, which has spacious training halls as well as well-maintained ICT labs. Special thanks to [DSERT](#) for organising and supporting the workshop,

DIET for providing the venue, and [CEMCA](#) for supporting the workshop and providing conceptual as well as financial inputs.

2 Participant Information

Participant information was obtained and recorded through a [Google doc form](#) at the beginning of the workshop. This information helped the faculty analyse participants' knowledge level on ICTs. Most faculty members deputed by the DIETs, had not attended any formal ICT capacity building workshops earlier, and some had moderate to low competencies in using ICTs. The participant information helped us to fine-tune the agenda for the workshop, specifically making sessions easy to understand and participate in. (Since this was the third round of COP workshops this year, it was also expected by us, that those who had not participated earlier would be the ones more averse or diffident about learning and using ICTs)

3 Basic Computer Literacy

Since many participants possessed only a basic knowledge of computers, participants were given significant hands-on time to feel comfortable using [Ubuntu](#) and email and to navigate websites. We took a session on spreadsheet (using [LibreOffice](#)) basics. Common formatting tips on Writer (inserting pictures, taking screen shots, formatting a Libre Office document and exporting document to PDF format, peer reviewing documents with insert comments and track changes) were also covered.



Illustration 2: Participants engaged in basic computer practice.

4 Introduction of OER and KOER

We conducted a session on websites, which covered a range of websites - Election Commission¹, educational games, travel, news etc. OER sites were also introduced to the participants. The

¹ Participants checked their voter identity information, which they found very useful in light of the Lok Sabha elections scheduled next month

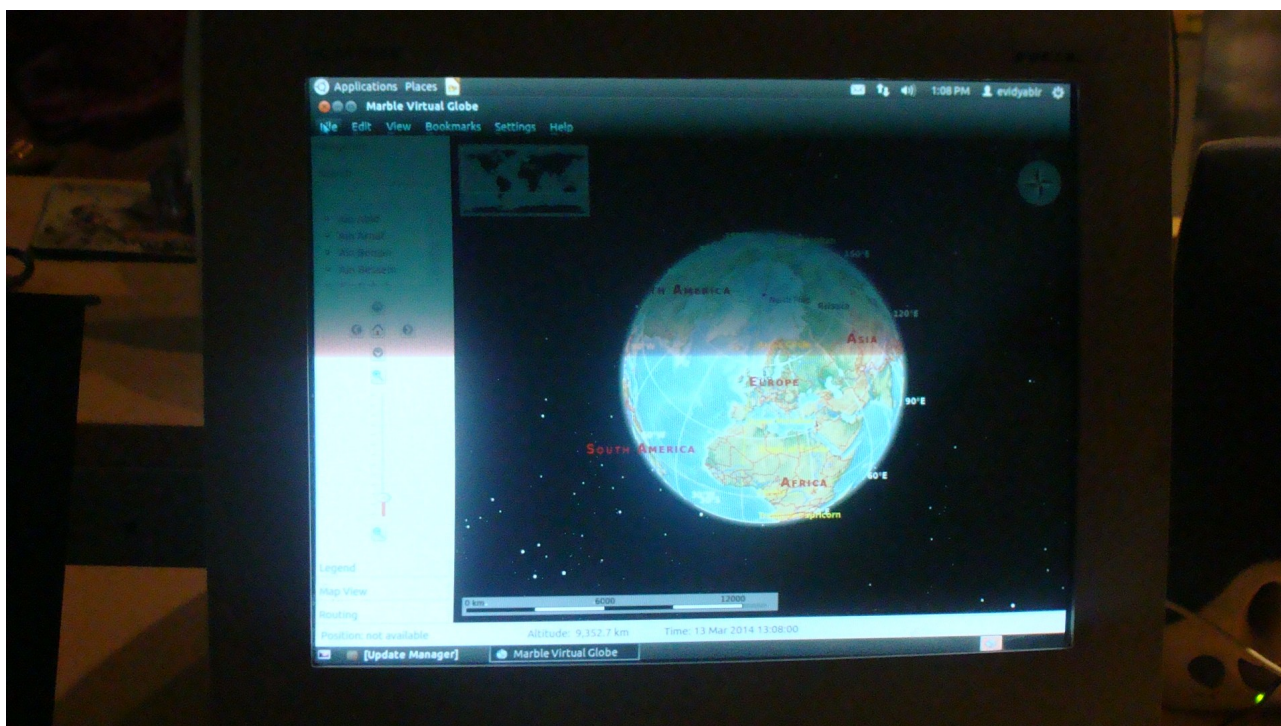
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participants were asked to analyse websites based on various criteria such as what the website offers, whether registration is free or paid etc. Participants practised searching for information and accessing different websites for their information requirements.

