Capacity Building Workshop on e-Content Development

Jointly organized by:-

School of Vocational Studies, Netaji Subhas Open University (NSOU-SVS)
And Commonwealth of Learning-Commonwealth of Educational Media Centre for Asia (COL-CEMCA)

Venue: Netaji Subhas Open University, Kolkata, WB, India

18th – 20th May 2017

Introduction:

Netaji Subhas Open University was established by an Act of West Bengal State Legislative Assemblyin 1997. Presently, the University offers 56courses which include Under Graduate Degree programmes, Post Graduate Degree programme and vocational programme. All these courses are duly approved by the UGC-DEB. About 3.5lakhs students are enrolled in various courses spread all of over the state of West Bengal. The School of Vocational Studies is one of the six Schools of Studies of the University which imparts various vocational courses through its designated study centres. The objectives of the School are to create a trained pool of human resource for the society. To meet the demand of skilled workforce, the university plays an important role in creating such trained resource pool. Every year about 2000-2500 students take admission in various skill development programme. To cater to the needs of the skilled and trainedperson, the University has set up Centre for Lifelong Learning for life skill development of any age group.

During the last couple years, the School of Vocational Studies has taken lot of initiatives for development of e-content through use of ICT. With the financial assistance received from CEMCA, the University has successfully completed two projects viz.

 i) Development of blended course materials for Tailoring and Dress Designing (vocational course) and
 ii) Development of NSOU OER repository.

The three-day *CapacityBuilding Workshop on e-content development* in association with Commonwealth of Learning & Commonwealth Educational Media Centre for Asia was organized as a prelude to the project titled ***"Vocational Education & Training offering through Mobile Learning: An Innovative ODL Approach".***The project is being carried out with the financial support from COL-CEMCA. The objective of the present project is to develop the Mobile App for the most popular course of Diploma in Pre-primary Teachers' Education Montessori of the University. For this particular project the School has to develop e-content of the course materials (non-print version/ digital version) as well as the A/V lectures compatible to Mobile App.

Objectives of the Workshop:

The objective of the present workshop was to create an awareness of ICT enabled teaching-learning environment among the participants and to develop the capacity of the faculties/ trainers for designing and developing e-content on different subjects. The main focus of the workshop was to engage the participants in hands-on training to use different tools for e-content development which would compatible to Mobile APP.

Participants:

Gender equality is integral to all of COL-CEMCA's activities. In the present workshop more than 70% of participants were women. The list of participants is annexed (Annexure-I). The participants of the workshop will be involved in the development of e-content.

Methodology:

The workshop was based on extensive hands-on training using different software in ICT environment. The Resource Persons followed the lecture methods using PPTs, notes etc. for effective learning outcome. At the end of each day the PPTs and notes were shared among the participants by the   Resource Persons.

Inaugural Session:

Dr. Anirban Ghosh, Project Coordinator and Associate Professor, NSOU in his welcome address, described the ODL as open and digital learning instead of open and distance learning. Distance is no more there between the teachers and students or between university and students. The advancement of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) has brought new opportunities to restructure the teaching-learning process.

Dr.Manas R. Panigrahi, Programme Officer, CEMCA introduced the theme and highlighted the objectives of the present project. He also mentioned that university is implementing the UN SDG in association with COL-CEMCA very successfully and effectively.

The capacity building workshop was inaugurated by Dr. P.K.Das Member Secretary, West Bengal State Council of HigherEducation, Govt. of West Bengal and former Managing Director of WEBEL. Dr. Das in his inaugural address highlighted the merits and limitations of on-line learning and different open source software. He also shared with the august

gathering that government is taking initiatives to reach the remotest areas of the state with internet facilities.

Mr. Anirban Guha, Former Dy. Director of CDAC, Kolkata and former Sr.Scientist of BARC shared some of his views regarding the use of ICT in education and training. Mr. Guha also stressed upon to use the ICT extensively for the benefit of our society.