We introduced the [Karnataka Open Educational Resources](#) (KOER) which aims to connect teacher educators with teachers over the Internet and make the process of resource creation dynamic. The participants were briefly introduced to the idea of wiki editing and content submission through an online form. They also learnt about global and Indian efforts in OER, the vision and way forward for OER and KOER.

5 Educational Applications and web tools

The next session covered educational applications such as [Geogebra](#), [Audacity](#), [PhET](#), [KGeography](#), [Marble](#) etc. Teacher educators were interested in knowing about these applications. A demonstration of these applications was given and participants played with these tools. The next session covered different Google products (search, maps, translation, albums) and web activities including uploading videos onto Youtube, creating digital albums in Picassa, image editing using GIMP, etc.



6 Community of Practitioners

The Community of Practitioners (CoP) platform seeks to connect teacher educators for continuous learning and sharing. They connected with other teacher educators from Karnataka over karnataka_teachereducators@googlegroups.com which is a part of the COP.

For many teacher educators, the use of ICTs both to connect to others as well as to access resources is a very new idea; hence while they are quite appreciative of the possibilities, to get them to sustain the use will require regular and intensive efforts.

Participants also connected through their peers in a similar COP workshop in the Dharwad DIET using a video-conferencing application (Skype). Most participants had not done such a conference before and were extremely thrilled about the possibilities

7 KOER Resource Review



Smt. Sowmya, N.S. DIET faculty member, facilitated the review of resources by the teams. She presented her team's work on the KOER resource page. She explained how the subject teachers created resources on their topic, and how they are searching relevant resources on the website. She continued her explanation about how they are using ICT in enriching DIET academics, including induction training, planning and administrative activities. Such sharing by DIET faculty is very effective for motivating participants, since they saw Sowmya as one of their own.

8 Participant Feedback

A total of 21 Diet and CTE faculty members from Bangalore and Mysore divisions attended the workshop. At the end of the fifth day, they were requested to give feedback by filling in the participant [feedback forms](#).

The purposes of this feedback were two-fold:

1. Provide participants with the opportunity to reflect and comment on their workshop experiences and learnings
2. Provide ITfC with participants' assessment of the workshop to help better understand their expectations, requirements, as well as programme shortcomings and problems etc. which could serve as basis for improvement in further workshops.

Overall, the workshop evoked positive feedback from most participants. They were happy to learn sophisticated use of ICTs for networking and peer learning, as well as for accessing and sharing digital learning resources.

8.1 Feedback on agenda

The Bangalore COP workshop focused on the use of ICTs for professional development, building basic computer literacy skills, and introducing the use of subject-based educational tools. The participants rated the overall workshop as highly effective. 85% felt the five-day programme duration was adequate, and 15% felt that it was short and wanted some more time.

Participants expressed their satisfaction with the programme covering topics such as GIMP (image editing), Screenshot (capturing screen images), Picassa (photo uploading), email sharing, and Google features. They felt these could be used in their day-to-day living apart from teaching. The Ubuntu custom distribution given to the participants, was appreciated for providing hundreds of bundled tools, which could be learnt by participants, and were very useful for teachers.

8.2 Feedback on COP, including KOER and teacher networking

The workshop attendees appreciated the concept of COP and expressed their happiness to be part of the learning platform. The COP itself, as a platform where teachers can share their views, exchange

ideas and develop skills, was perceived as being useful for subject teachers as well. For the participants many of who were embarking on their learning in the ICT space, the COP was a space to also further learning on the technical aspects.

8.3 Specific feedback on programme effectiveness

*** Logical sequencing of the workshop:**

Very good.....70% Good.....30%

*** Trainer's knowledge of subject matter:**

Very effective.....55% Effective.....45% Not effective.....0%

*** Trainer's organisation and presentation skills:**

Very effective.....60% Effective.....35% Not effective.....5%

*** Style and delivery of trainers :**

Very effective.....55% Effective.....45% Not effective.....0%

*** Responsiveness to participants:**

Very effective.....50% Effective.....50% Not effective.....0%

*** Mix of theory and practical in the workshop:**

Too theoretical.....0% Good balance.....100% Too practical.....0%

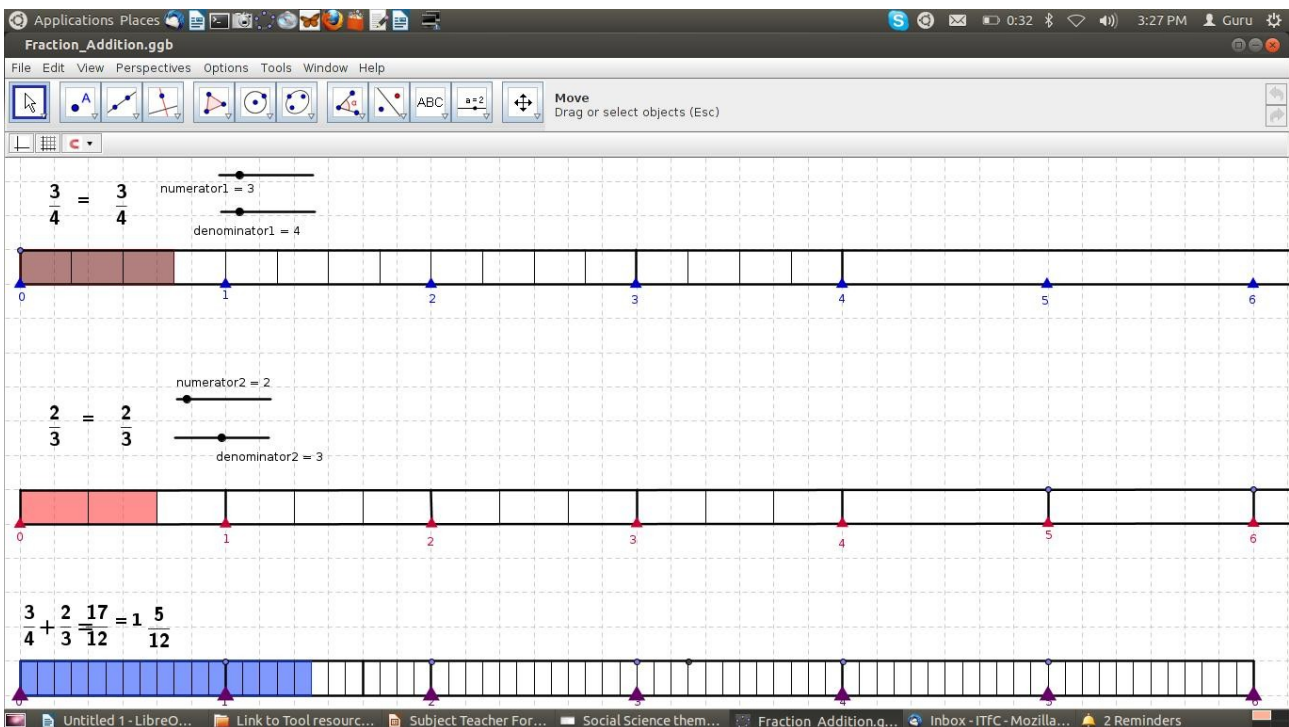


Illustration 3: Teaching Fractions using Geogebra

8.4 Quotes from participants

Participant feedback about the workshop learnings are provided below:

1. *“We will use these ICT tools to empower ourselves first, only then can we contribute something to the teachers' community. These open source resources will help to ensure teacher professional development. The subject teacher forums are the best way to connect the teachers, and they help us to express our views, experience and ideas with others. We request ITfC to support continuously on this ICT usage.”* - Smt. Vanamala Hariprasad, Sr. Lecturer DIET Shimoga.
2. *“Ubuntu with the educational tools is extremely useful for teachers and teacher educators”* - Altaf Mehdi, DIET Mandya
3. *“I feel inspired to create resources related to English language teaching and make it available through KOER”,* Prakash O. R, CTE Mangalore