Dr.Nisha Singh, Dy. Director, Inter UniversityConsortium for Technology Enabled Flexible Education and Development (IUC-TEFED), IGNOU acted as the Resource Person nominated by COL-CEMCA highlighted in the inaugural session the expected outcome of the three day workshop.

Professor Subha Sankar Sarkar, Vice-Chancellor, Netaji Subhas Open University in his presidential address discussed about the University's activities for ICT enabled courses. Professor Sarkar also conveyed his sincere thanks to CEMCA for their whole hearted support for various projects.

The three-day workshop was divided in various sessions as indicated below. The Resource Person took care of the respective session (Annexure 2: Workshop Schedule).

	Session	Resource Person
1.	E-Content: Types	Dr. Nisha Singh
2.	OER: Introduction; Searching for OER	Dr. Manas R. Panigrhai& Mrs. Barnali Roy Choudhury
3.	Instructional Design: AIDDE	Dr. Nisha Singh
4.	e-content scripting	Dr. Nisha Singh
5.	Concept Mapping using Free mind	Dr. Nisha Singh
6	Multimedia components: Audio-Audacity	Dr. Nisha Singh
7	Wikieducator: Developing content collaboratively	Dr. Anirban Ghosh
8	eXe- E-content Developing Tool	Dr. Nisha Singh
9	Online Assessment: Hot Potatoes	Dr. Nisha Singh
10	Presentations: Individual/Group	Dr. Nisha Singh& Dr. Manas R. Panigrahi

All the sessions involved activity/ hands-on training in which the participants did their work on their own with the help of the resource persons.

The first session was the introduction to the E-content. It dealt in detail with the definition and importance of e-content in the present day context. The session covered various types of e-content available and the various e-content standards being used world over. The session also covered the some of the initiatives taken for development of e-content by NME-ICT, MHRD, Government of India like SWAYAM and SWAYAM PRABHA.

The second session was on OER and its basics and how to search OER. The session was taken by Mrs. Barnali Roy Choudhury Assistant Professor, Library Sciences, NSOU and Dr.Manas R. Panigrahi who explained in detail about the importance of OER in education. They discussed about the OER and use of the Creative Commons (CC) licence for different academic content. Mrs. Choudhury also discussed about the NSOU OER Repository (wwwhttp://nsouoer.krc.net.in)

The third session was the introduction to Instructional Design models. The ADDIE model was discussed in detail. The objective of this session was to acquaint the participants about

how to develop the Instructional Design for a particular course. Instructional designers often use technology and multimedia as tools to enhance instruction. (http://www.instructionaldesign.org).

The fourth session highlighted scripting of e-content. Scripting is important for outlining the structure of e-content; conceptualizing logical pathways and defining contents for each screen in the e-content. The phases in scriptwriting and storyboarding and the guidelines were elaborated in detail.

The fifth session covered the concept making Open Source Software Free mind. Free mind is widely used in making concept maps. It is widely used for tracking projects; for developing collection of notes (a knowledge base); develop a small database. Organization of any kind is facilitated by Free mind. It can be easily downloaded and needs Java environment to work. The first day ended with lot of hands on training in the on-line environment.

2nd Day

The sixth session was on the development of audio for the e-content through the use of an open source software Audacity. Audacity is an easy-to-use, free and open source, audio recorder which may be used for recording and editing audio resources. Audio resources may be developed in many formats like Interview; Discussion; Lecture; Speech; Poem; Story Telling; Reminiscences/memoires, etc. Audacity is a rich software with audio capabilities of professional recording. Some of the activities done in the session were record and save file as .aup and export it to mp3 format.

The seventh session of the workshop was the introduction to develop e-content in collaborative way through Wikieducator. Dr Anirban Ghosh demonstrated online the use of wikieducator and how to upload the academic content on wikieducator page. Participants explored the Wikieducator site and made account on Wikieducator. The concept of user page and how resources are build up collaboratively was shown by the resource person.