9 List of DIET and CTE participants

SI No	Name	Institution	Email ID
1	ALHUSNA	DIET MYSORE	alhusna727@gmail.com
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21	HOMBALAMMA	DIET UDUPI	hombalamma.u@gmail.com

10 ITfC Resource Persons

No	Name
1	Gurumurthy Kasinathan
2	Venkatesh
3	Rakesh
4	Seema Kouser
5	Ashwini

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11 Agenda of Workshop

Day 1			
<u>Topic</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Structure</u>	<u>Objectives / Outcomes</u>
Inauguration and introduction	10:30 –11:15	Discussion	Introduction to the workshop– understanding the agenda
Tea break	11:15–11:30		
Participant info.	11:30– 12:30		Taking photographs and creating email id's and adding to the google groups of teacher educators
Introduction to the Internet	12:30–1:00	Discussion	Introduction to the Internet and different kinds of websites, like Kagapa, Kannada wiki, newspapers etc..
Lunch break	1:00–2:00		Lunch break
Google advanced features	2:00–3:30	Demonstration	Saving a webpage; downloading images, videos, (video down loader add-ons). Book marking,, and accessing downloaded files,
Google Advanced Features	3:30–5:30	Hands-on	Saving a webpage; downloading images, videos, (video down loader add-ons). Book marking,, and accessing downloaded files,
Day 2			
Previous day review	9:30--10:30		Previous day review and sharing.
Google features	10:30--11:15	Demonstration	How to search the required the resources in Google, Google maps, Google translator, etc.
Tea break	11:15–11:30		
Gogle features	11:30 –12:45	Hands-on	How to search the required the resources in Google, Google maps,Google translator, etc. Practice session.
STF video	12:45–1:00		STF Video show
Lunch break	1:00–2:00		Lunch break

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Introducing basic Ubuntu	2:00–2:30	Demonstration	Ubuntu overview –Oning, shutting down, password, folders, moving files, folders.
Educational tool – Tux typing and maths	3:45–5:30	Demonstration	Making 10 finger typing perfect. And also showing Tux maths.
Day 3			
Previous day review	9:30–10:30		Previous day - review and sharing
Basic L.O. Writer formatting	10:30–11:30	Demonstration	Editing in a text document, inserting images, cropping and taking screen shots, etc. Exporting PDFs, saving in different formats, saving images,caption image editing and track changes.
Tea break	11:15–11:30		
Basic L.O. Writer formatting	11:30–12:45	Hands-on	Editing in a text document, inserting images, cropping and taking screen shots etc. Exporting PDF saving in different formats, saving images, caption images, editing and track changes.
STF video	12:45–1:00		STF video
Lunch break	1:00–2:00		Lunch break
L.O. Kannada typing – demonstration	2:00–5:30	Demonstration	Kannada set-up and typing Kannada Nudi and Baraha hands-on practice.
Day 4			
Previous day review	9:30–10:30		Previous day - review and sharing
Introduction to Karnataka open educational resources	10:30–11:30	Demonstration and hands-on	What are OERs? Access, review and create resources; revise reuse remix; the principle of OERs and KOER for teaching resources. STF cascade introduction. The KOER web page with content and shared / developed resources.
Educational tools: Geogebra, Marble, and K-stars	11:30–12:45	Demonstration and hands-on	Educational tool: Geogebra and Marble demonstration; and hands-on
STF video	12:45–1:00		STF video

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Lunch break	1:00–2:00		Lunch break
Teaching basics of emailing	2:00–3:00	Demonstration and hands-on	Having their own email id's, checking emails, replying and attaching. and sending mails to groups
Sharing resources with each other and to forum	3:00–5:30	Demonstration and hands-on	Email practice session
Day 5			
Previous day review	9:30–10:30		Previous day - review and sharing
Searching the resources on the Internet	10:30–11:00		Searching the resources on the Internet
Gimp image editing , screen shot	11:00–12:45	Demonstration and hands-On	Taking screenshots, saving images. reducing size of the images, crop and adding text to the images
STF video	12:45–1:00		STF video
Lunch break	1:00–2:00		Lunch break
Searching the resources in Internet	2:00-3:30	Demonstration and hands-On	Searching for resources and collecting feedback from the participants
Participants feed back	3:30 – 5:30		

Agenda, photo album and handouts pertaining to this work shop are available at KOER - [Bangalore Mysore DIET/CTE Web-based Workshop](#) Page.

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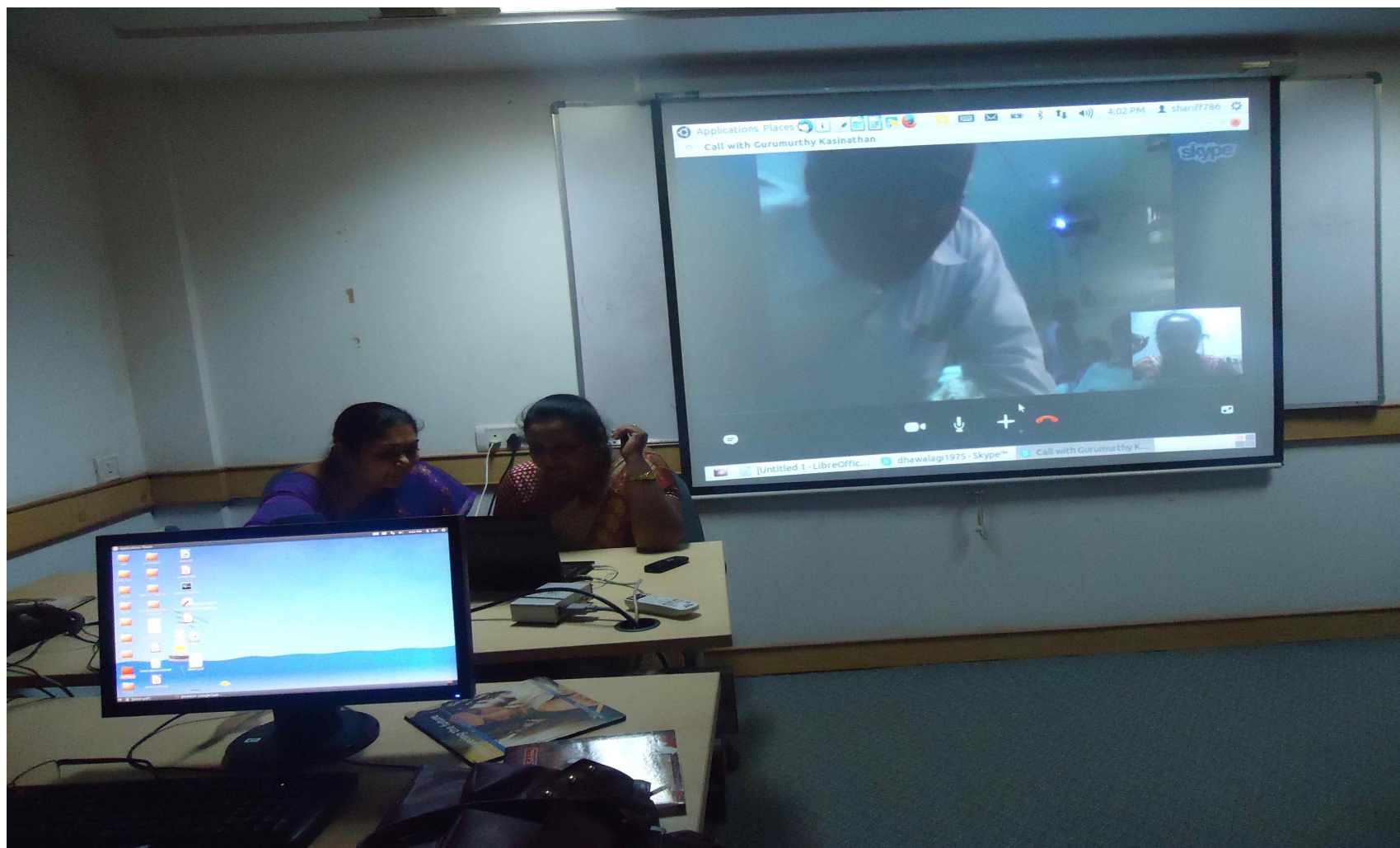


Illustration 4: Skype video-conference between Bangalore and Dharwad COP workshops