The eighth session of the workshop was on eXe - eLearning XHTML editor (eXe). It is an authoring environment to assist teachers in the design, development and publishing of web-based learning and teaching materials without the need to become proficient in HTML or

complicated web-publishing applications. Also most content management and learning management systems utilize a centralized web server model thus requiring connectivity for authoring. This is limiting for authors with low bandwidth connectivity or no connectivity at all. eXe has been developed as an offline authoring tool without the requirement for connectivity. All i-devices were demonstrated by the resource person and participants were given opportunity to practice different i-devices for their e-content.

3rd Day

The ninth session of the workshop focused on online assessment through the open source software Hot potatoes.Multiple choice/multiple select; cloze; match; mix and crossword.

The tenth session of the workshop was dedicated to the development of e-content by the participants. Five groups were formed for group activities. Each participant was given to develop an e-content using the software like Free-mind, audacity, eXe, hot potatoes etc.

The last session, started with group activities with the supervision of the Resource Persons. The Resource persons helped them individually to prepare their presentation. At the end, each group presented their e-content developed by them with the help of software. The Resource persons suggested their observations for each presentation for improvement of their content.

Technical session is going on

Annexure 1: List of participants

Sl. No.	Name	E-mail
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Annexure 2: Workshop schedule

Workshop on "Capacity Building Workshop on e-Content Development"

S. No.	Content/Topic	Learning outcome	Resource Person
Day 1 (18/5/17)			
12.30-1.30	E-Content: What it is; Definition: Types: Textual; audio; video; audiovisual	• Participants will be able to describe the various types of e-content • identify the type of e-content suitable to their context	Dr. Nisha Singh
1.30-2.15	OER: Introduction; Searching for OER Group Work	• Participants will be able to identify and relate to OER • search for OER in their discipline • collect OER related to their discipline/topic for developing e-content	Dr. Manas R. Panigrahi/ Mrs. Barnali Roy Choudhury
2.15-2.45	Lunch Break		
2.45-3.45	Instructional Design: Concept; Basics and ID Model : AIDDE	• Participants will be able to realize the importance of ID • Use AIDDE model of ID	Dr. Nisha Singh
3.45-4.30	E-content: Scripting Basic; importance; Points to consider while developing script for e-content And Group work	• Participants will be able to design e-content • identify the multimedia components of the e-content • identify which component will be available as OER and which they have to develop	Dr. Nisha Singh
4.30-4.45	Tea Break		
4.45-5.15	Concept Mapping: Basic; importance; Software for developing concept map: Free-mind And Group work	Participants will be able to build concept map on the identified concept using Free mind	Dr. Nisha Singh
Day 2 (19/5/17)			
10.00-11.30	Multimedia components: Audio-Audacity Video; Mobile/camera And Group Work	Participants will be able to • install audacity and develop audio using Audacity for their e-content • develop video using camera/mobile for their e-content	Dr. Nisha Singh
11.30-11.45	Tea Break		
11.45-1.15	Wikieducator: Developing content collaborative way And Group work	Participants will be able to • create account on wiki educator • Do basic editing on Wiki	Dr. Anirban Ghosh
1.15-2.00	Lunch Break		

2.00-3.30	eXe- E-content Developing Tool And Group work	Participants will be able to • install eXe • create pages on eXe • insert multimedia components in eXe	Dr. Nisha Singh
3.30-3.45	Tea Break		
3.45-5.15	Hands-on	Participants will be able to develop package on eXe	
Day 3 (20/5/17)			
10.00-11.30	Online Assessment: Hot Potatoes And Group work	Participants will be able to install Hot potatoes develop quiz using Hot potatoes containing multiple choice; Fill in blanks. Match the following; crossword, mix and match	Dr. Nisha Singh
11.30-11.45	Tea Break		
11.45-1.15	Hands On	Participants will be able to develop e-content using the tools taught : Audacity, eXe; hot potatoes	
1.15-2.00	Lunch Break		
2.00-3.30	Presentations: Individual/Group	Participants will showcase the e-content developed individually/group	Dr. Nisha Singh
3.30-3.45	Tea Break		
3.45-5.15	Presentations: Individual/Group	Participants will showcase the e-content developed individually/group	Dr. Nisha Singh/ Dr. Manas R. Panigrahi
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